

JAN 20 1999

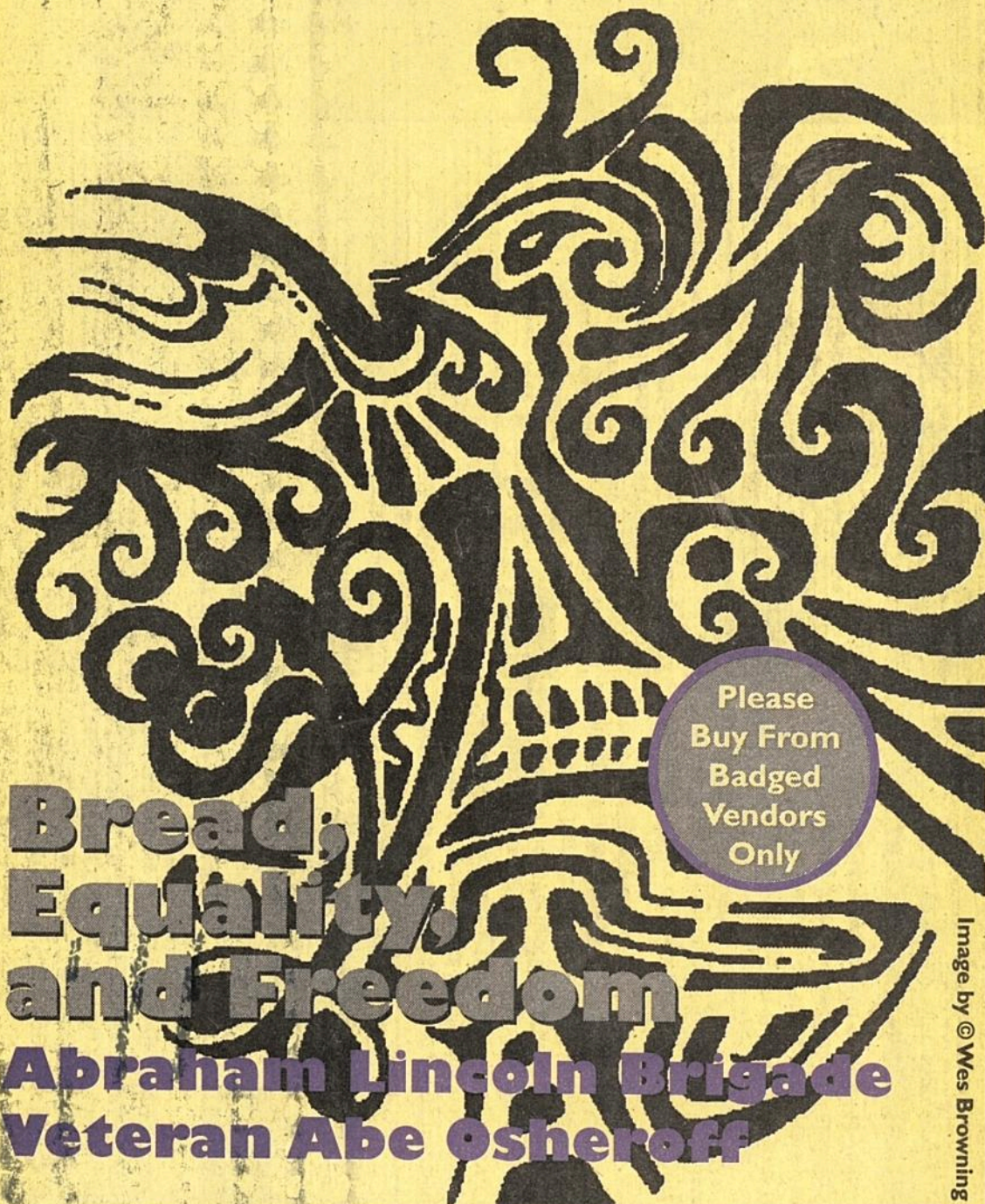
MNGP

Real CHANGE

VOL. 6, NO. 2, JANUARY

\$1

DONATION



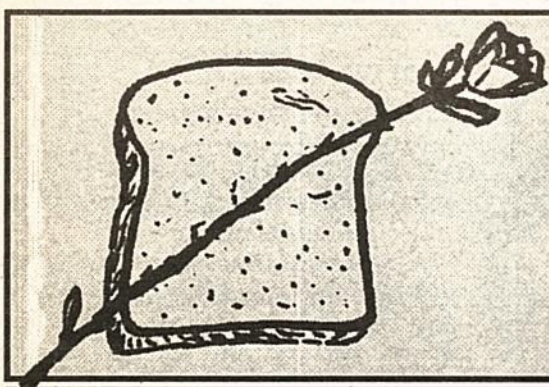
Please
Buy From
Badged
Vendors
Only

**Bread,
Equality,
and Freedom**
Abraham Lincoln Brigade
Veteran Abe Osheroff

Image by © Wes Browning

Puget Sound's Newspaper of the Poor and Homeless

Jan. 1999

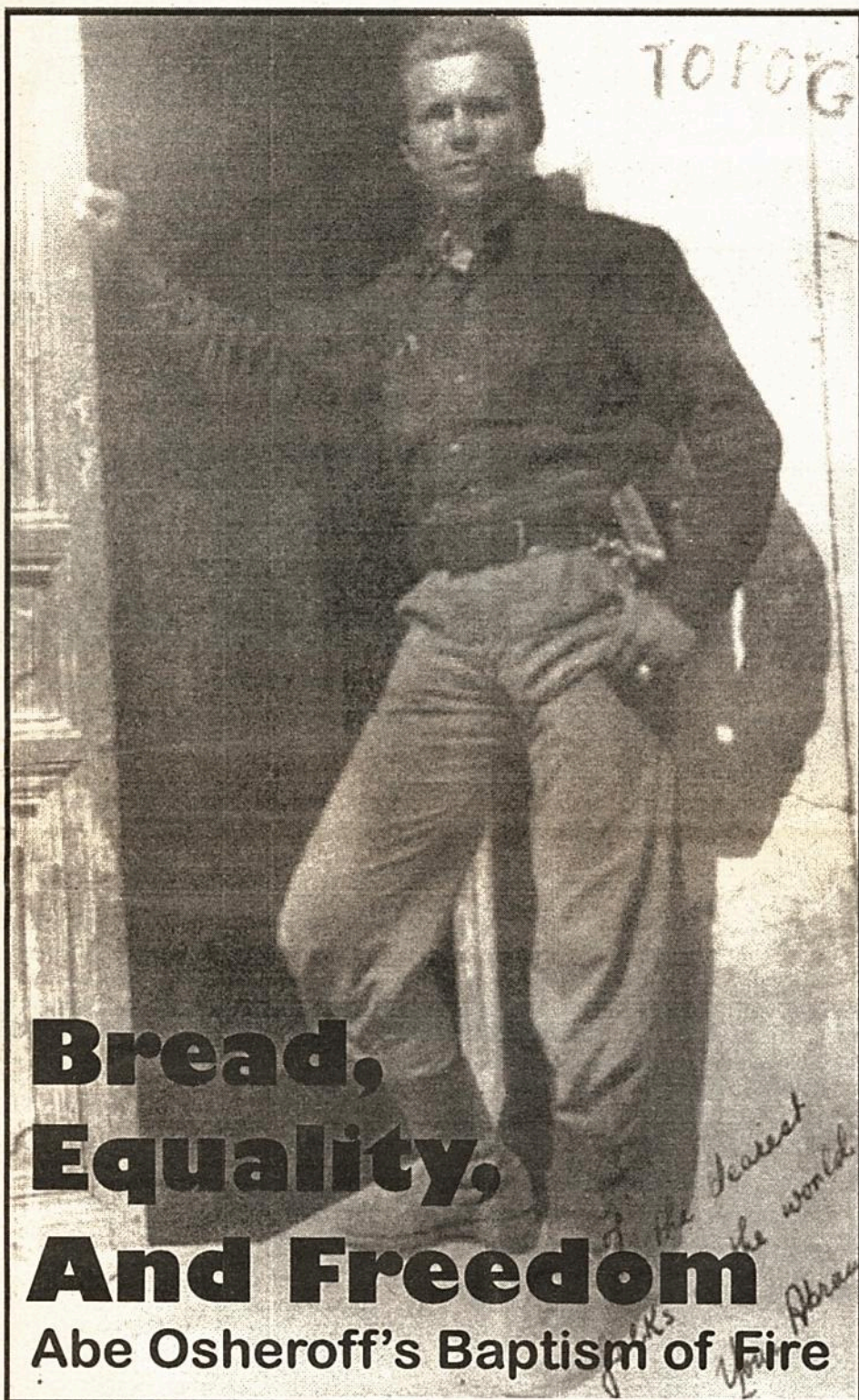


Real CHANGE

Puget Sound's
Newspaper of the Poor
and Homeless

Vol. 6, Number 2, January 1999

2129 2nd Ave., Seattle, WA 98121 (206) 441-3247 www.realchangenews.org rchange@speakeasy.org



INTERVIEW BY MICHELE THOMAS AND SCOTT WINN

In 1937, approximately 3000 US citizens voluntarily joined international troops from around the world to fight with the working people of Spain against Francisco Franco's army and his allies from fascist Italy and Germany. This war for bread, equality, and freedom fired the imagination of the American left as few causes have since. At 84, Seattle resident Abe Osheroff is one of the few living members of the American volunteer army known as the Abraham Lincoln Brigade. This country's first monument commemorating those who fought in the Brigade was dedicated at the University of Washington last year.

REAL CHANGE: Can you tell us a little about where you grew up and how that formed you?

ABE OSHEROFF: I was brought up in a very radical community in Brooklyn, raised in what I would call a radical humanist tradition, raised to fight for the underdog. So I joined the Young Communist League at the age of 16. When I went to Spain I was 21 years

old.

In the middle of the Depression we never had homeless people, and I lived in a community of 200,000 people. We wouldn't permit it. If a landlord put a family out in the street, we would pick up the stuff and put it right back in the apartment. No matter how many times it took. So it was a climate of tremendous unrest and

the employment of terrific militancy on the part of the working people and unemployed people. That was my baptism.

RC: How do you explain the significance of the Spanish Civil War?

OSHEROFF: There is something different about that war that still draws the attention of people who learn about it. When you study human affairs, morality and ethics play a very small role. In the relations between nations and in the relations between institutions there is hardly ever a decision based on good or bad, or what's right or wrong.

So if a phenomenon comes along, in which there is at least some evidence of a moral or ethical standard, it radiates. And that's one quality the Spanish Civil War had. It was a war in which multitudes of people, not just in Spain, but from around the world, were willing to put their ass on the line for something they believed in. There are few moments in history when this is true and when it happens it sort of casts a glow. In my lifetime I have only experienced that twice: Spain and the US Civil Rights movement.

People have a romantic view of the brigades. Bullshit, we were no different from you guys. But most people think it was very brave to pick up arms and go abroad to fight for a cause. To me that is not the height of human courage. Physical courage in battle is not the greatest of human qualities to put it mildly. There are stupid son-of-a-bitches who are brave, there were Nazi soldiers who were brave. I think a single mom raising a kid has more f—ing guts than most veterans of the Brigade. Being a single mom, you're demonized, you're considered a lesser.

RC: What was it that made you want to join the International Brigades, besides the politics?

OSHEROFF: It didn't enter my head to go and fight until the entry of Fascist Italy and Fascist Germany. I had witnessed the power of Hitler in 1933 and I hated the son of a bitch with every fiber in me. Then here was an opportunity to do something about it. But I don't think that would have gotten me over there. It was something deeply personal, something more than politics. It was sort of a compelling need to integrate myself, to become a whole person instead of pieces.

Continued on page 10

A Year of Change?

1999 State Legislature
Considers Housing Needs

BY JON GOULD

Over the next 105 days, state legislators and Governor Gary Locke will have an opportunity to increase dramatically the state's role in helping residents obtain safe, affordable housing.

On January 11th, the 1999 session of the Washington State Legislature began in Olympia. The session will end sometime in late April, when legislators and the Governor agree on a two-year budget.

While low income housing advocates have lobbied state officials for years for more housing for the poor, elderly and disabled, their proposals have often been ignored. Since 1989, when the state added funding to the Housing Trust Fund, there has not been any significant expansion of the state's housing assistance efforts.

Housing Now?

This year, however, expectations are somewhat higher. In the last year, the housing crisis has been moved to the political front burner, with candidates for office making housing a priority and the mainstream media giving more attention to problems and solutions. Fed by a strong state economy, the state's budget is projected to have a surplus of at least \$500 million.

"1999 could be the year that housing finally gets some real attention from the State Legislature," says Ginger Segel, Director of the Washington Low Income Housing Network. "Many legislators have gone on record saying that affordable housing is an essential part of a healthy community. It is now time for action."

Another reason for optimism is a December 1997 State Supreme Court decision that requires the state to have a long-term plan to meet the needs of homeless children. The state's own estimates hold that there are 70,000 children in the state who lack a permanent home.

The plaintiff in this landmark court case, the Washington State Coalition for the Homeless, has asked for \$31.1 million in the next budget to provide housing for homeless chil-

Continued on page 14

Real CHANGE

**Puget Sound's Voice of the
Poor and Homeless**

Real Change is published the first and fifteenth of each month and is sold by the poor and homeless of Seattle. Annual subscriptions are available for \$35. All material is copyrighted to the authors. Submissions are encouraged and should be mailed to "Real Change," 2129 2nd Ave., Seattle, WA 98121. Tel. (206) 441-3247.

On the Web at
<http://www.realchangenews.org>
Email rchange@speakeasy.org
ISSN 1085-729X

Real Change vendors receive 70¢ of the \$1.00 paid for this paper.

Mission Statements:

Real Change organizes, educates, and builds alliances to find community-based solutions to homelessness and poverty.

Goals

- Provide a foundation for grassroots organizing.
- Publish the views of marginalized communities.
- Create direct economic opportunity.
- Build bridges with a broad range of allies in the struggle against poverty.

The Real Change Homeless Empowerment Project is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization that sponsors the StreetLife Gallery, StreetWrites, and the Homeless Speakers Bureau. The RCHEP raises the voices of the poor by supporting cultural, artistic, and literary expression to place a human face on homelessness and poverty. All donations to the RCHEP support these programs and are tax-deductible to the full extent of the law.

Editorial Policy

Articles appearing in *Real Change* reflect the opinions and perspectives of the authors. We encourage the submission of journalism, opinion, fiction, poetry, and artwork, and hope to create a forum where the many perspectives on poverty and homelessness can find expression. The editorial committee reserves the right to edit any material for length and style. Articles considered libelous or which encourage violence, sexism, homophobia, or racism will not be considered for publication.

Articulate Homeless People

**Our Homeless Speakers
Bureau Wants to Talk to
Your Group**

- Businesses
- Church Groups
- Schools (all levels)
- Civic Organizations

**Help Us to
Destroy the Myths**

A project of the Real Change Homeless Empowerment Project. \$25 honorarium and one week's notice requested. Call 441-3247 for more information.

Be a Part of the Solution!

This little paper, which now publishes twice a month, receives no foundation or government support, and your donations matter a lot. *Real Change* depends upon the grassroots support of our readership to do a whole lot with very little money. Your contribution goes beyond simple charity. *Real Change* helps people help themselves while they work for a more just world for everyone. Please give to *Real Change*.

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

Name _____


Address/Zip _____

Phone _____

- ☐ 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 ☐

MAIL TO: REAL CHANGE, 2129 2ND AVE, SEATTLE, WA 98121



Woodland Park Presbyterian Church

A church with a social conscience, a caring congregation, and a warm, traditional worship.
Everyone Welcome!
10:30 AM Sunday Service.
70th and Greenwood N. 782-3776

DONATE YOUR USED CAR, VAN, TRUCK, OR BOAT

(RUNNING OR NOT) to SEATTLE EMERGENCY HOUSING SERVICE. RECEIVE FREE TOWING AND A TAX BREAK.

Your donation will help non profit SEHS provide short term emergency shelter and longer term transitional housing to homeless families with children.

905 Spruce St. Suite 111 Seattle, WA 98104

CALL (206) 461-3660

peterseh@cm2.com

A member of United Way of King County



Please support our advertisers
tell them you saw it in
REAL CHANGE



formerly COMMON MEALS

Transforming lives through job training and placement in the food service industry.

For information on our program or reservations call 206-443-1233

SAME GREAT FOOD • SAME GREAT PROGRAM

WAYS YOU CAN SUPPORT FARESTART

Daily Lunch Buffet at our Cafe
Second and Virginia
206-443-1233

Guest Chef Night every Thursday
featuring Seattle's finest Chefs

Visit the new FareStart Cafe
at Antioch University
Sixth and Battery • 206-374-8897

Executive Director

Timothy Harris

Advertising Representative

Madeline Lewis

Managing Editor

Bob Redmond

Vendor/Volunteer Manager

Michele Thomas

Administrative Assistant

Megan Farley

Board of Directors

Wes Browning (VP), Susan Forshey, Carole Frisell (Sec.), Jon Gould (Pres.), Joseph McCarthy, Walter Massey, Scott Nodland, Jean Rowlands-Tarbox (Treas.), Kathleen Ruth, Donna Steinberg, Helena Stephens

Editorial Committee

E. O. Anthony, Wes Browning, Stan Burriss, Ruth Fox, Anitra Freeman, Mona Johnson, Michele Marchand, Koon Woon

Volunteers This Issue

Kyle Doane, Jon Gould, Carole Frisell, Ellen Hendrick, Julie Heter, George Hickey, Brianna Morgan, Doug Nufer, Jim Pennington, Rachel Thorne, Bruce Wirth

Advisory Board

Bob Barnes
King County Rainbow Coalition

Juan Bocanegra
Downtown Human Services Council

Ken Cole
Archdiocesan Housing Authority

Jean Colman
Welfare Rights Organizing Coalition

Ishbel Dickens
Low Income Housing Institute

John Fox
Seattle Displacement Coalition

Matthew Fox
Community Activist

Neil Fox
National Lawyer's Guild

Larry Gossett
County Councilmember, Dist. 10

Louis Harris
A. Philip Randolph Institute

Bill Hobson
Downtown Emergency Service Center

Ray Jones
Church Council of Greater Seattle

Erin Katz
Homelessness Project

Bob Kubiniec
Operation Homestead

Dan Landes
AIDS Housing of Washington

Paola Maranan
The Children's Alliance

Joe Martin
Pike Market Medical Clinic

Camille Monzon
Seattle Indian Center

Lonnie Nelson
Coalition of Labor Union Women

Al Poole
Operational Emergency Center

Trisha Ready
Words at Risk

Siobhan Ring
Tenants Union

Mary Robinson-Smith
Denny Regrade Planning Organization

Aiko Schaefer
WA Welfare Reform Coalition

Jim Theofelis

Tamara Turner
Radical Women

Velma Voloria
State Representative, 11th District

Harriet Walden
Mothers for Police Accountability

Caring On the Cheap

"Impact Zone" policy to dry up Seattle, but where is the treatment?

BY TIMOTHY HARRIS

Lets face it. Homeless alcoholics will never be the poster children for an expanded human services budget. As a result, Seattle and King County officials have adopted a "carrot and stick" approach to public drinking that cleans up the streets without significantly increasing services.

The stick struck again this month when officials announced a Washington State Liquor Control Board proposal that will make it more difficult for street drunks and other low-income alcoholics to get the cheap booze that they crave. Hearings were held early this month, and the new rules may go into effect by the beginning of February.

While Seattle has long asked merchants to voluntarily cease sales of 40 ounce containers of beer and cheap fortified wines such as MD 20/20, the Good Neighbor Agreement strategy has met with only limited success.

The voluntary agreements have no enforcement mechanism, and tend to just shift the problem around by scattering street alcoholics to other neighborhoods.

The Liquor Board proposal would effectively create a statewide enforceable prohibition against alcohol products that are low in price, high in alcohol content, and marketed to impoverished alcoholics.

Under the proposed rules, local business associations and other neighborhood groups would be able to petition the Liquor Board to declare their neighborhood an "alcohol impact area." If local government agrees that the area has been adversely affected by alcohol sales and public drunkenness, stores within that area that sell cheap booze may eventually lose their liquor licenses.

Some store owners see the proposed policy as discriminatory. Doug Nufer, Manager of European Vine Selections in Capitol Hill, worries that the new law will make it harder for people who are not a public nuisance to consume alcohol. "People in my neighborhood who have regular dogshit jobs can only afford to drink 40 ounceers if they're going to drink every day."

While Nufer's store does not sell fortified wines, he says that impact zones are a class-based and probably

unconstitutional form of prohibition for the poor. Moreover, he doesn't believe the strategy will work. "Drunks will just go to the State Liquor store for a pint of gin," said Nufer. "It's an embarrassing conflict of interest."

Fifths of 80 to 100 proof vodka, gin, rum and whisky are available at the State Liquor store for between seven and nine dollars. Pints are sold for a very affordable four dollars, and dollar shots are right behind the cashier.

Public officials admit the proposal is "imperfect," but defend the impact zone strategy as "tough love." They say that street alcoholics will be forced to either seek treatment or go somewhere else. "There is no such thing as a 'right' to sell a product that destroys people and strips them of their dignity and humanity," said King County Executive Ron Sims.

Limiting the supply of cheap booze through impact zones, says Ron Sims and others, will encourage drunks to seek treatment by striking at the very culture of street alcoholism.

Yet treatment options remain in critically short supply. A phone call to King County Detox revealed that there is a one to three week wait to access one of the 38 available beds.

While new services such as the Dutch Schisler Sobering Center do offer a cost effective alternative to jail and emergency rooms for street drunks in crisis, they do not pretend to offer treatment.

"The treatment system has never been anywhere near adequate," explained Pike Place Medical Clinic social worker Joe Martin. "The gateway to help is blocked by the lack of beds."

"People who are sick and tired and disgusted with themselves can't get into treatment. It's 'hurry up and wait.' That's exactly the wrong message."

Joe Martin

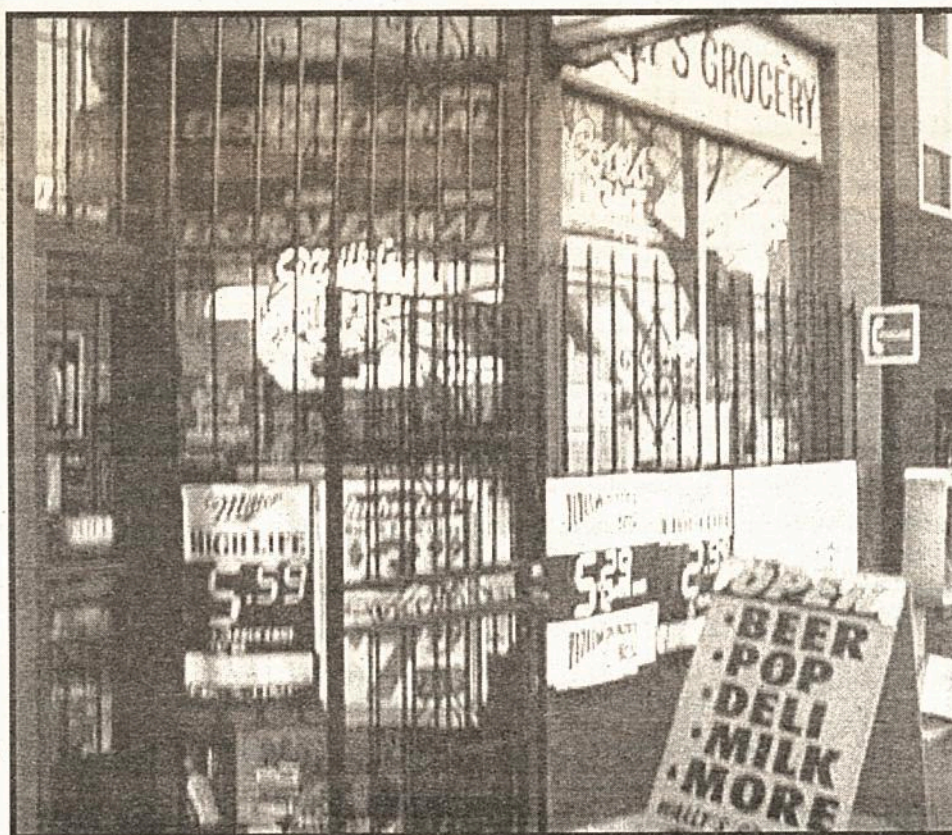
He maintains that obtaining treatment should be as easy as walking into a bar or the corner liquor store for a next drink. "People who are sick and tired and disgusted with themselves can't get into treatment," said Martin. "It's 'hurry up and wait.' That's exactly the wrong message."

But the "carrot" side of King County's CPI plan has mostly remained on paper and unfunded. There are no immediate prospects for increased treatment options or supportive services.

Mayor Schell says that he expects the overall human services picture to become even more overburdened as the effects of welfare reform are felt on the street over the next year. The Mayor is hopeful that more resources can be shifted into treatment.

"We are going to need a coordinated community strategy," said the Mayor. "The money is already being spent, but in the wrong places. Our resources are going to jails and not treatment. We need to change that." Schell and Sims said they would appeal to the state legisla-

ture this session to fund more treatment options. ☐



Martin stresses that we know how to treat alcoholism and drug addiction, but simply lack the political will to provide the resources. "We're not trying to uncover the mystery of cancer here," he says, "We know how to do this."

Indeed, the King County Task Force on Chronic Public Inebriates has produced reams of documentation to describe what an adequate treatment system might look like: street outreach and sobering centers, treatment linked to housing, services, job training and placement, and so forth. The idea is that it doesn't work to get someone sober if five days later they are simply back on the street with no prospects.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

If your heartsong is making a difference on this lovely Earth, be a part of Earth Day 2000! Join the Earth Day 2000! Justine Cooper (206) 264-0114 x 212 or e-mail justinec@earthday.net

Strike Ends at West Seattle Psychiatric Hospital

On January 9, employees at West Seattle Psychiatric Hospital ended their 138-day strike, after unanimously ratifying a new bargaining agreement with their employer. The new agreement will cover about 100 workers.

After unionizing in August of 1997 with District 1199 of the Service Employees International Union, employees made no progress in their demands for better treatment for themselves and patients at the facility for seriously mentally ill. They went on strike five months ago, but former CEO Cliff Barda refused to recognize the union. (See Real Change, Jan 1, 1999).

The hospital suffered from under-trained replacement workers, and King County, which funds 95% of the WSPH budget, began looking elsewhere to contract for services. According to Chris Bodin, Secretary-Treasurer of SEIU-1199, a real change of heart happened when Barda retired at the end of December. "The Board [of WSPH] made a decision to hire somebody with a very different orientation towards unions," said Bodin. "They had to do a 180-degree turn."

The new CEO, David Johnson, arranged a meeting with the strikers and after two marathon bargaining sessions, an agreement was reached. Workers and union reps, relieved that their strike had ended, were positively euphoric about the settlement. "We worked hard for this [and] we deserve an excellent contract," said Imelda Kazares, Licensed Practical Nurse and member of the bargaining team. "This is it!"

The contract stipulates increased wages and benefits and a new pension plan. It also provides for a Labor Management Committee that will ensure healthcare workers have a voice in how patient care is delivered.

Bodin praised the employees who stuck it out on the line. "I was blown away on a regular basis by their sheer tenacity and commitment," she said. "That kind of experience is a life changing event. They will find it invaluable despite their financial sacrifices."

Bodin said that the employees wanted to work with the administration to advocate for more funding for the hospital, and District 1199 will use the victory as part of a movement to organize more health care workers in the region.

NEWS
YOU CAN
USE
CLOSE TO HOME

raised a record amount of cash to manipulate the public debate. After the vote, they lobbied lawmakers to pass a statewide ban on rent control.

Though their lobby is still organized and strong, the recent housing emergency in Seattle has caused some people to look anew at measures to control rents. Misconceptions about what rent control would really do are "of mythic proportion," says Judy Nicastro of the "Local Housing" group. "Even people who support some form of rent regulation to protect our neighborhoods freak over the phrase 'rent control.'"

One proposal is to have the state give back authority over housing legislation to the localities. Moses Lake and Seattle, for instance, would be able to craft laws that respond to the needs of their particular communities.

"It is critical that supporters of rent control speak up now," says Nicastro. "The landlords are."

She invites anyone who wants to stop the trend of extreme rents to come to the hearing on January 22, the Forum on February 2nd, and to call elected officials.

Tell them to repeal RCW 35.21.830, which prohibits giving cities local control of rent laws. Legislative hotline number is (800) 562-6000. For more information call Judy Nicastro at (206) 595-4938.

"It is critical that supporters of rent control speak up now. The landlords are."

Judy Nicastro, Local Housing

More Olympia Dates

On Thursday, January 21st, state legislators will receive a "Reality Check" about Welfare Reform, and how it is far from the cure-all proponents had promised.

The Welfare Reform Coalition, the Children's Alliance, and the Welfare Rights Organizing Coalition are planning a day of testimony and lobbying to show how public perceptions compare to the realities of families receiving public assistance. They will release data from a nationwide poll and a survey of 1400 families in the state (press conference at 10:00), and spend the afternoon lobbying legislators.

Interested parties can set up meetings ahead of time with their legislators (800-562-6000), or call the Welfare Reform Coalition (206-694-6794) for information about how to participate and rides to Olympia.

February 11th brings another lobbying push to the Capitol. On Housing Advocacy Day, tenants and housing activists will gather in support of better laws for tenants and more affordable housing.

Specific targets are an increase in the Housing Trust Fund, passage of a Housing Safety Bill and repeal of the state prohibition on Rent Control (see above).

The Tenants Union, one of the participating organizations, will provide rides, a childcare stipend, & lunch to their crew. Call Arlen (206-722-6848, x102) to register.

Rent (out of) Control!

In a surprising development, the House Committee on Economic Development and Housing will hold a hearing on rent control Friday, January 22 at 1:30 pm in the Capitol Building in Olympia. Housing groups have put out a call for the public to show up, and contact their legislators.

There will also be a public forum on February 2nd at Seattle Central Community College, hosted by a group called "Local Housing Needs Local Laws." State Rep Velma Veloria and Seattle City Councilmember Nick Licata will be on hand to hear testimony about outrageous rents and talk about how the state and city can respond. The "Rent ...Out of Control!" forum is in SCCC room 1110, from 7 to 9 pm.

Legislators have shied away from any meaningful discussion on rent control since 1980, after a statewide "Fair Rent" initiative was defeated. The real estate industry had organized and

KUNG FU CLASSES TAUGHT BY AND FOR WOMEN

Established 1981

Call for class times.



**SEVEN STAR
WOMEN'S
KUNG FU**

(206) 720-1046

1426 South Jackson Street
Seattle, WA 98144

The King County Labor Council, AFL-CIO

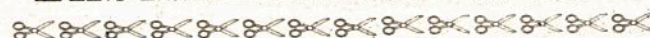
Promoting social and economic justice
for all people by organizing
in the community.

Organizing for change, changing to organize.

the BELLTOWN BARBER

DAVE MARKOVICH
OWNER

MON - FRI 9:30am to 5:30pm SAT - 10am to 4pm
2219 2nd Downtown Seattle • 441-4738



Think Different.

Did Santa bring you new mac?

The Real Change Homeless Empowerment Project needs your old one. Tax receipts gladly provided.

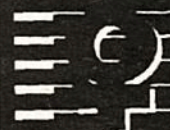
Call 441-3247 for more info.

Personal Ad

SWM 57 yrs young. Nice personality and good sense of humor. Easy to talk with and excellent listener. Considerate, respectful, honest, compassionate & passionate. Enjoys life. Wants to meet like minded woman 35+, hwp. Likes cats, enjoys music, financially stable. 206-325-8670 or letter to:

2129 2nd Ave. Seattle, WA 98121

FEMINIST WOMEN'S HEALTH CENTER



PRO-CHOICE HEALTH CARE

- abortion •well-women •birth control
- emergency contraception
- now offering general anesthesia
- men and women doctors
- medical coupons and most insurance

CEDAR RIVER CLINIC

- 4300 Talbot Rd S #403, Renton
- local phone (425) 255-0471
- 25 minutes south of downtown Seattle

www.fwhc.org

They'll Be Back

The SHARE/WHEEL drive for legal outdoor encampment for the homeless has taken a jump forward. The City of Seattle authorized funds for an architectural firm, Environmental Works, to study encampment options and help SHARE/WHEEL, who set up "Tent City 2" near the reservoir on Beacon Hill last July, prepare a detailed proposal for the new camp that they plan to set up in spring 1999.

One of the City's requirements for considering a permit for the encampment is that it be on private land. SHARE and WHEEL, inspired (or motivated) by billionaire Paul Allen, are searching for possible sites for the encampment.

Any person or group who controls vacant land of about a football field in size, and who is willing to let SHARE and WHEEL use it for six months for a clean and self-managed homeless encampment, is encouraged to call (206) 448-7889.

Governor Locke's Safety

Since the State lost a lawsuit that mandated it provide better care for homeless families, Governor Locke has proposed spending \$28 million for the next biennium for the Homeless Children's Plan. But at the same time, he may help try to change the law that was the basis for the suit, and the court mandate to respond effectively.

Locke's proposed funds are a little shy of the \$31.1 million recommended by the Washington State Coalition for the Homeless (the plaintiffs in the suit), but the Coalition says they are "pleased" that Locke has proposed nearly the full amount. (See Citizens Participation Project, Real Change

December '98). The money will provide for a combination of shelter, housing, and eviction prevention needs.

The first caveat is, of course, that the legislature must still pass the budget. The second, and more damaging prospect, is that DSHS has proposed legislation that would remove the words "homeless" and "runaway" from an existing state statute, in order to absolve DSHS of responsibility for children and families who are homeless.

Since the estimated cost for the state to provide services to homeless families and children is \$271 million (nearly ten times the Governor's proposal), advocates are worried that the legislation would short-circuit the state's burden of responsibility.

Governor Locke will ultimately make the decision about whether to seek a change in the statute, and is accepting citizen feedback on the matter: 360-753-6780 (phone); 360-753-4110 (fax); or email governor.locke@governor.wa.gov

If you have a news item that you would like *Real Change* to look into, please let us know.
Call Bob at 441-8143.

Women of Wisdom

Seventh Annual Gathering
A Conference in Women's Spirituality
February 12-20, 1999

With special Guests
Starhawk
Luisah Teish
Jeanne Achterberg
Ferron in Concert
Sandra Ingerman
Elena Avila

Over 60 events all week, individually priced.
Sponsored by Women of Wisdom Foundation

Held at Seattle Unity Church
For information call (206) 622-8475 ext. 135,
or (206) 689-6482. Lectures and concerts open to men.
www.womenofwisdom.org

VOLUNTEER TUTORS

Help at-risk youth succeed in school by volunteering with Catholic Community Service's Youth Tutoring Program. Tutor elementary, middle and high school youth living in low-income public housing communities. Help with skill building, assist with homework/computer activities, play educational games and encourage students to succeed. 6 tutoring centers located in northeast, central, southeast and southwest Seattle. Centers are managed by qualified teaching staff and are equipped with lots of learning resources. Tutor 2 hours a week for 6 months. (This is a non-religious program). Initial orientation/training will be provided. For more info, call Anna at 328-5659

The United States Mission of Seattle Washington

Tired of the streets? Homeless? Broke? Give the U.S. Mission a try! Two meals a day, a shared room with another person in transitional housing. Our self-help work program puts money in your pocket every Saturday! Midnight curfew, a bed and the comforts of home, washer, dryer, shower, new friends. ONLY serious persons need apply. NO drugs, NO alcoholics...sorry, not geared for counseling. All are welcome, regardless of age, sex, color, religious or sexual orientation, parolee... However, there is limited bed space. You must be over 18 yrs old. If you want a new start on life, call (206) 781-9113

UNITED STATES MISSIONS serving the homeless, elderly and needy since 1962. Other locations: San Francisco, Los Angeles, San Jose, San Diego, CA. Portland, OR. Phoenix, AZ

Advertising

gets
RESULTS

CALL 441-8847
FOR RATES

Revolution Books

Marxist - Leninist - Maoist classics, progressive literature, posters, t-shirts & more!

1833 Nagle Place
(206) 325-7415

Now located on Capitol Hill
(Near Denny & Broadway)

Wellness in

Pioneer Square

Massage Therapy
Counseling
Hypnotherapy

Mari-Claire Uccello LMP, CHT
(206) 340-6121 ext. 2



All Vegan
GOOD MORNING
HEALING EARTH
VEGETARIAN RESTAURANT
901 NE 55th Street
One block west of Roosevelt
in the "U"-District
523-8025
Mostly Organic

This winter if your furnace breaks down Call A Conduct-Air to warm your soul and body.

I'll repair your furnace at a reasonable fee and on your behalf donate 15% of your money, to help those who have no funds to ward off the cold. (Which often happens to those who are old.) Together we can make a difference!
A CONDUCT-AIR

acond ##31n7

206-986-1136 (24 hr. pager)

Residential & Commercial

Gas, Electric, Heat Pumps. Repair & Tune-ups

MAMA'S PIZZA
New York Style Pizza
700 E Pine
Capitol Hill, Seattle
FREE DELIVERY 322-6444
We Deliver Downtown!
FAX NUMBER - 322-7884
PIZZA • CALZONES • SALADS
STIX • SODAS
\$2 OFF any pizza with this ad

DONATE YOUR USED CAR

Boat, RV, Truck or Van to non-profit
EL CENTRO LA RAZA RECEIVE A TAX BREAK
AND FREE TOWING. We may want it even if it doesn't run! Your support will help children, youth, seniors and families.

(206) 329-2024/(206) 329-9442

2524 16th Ave. S., Seattle, WA 98144

e-mail development@elcentrodelraza.com

<http://www.elcentrodelraza.com/elcentro>

Carry the Names

Friday, January 8, at 4 pm, the Lutheran Compass Center held a memorial service for all those who had died homeless in the past year, and for the very poor, who are also part of our community.

I came in late to the service, and I wasn't sure what to do. As names were called out, different people rose to take a candle, light it from the central flame, and place it on the altar. When the name of Toinette was called, one of the victims of the serial killer, no one arose, so I went up to light the candle for her. I noticed that all the other candles had a slip of paper under them, with a name. When I sat back down, I sat by friends of mine, who each held a fistful of slips of paper. One gave me a slip to carry. No one had Toinette's name.

I rose for a couple of other people whose names were on the list, but were not carried on slips of paper by anyone in the group present. I rose for a couple of people I had known personally who weren't on the list: Jim Green from StreetWrites, Lynn Pfizer from StreetLife Gallery.

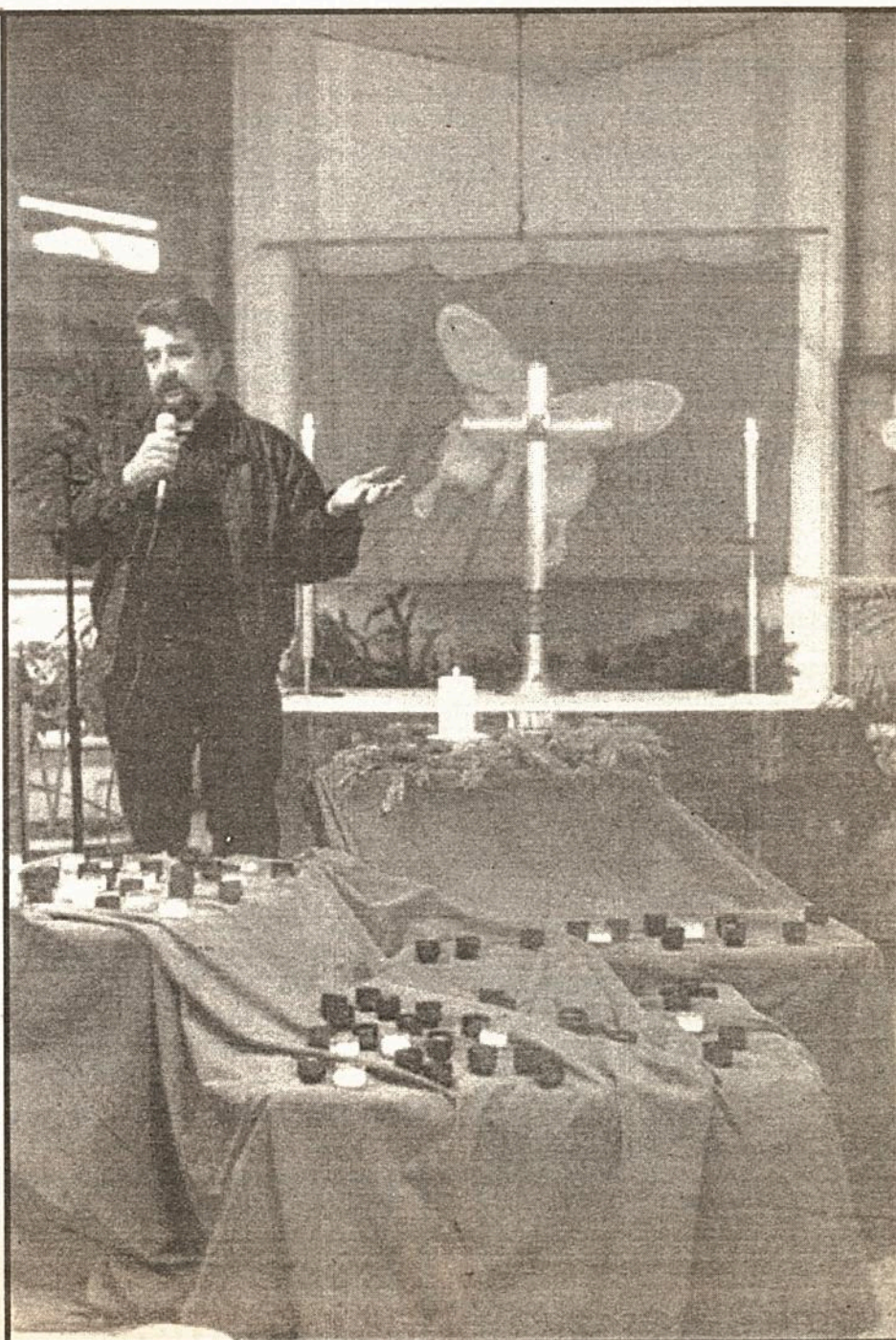
What is happening to our country—the rise in homelessness, the widening gap between the rich and the poor, the growing numbers of people finding themselves slipping down the ladder into poverty—is not primarily an economic crisis, but a crisis of community. We have forgotten that we are responsible for one another. We do not carry each other's names.

Even those of us who work on community keep learning more. Sitting there meditating on Toinette, I reminded myself that a person doesn't have to be a writer or an artist or a charming person to deserve human dignity, human recognition. Everyone has something about them to cherish. The more that you love, the bigger you get. The more our community includes, the larger and stronger we are.

If we keep growing, if we keep doing more, if we learn to carry each other's names then someday, we will have a true community. And no one will ever again die homeless.

—Anitra Freeman

REMEMBRANCE: ON JANUARY 8TH, THE LUTHERAN COMPASS CENTER HELD ITS 17TH ANNUAL MEMORIAL SERVICE FOR THE POOR AND HOMELESS WHO DIED THE PREVIOUS YEAR. 106 NAMES WERE CALLED ON THE ROLL FOR 1998, PLUS THREE LONGTIME FRIENDS OF THE HOMELESS. THOUGH MUCH OF SOCIETY DID NOT CARE FOR THOSE WHO DIED, EACH ONE WAS REMEMBERED AND LOVED DESPITE TRAGIC CIRCUMSTANCE AND DIFFICULT TIMES. REST IN PEACE, ALL. PHOTO BY GEORGE HICKEY.



What We Need Straight talk from someone who has been there

If you've never been without any kind of home, even for a night, you cannot truly know what it's like to be homeless. If you've never had to sleep on a cot covered with sheets so thread-bare that the lumps of the mattress peek through, in a room with another homeless woman who wanders and moans and seems to have lost her mind; if you've never struggled to get to sleep through her noises, because you have to walk up the hill to the job God gave you in the morning, then you don't know what it's like to be homeless.

That woman had no job to go to the next day, nor any place to sit down when they shooed her out of the shelter until it re-opened at 6:00pm that evening. She could have gone to the library, but it's too full of homeless people already. She could sit on one of the few park benches remaining in the city, but she doesn't really like the homeless men staring at her, commenting about her. She'd go to the ladies room in a department store to clean up a little and sit on the bench, but she's too embarrassed about her wrinkled clothes and messy hair. If only someone could understand,

would give her some money so she could buy a shower at the Y, wash her clothes at a laundromat, and get a cheap hotel room to have a bed and room to herself for a night, so she could have a moment or two of peace and quiet.

She had never planned to be homeless. She never planned to feel so hopeless that she allowed people to shove her around from here to there, like a witless person. Maybe she'll beg today for a few coins with which to buy a hamburger, though she really doesn't feel like eating anymore. She's been too depressed for too long to believe in anything good in her life.

If you've never lived like that, or felt like that, or lived with those feelings in front of many others, then you don't know what it's like to be homeless, with no private place in which to cry, to bathe, to sleep, and to think, if you can get past the emotions that cripple you.

Don't give me lawyers and politicians in pressed suits, who've never known a homeless day in their lives, telling her to get off the streets. Give

her decent shelters, not the ill-funded rundown ones that the cities call havens, with their peeling paint and their lumpy mattresses and stinking sheets, their dirty bathrooms and underpaid staff. Give her a little bedroom of her own, with a decent bed, and a private closet; provide her a place where she can get some decent new clothes and some free counseling. A little kitchen of her own where no one will steal her food, would be nice, and a bathroom with good water pressure and a clean, sweet-smelling shower would be heaven, to her. Help her get out of the gutters of depression that immobilize her, so she can work and one day pay rent.

I was lucky. I had a job when I became homeless. I had my health and my intelligence. I had decent work clothes, and a little money. My emotions were wounded, but I was able to find counseling and people to help me. I was able to get back into the mainstream of living in a very few weeks. I didn't have to stay at that shelter more than one night, or the somewhat better one more than six weeks. And I kept my job.

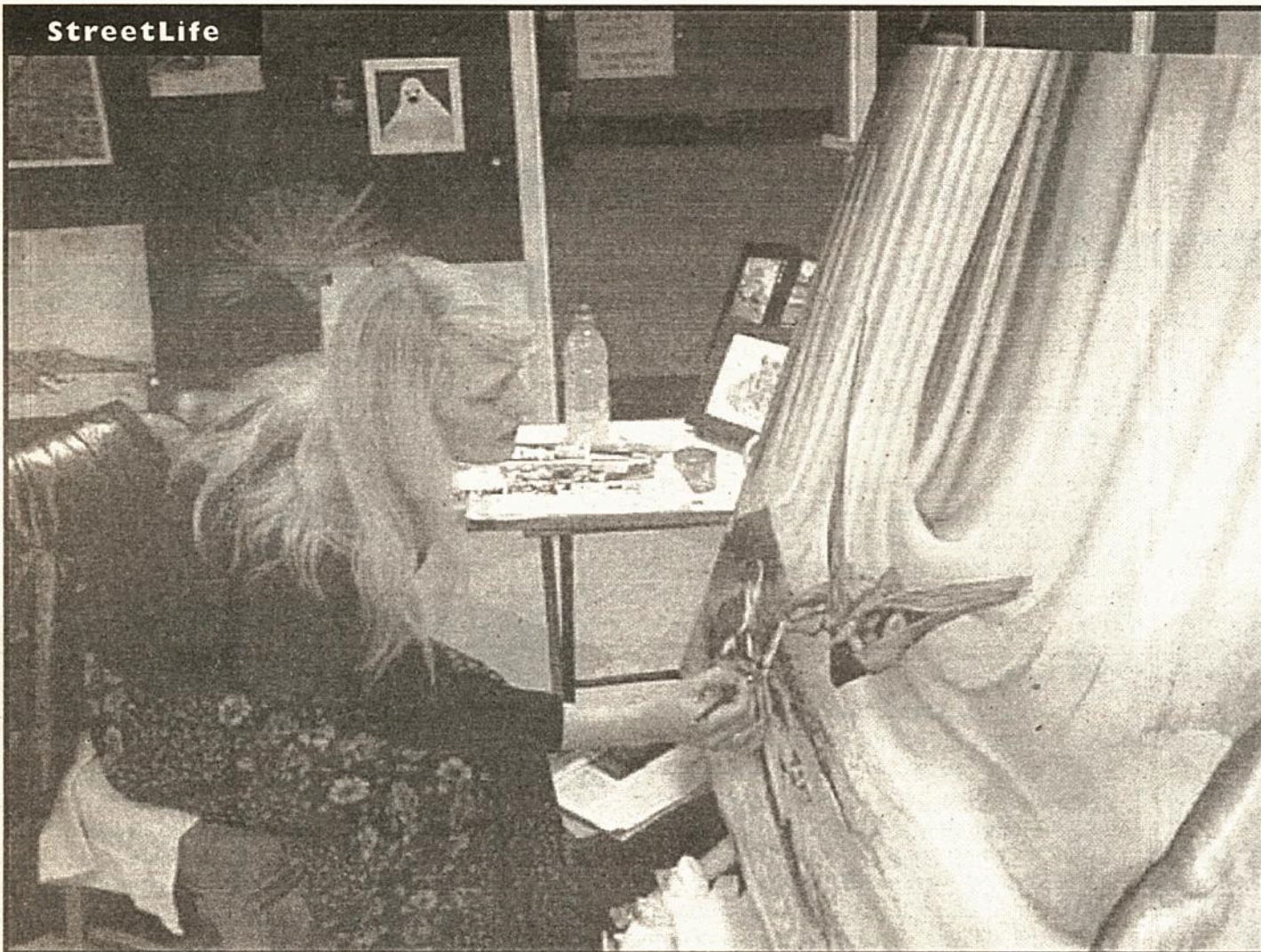
But until you've been there, you can't know what it's like to be homeless. I would never vote to arrest people for begging for money or for sitting on a park bench hour after hour. For aggressively panhandling, yes. For badgering, yes. But not for sitting or standing there with a belly growling and emotions churning,

hoping to get enough coins for some food. Instead of legislating against these people, legislate for some programs that will feed them, clothe them, shelter them in a clean place, and teach them a better way—and then they won't need to beg in your city or sit on your park benches. They'll have self-esteem, they'll have hope, and they'll have a purpose in life.

I hope I win the lottery so I can provide the kinds of shelters I wish I'd had when I was down and out, with no home.

—Barbara J. Slife

“Instead of legislating against these people, legislate for some programs that will feed them, clothe them, shelter them in a clean place, and teach them a better way—and then they won't need to beg in your city or sit on your park benches.”



Creating Magic

Streetlife artist Dae Geiver works her way back home.

BY SUSAN FORSHEY

Dae Geiver smiles broadly and warmth fills her eyes and laughter as she talks about her family. "They are wonderfully supportive, they would drop everything to help me prepare for a show." She has four children—all creative, she adds—and has been married for 18 years.

Her pleasant laughter fills the room as we talk about art and its effect on her life. "My entire living space is smothered in paintings," she says.

That living space is just becoming stable again after a very difficult season of injury and homelessness. Four years ago, Dae and her children were in a serious car accident that left her with a crushed disk and literally years of recovery in a back brace and the inability to raise her arm. The medical costs wiped out their financial resources.

The family suffered the added tragedy of Dae's husband being hit by a car, preventing him from working. This and the additional surgery Dae required to fix her injuries proved too much

and they lost their house, becoming homeless. Now, a year and a half after her final surgery, Dae sighs deeply as she describes the past few years. "We were pretty much on our own trying to start over, so we've taken a couple of years to get back on our feet, in a stable place. I'd like to get to where we can own a house again—as soon as I can show dependable income."

After a friend introduced her to *Real Change* just after her experience with homelessness, her first thought was to do something artistic for the cover. Through the paper she was introduced to the Street Life Gallery (SLG) and has, with some time away for her surgery, been there ever since. "It has been a marvelous place to work. Straight off a friend asked me to do a portrait of a little girl. Artists at the gallery traded among themselves to get me some of the supplies I needed because I didn't have any-

thing to begin with." She describes how one SLG artist left her gifts while she was away recovering from the surgery. "I've gotten inspiration and support here."

A native of the Seattle area, Dae watched her artist grandmother and mother "create magic" in front of her eyes. She began to draw as a young

child, selling her first painting when she was nine, and started showing in galleries by age 13. After high school, she studied under scholarship at UW and took classes at the Art Institute of Seattle, but her art and style is predominately self-taught.

"My husband knows all this stuff about artists and has been filling me in!" Dae has shown her work in a variety of galleries, including the Frye. She works in acrylics, oils, pen and ink, and watercolor. "This is a beautiful area; I am floored by the light and watching the sunsets. I like to take beautiful places with me to share." In describing her paintings, she hesitates, "They are landscapes, but not completely. There are human elements like the spirits of trees or angels in the sky. [The paintings] have a classical touch, but they are not classical; they're not photo realism, but they're realistic."

"Once I start the painting, I get to a certain point and step back and the painting tells me what it's to become. I get a lot of feedback from the painting. That's how things begin to emerge."

Vibrant colors, blended and yet bold, give her art warmth. As the eyes continues to study the lines and forms, more forms become apparent in the swirls and colors, until dozens of images emerge, creating the whole.

Looking to the future, Dae hopes for more gallery showings, the opportunity to do some murals in Seattle, and continued stability. She claps her hands and laughs, once again, as she talks about being the SLG Featured Artist in February. While her accident, for a time, prevented her from pursuing her art, now she looks excitedly ahead. □

"StreetLife Gallery has been a marvelous place to work. ... Artists at the gallery traded among themselves to get me some of the supplies I needed because I didn't have anything to begin with. I've gotten inspiration and support here."

Dae Geiver

Talk Much?

Join our entertaining work environment and raise money over the telephone for great non-profit organizations. We are looking for reliable people with good communication skills to work in our diverse workplace. Earn \$7.75/hr and work 5:00pm-9:00pm, Sun. through Thurs. Call Allison at 545-8800.



You want to be safe... but you want to be smart too.

That's why you won't pay high prices for the crappy selection

at the drug store when you can choose from:

**70 kinds of Condoms
Safer Sex Supplies**

**30 kinds of Personal Lubricants
Emergency Contraception Info.**

The best prices and selection in town!

Three ways to shop:

**Our Store: Wallingford 4426 Burke Ave N.
633-4750**

By Phone: 1-888-792-8733

Online: www.rubbertree.org



The Rubber Tree

A Project of Zero Population Growth-Seattle Chapter

Tenant Talk

**Legal
Action
Center**



Dear Tenant Talk,

I left town for two weeks over the recent holidays. When I returned to my apartment (in Olympia) I discovered that a large pack of rats had taken over my rental home. Upon further inspection, I discovered rat droppings in my bed, couch and kitchen, even in my silverware drawer!!! Rats had damaged or destroyed many of my personal items including an expensive quilt.

When I had moved in last July, the owner told me there was a previous rat problem but that he had set out poison. At the time I pointed out holes in the exterior of the house, but believed the owner's assurances that the rats were gone. If I had thought of it, I would have demanded the foundation be repaired (could I have?) but now I just want to get out immediately and recover the cost of my damaged property!!

Kate

Dear Kate,

The basic rule for pest infestations is that the landlord is responsible for providing a reasonable program for the control of infestations at the initiation of the tenancy in a single family home. In an apartment complex, the landlord has an obligation to provide a program to control infestation during the tenancy, however, in a single family home, the obligation is only to provide a home free of infestations at the beginning of your tenancy. The key in your case is whether the infestation actually existed at the time you moved into the house. It seems unlikely that such an extreme infestation would suddenly appear but the landlord could claim that you were the cause of the infestation and that it was your responsibility for handling the matter.

If you are determined to terminate your tenancy, you must write the landlord about the infestation and demand that he takes immediate action to remedy the situation. When there are defects in housing that are imminently hazard-

ous to life, the landlord has 24 hours to initiate remedial action. If the landlord fails to begin dealing with this problem, you can terminate the rental agreement and move out once you have given written notice to the landlord.

Whether or not you can recover the costs of your damaged property depends on whether the landlord was aware that there was actually an infestation at the time you took possession. The law provides that the landlord has certain duties. A landlord cannot be held responsible for damages resulting from the failure to meet those duties unless he has notice of the defects and a reasonable time to effect repairs. If the landlord had no knowledge of an existing infestation when you moved in then I don't believe he can be held responsible for your losses.

Dear Tenant Talk,

I live in a basement apartment in North Seattle. During the recent cold weather an uninsulated pipe above my living room broke and flooded the apartment. I jerry-rigged a solution, but lots of my stuff got ruined. After five days the owner still had not repaired the pipe (he never tried!), or cleaned up the water damage. I want the pipe fixed, the water damage repaired and I want compensation for my damaged property. What can I do?

Ron

Dear Ron,

The landlord has a duty to maintain all plumbing fixtures in reasonably good working order. Once the pipe broke and the landlord had notice, he would have 24 hours in which to initiate repairs to the plumbing if the broken pipe prevented you from having access to hot or cold water. If the break did not affect access to hot or cold water then the landlord would have 72 hours in which to begin repairs. If you have given the landlord notice of the defect, preferably written notice, then he clearly is in violation of the Residential Landlord Tenant Act. A tenant has several remedies he can exercise when the landlord fails to make repairs including terminating the lease, bringing suit for diminished rental value or making the repairs and deducting the costs from next month's rent.

Whether the landlord can be held responsible for the damages to property depends on having notice of the defect and a reasonable time to make repairs. As stated above, the landlord has as much as 72 hours to make the repairs. After that time the landlord may be held responsible for any damages to your property, however, you also have a responsibility to protect your property. A court may not award you the full amount of your damages if it finds that you did not take steps to protect your property such as removing it from the flooded area. If you incurred costs in protecting your property, your landlord could be held responsible for those costs.

Write to Tenant Talk!

Are you now, or have you ever been, screwed by your landlord? Got an tenant issue you'd like to raise? Have anecdotes from another country or city? We want to hear about it! Send all gripes, anecdotes, or questions to "Tenant Talk" c/o Real Change, 2129-2nd Ave., Seattle, WA or email rchange@speakeasy.org

Got a Tenant Problem? Get Help

Seattle CSOs (police matters only)	684-4790
Legal Action Center (low income only)	324-6890
Lawyer Referral Service	623-2551
Northwest Justice Project	
(Section 8 or HUD housing only)	464-1519
Tenants' Union	723-0500
or TTY (hearing impaired)	723-0523

STREETLIFE GALLERY WHERE THE PAVEMENT MEETS THE CANVAS

Celebrate Creativity Seeing is Believing. Drop in Anytime.

A working gallery where the outsider is always at home.

Open daily from 11-8 pm., 2301 2nd Ave., Belltown 98121 (206) 956-8046

Isn't it time your courier moved as fast as your business?

**MERCURY
COURIER
CORPORATION**

206 448 3379

mercurycourier@worldnet.att.net



3 Self Service Full Color Copiers

Full Color Copies
Canon 500
59¢
8 1/2 X 11

Great for
Designers and
Artists!!

2445 4th Ave. So.
Suite 100
Seattle, WA. 98134
Phone (206) 467-0332
Fax (206) 467-0275

**PRINT KING
& COPY Inc.**
Your Complete Business Service Center

3 Blocks
South of the Kingdome

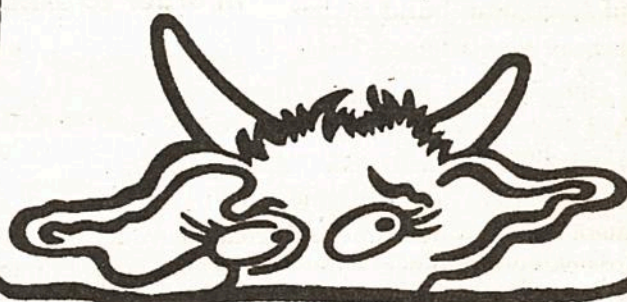
MAE'S PHINNEY RIDGE CAFE

65th & Phinney 782-1222

Open 7-3 Everyday

WE SERVE BREAKFAST A-L-L DAY!

KISS MY GRITS!



Giving the **POWER**
of the Internet to
THE PEOPLE

Warehouse turned Internet Coffeehouse

SPEAKEASY CAFE

COFFEE • COMPUTERS • PERFORMANCE

2304 2ND AVE SEATTLE

206.728.9770

The Road Music of Harry Partch

HARRY PARTCH: A BIOGRAPHY
1998: YALE UNIVERSITY PRESS
496 PAGES
BY DOUG NUFER

Once I built a railroad," begins the anthem of the Great Depression. At another end of songdom, there's *Hallelujah, I'm a Bum*, a 1933 movie musical whose title song goes, "Rockefeller's busy giving dough away/ Chevrolet is busy making cars./ Hobo, you keep busy when they throw away/ slightly used cigars."

And then there's Harry Partch (1901-1974). While populists like E.Y. Harburg sympathized with the former builders of America who then roamed the land in search of work, and rich kids like Lorenz Hart busied themselves writing clever "hallelujahs" to the joys of vagabond living, Partch lived the life and then made art out of it.

From the mid-1920's (before the Depression) through the 1930's, Partch hopped freights, hitchhiked, picked fruit, and stayed among folks who never stayed anywhere very long. By trade, Partch was a proofreader who often got (and lost) jobs at newspapers; by vocation, he was a composer.

If you're not knocking your head and saying, "Oh, that Harry Partch!" maybe it's because his music was mostly written for performances. He invented his own scale (based on 43 tones per octave rather than the standard 12) and his own system of notation, and had to custom-build instruments to play what he wrote. Today his instruments are in storage and his music survives only through the determined efforts of a few followers, but his reputation and the influence of his work cannot be underestimated. Some say he's America's greatest avant-garde composer; others would strike all modifiers but "greatest."

Although Partch was recognized (or, tolerated) for his peculiar musical genius in his own time, he deliberately abandoned the trappings of security in order to experience what was out there on the road. *Harry Partch: a biography* by Bob Gilmore (published last May by Yale University Press) gives a fascinating account of the composer's struggles with both musical and social establishments.

While some of Partch's motives for leaving home seem romantic, he doesn't exactly fit the mold the Beats later poured themselves into (cut to the slumming Jack Kerouac, living off publishers' advances and his aunt's charity to experience Real Life). Partch vehemently repudiated traditional music training and he was often frustrated as he tried to make a way for his art in the routine of everyday life. Despite having big names recommend him for grants (W.B. Yeats wrote to support a project to put one of

his poems to music), he had to scrounge for the help he needed from foundations and universities. After all, his work took a good deal of money to produce, demanded an attentive—as opposed to casually commercial—audience, and attacked the aesthetic principles that his prospective benefactors stood for.

As the Depression spread, vagrancy gained a certain social respectability, but the increased competition for day labor didn't make conditions easier. Partch's own wanderings became less voluntary, as it became harder for him to find and hold jobs. Nevertheless, he made the most of his experiences.

His compositions *Barstow: Eight Hitchhikers Inscriptions* and *US Highball: A Musical Account of Slim's Transcontinental Hobo Trip* are unique in American music, not only for their fidelity to his bizarre methods but for their thorough exploration of a subject that went untouched by serious composers: the life of homeless people during the Great Depression. He was particularly concerned with transcribing the human voice. *Barstow* takes its cue from graffiti; *US Highball* begins with Partch's notebook full of "fragments of conversations, remarks, writings on the sides of boxcars, signs in havens for derelicts, hitchhiker's inscriptions, names of stations, thoughts."

Aside from composing, Partch wrote a memoir of his hobo experiences, *Bitter Music*, only some of which survives (he threw the rest away). Gilmore's book presents some of his non-musical road works, including sketches and a terrific photograph Partch took of men on a train. Dedicated as the artist was to present this world as accurately as he could, he had a tendency to discard results that didn't measure up to his exacting standards.

Partch bounced back and forth from the road to the homes of friends during his itinerant decade. Afterwards, when he "settled down," he moved 16 times in 15 years, thanks to the strictly provisional generosity of the institutions and landlords who put up with him and all of his instruments. Amenities at some of these places rivaled the accommodations he had in the jungle.

Although Gilmore spends only one chapter, "Western States," on Partch's time on the road, themes of impermanence and restlessness echo throughout the biography. Moreover, it is this sense of rootlessness that haunts the broad legacy of Partch and our memory of him.

The Seattle Public Library has one copy of Gilmore's book, no copies of Partch's revolutionary music theory text, *Genesis of a Music*, and a handful of recordings of his music. To learn more about Harry Partch and to find the latest sources of his recordings, try the internet:

www.music.sjsu.edu/Partch/harry_partch.html
www.spyral.net/newband/partch.html



Harry Partch: a biography. Bob Gilmore

"Although Partch was recognized (or, tolerated) for his peculiar musical genius in his own time, he deliberately abandoned the trappings of security in order to experience what was out there on the road."



**Center for Renewal
A Place Apart...**

- Meeting Space for Workshops, Retreats, Conferences, Banquets
- Meal Service & Guest Rooms
- Convenient Location
- Beautiful Setting

**3607 - 228th Ave SE Issaquah, WA 98029
425-392-1871 FAX: 425/391-7451**

- Carpets dry in 60 minutes
- Virtually residue free
- Non-toxic
- Deodorizing
- Stain protection
- Prevacuuming and pretreatment included
- Pet stain removal
- Furniture is carefully moved
- No hidden costs
- Satisfaction guaranteed

**Service Carpet
&
Upholstery**



gloria anzaldua phil red eagle

Good books for a change.



**Red & Black Books
432 15th E. Seattle
322-READ**

jonathan kozol audre lorde

Mel's Market Downtown

Is looking for Full-time dishwasher. Applicant must enjoy working in a fast paced environment with the public. Applicant must be mature, reliable and enjoy working with others.
\$7/hr Hrs: Days M-F + Benefits.
Please call 623-6771 for Appt.

**Youth Leadership Development
Program Director**

To develop a cross-cultural youth group for leadership in peace and social justice activities. Exp. youth organizer able to: develop the respect and trust of young people, facilitate work between youth from diverse ethnic, racial and economic backgrounds. Able to travel. Freq. evening and weekend meetings. **Deadline Mon. Feb. 15, 1999 5pm. Call (206) 632-0500 for appl.**

Shelter Work!!



THE COMPASS CENTER
Be part of the solution Help homeless men achieve their goals by providing info. & ref, crisis counseling and advocacy with **The Compass Center**
PROGRAM COORDINATOR POSITION
Supervises 24hr transitional shelter for men. Req exc case mgmt skills and supv exp. as well as interest in program dev. FT & req weekend and eve wk \$27k/yr + benefits.

MEN'S PROGRAM CASE MGR SWING SHFT
Exp. in empl. training/voc rehab; mental health/chem. dep. treatment setting; homeless services. Spanish speakers pref. FT inc weekends \$10.50hr + benefits. Send resume & cover ltr specifying position sought to:
MJ Kiser, 77 S. Washington, Seattle WA 98104
by 1/22/99

OSHEROFF, CONT. FROM PAGE 1

People think one way, they tell you something another way and no matter what they tell you, few people really act decisively. So, I experienced a need to integrate my thinking and my talking and my doing.

RC: Why do you think so many volunteers acted on their political and social convictions to such an unprecedented degree?

OSHEROFF: There was a particular climate, but I wouldn't emphasize the political aspect as much as the economic. The fact is that over half of the US were unemployed. There was an atmosphere of despair. And there was for the first time the emergence of a movement to fight back.

When I think back to my youth, we didn't have money but we were much richer than most people are today. We cared about each other in a very wide sense. It was unthinkable to let our neighbors go down the tube, it was beyond our comprehension. And that was pretty wide-spread.

RC: During the Spanish Civil War many collectives were formed by the workers and the poor. Do you think this idea can have a resurgence in the United States today?

OSHEROFF: I think the collective ideal is a beautiful ideal. I can't imagine that in my lifetime, or even yours, that it will play a big role. It is a beautiful ideal because everyone has a need for individuality and for community. A just society would to some degree balance those things out.

I think it (collective ownership) could only become possible when a tremendous reformation takes place within the human character. It takes a people to understand that it's to their individual interest in certain circumstances to act collectively. And we are very far from that.

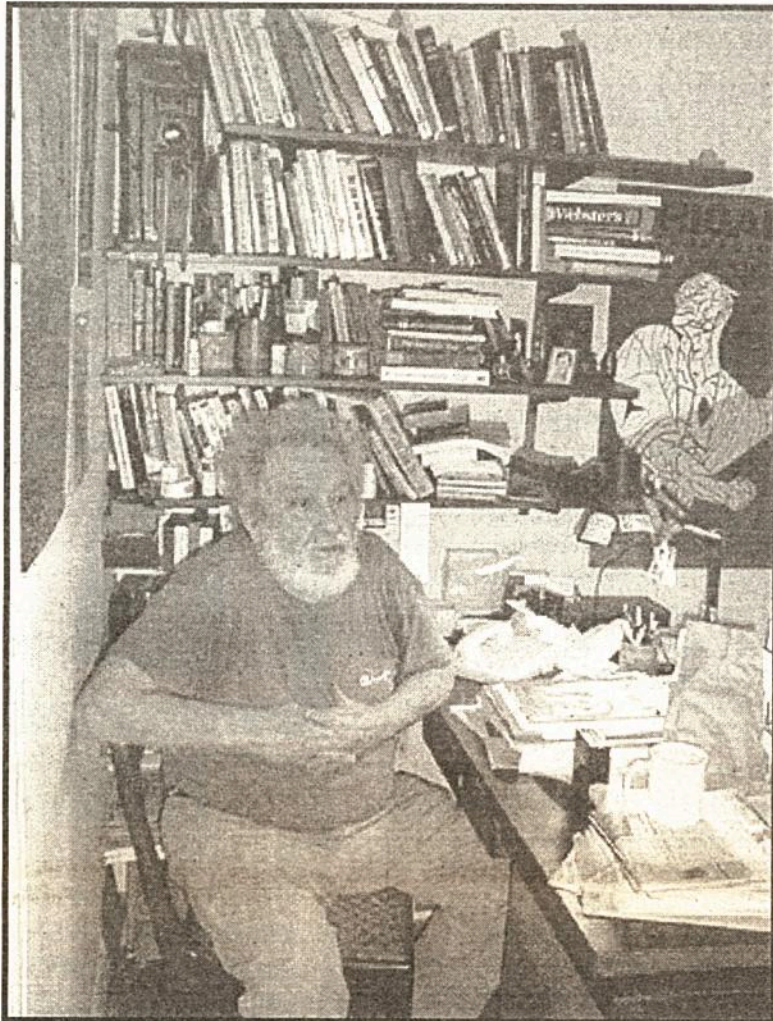
My own reaction to that is if you put collectivity or anarchy forward as a political goal for any society, you are barking into the wind. Try practicing it in your lives. The best way to push that forward that idea is to show that it works. There's no better way of convincing people of anything.

RC: Do you think that the level of political commitment and solidarity that the Abraham Lincoln Brigade acted with still exists, at all, in this society today?

OSHEROFF: I think it's there, but it's very latent. You don't see much manifestation of it. You see, in the world I

grew up in, collectivism was a very common thing. And the world you're operating in is very "me, me, me." I don't think we had as much of that. Not because we were better people. The gap between the poor and the rich in my time, in a sense, was much smaller than now. And every day because of television and movies, we have thrown in our faces what is possible.

hand out leaflets. I still have difficulties with people who profess political beliefs and then drag their ass. I have never dealt well with that. The problem is, the way I used to intervene would make them more prone to drag their ass. The only way I can reach people is to convince them that it is in their interest. That works a lot better.



ABE ASHEROFF, 84 AND FULL OF "PISS AND VINEGAR."
PHOTO BY MICHELE THOMAS

In some ways it was much easier to be a radical when I was a kid. You could fight fascism, you could go out and support militant strikes, you could go on with the vast masses of unemployed people. That's not the situation today. So I think we are in a different historic era now. But this is not the end of history. It might force us to act collectively, but it can also force degradation.

RC: How did your experiences in the Spanish Civil War become a part of your later political ideology? Did it shape what you went on to do when you got home?

OSHEROFF: Spain was not the high point of my political career. It was a high point. Spain is where I lost whatever political innocence I had left. And after Spain when I got involved in other things within the community or in the Civil Rights Movement ... working in Mississippi and later in Nicaragua... there were things about some of those struggles that did more for me than Spain did.

Being in Spain also made me a less capable organizer. I became impatient, after I came back, with people who considered it a big sacrifice to get up early on a Sunday morning to

RC: You spend a significant amount of your time educating younger people about the Abraham Lincoln Brigade. What do you hope to pass on?

OSHEROFF: I used to talk a great deal about the Brigade, the war itself and the nature of the war. But I do less and less of that. The thing I try to deal with first is the importance of commitment. Translated that means, you're a part of history, like it or not, and are you going to be an observer, or are you going to be a participant? How important it is to be committed? And secondly, how important it is to struggle to make your thought and word and deed come out of the same thought? The fact is, our society is so put together that we are not only alienated from each other, but we are alienated from one part of ourselves from the other part.

How wonderful it is to experience overcoming that alienation.

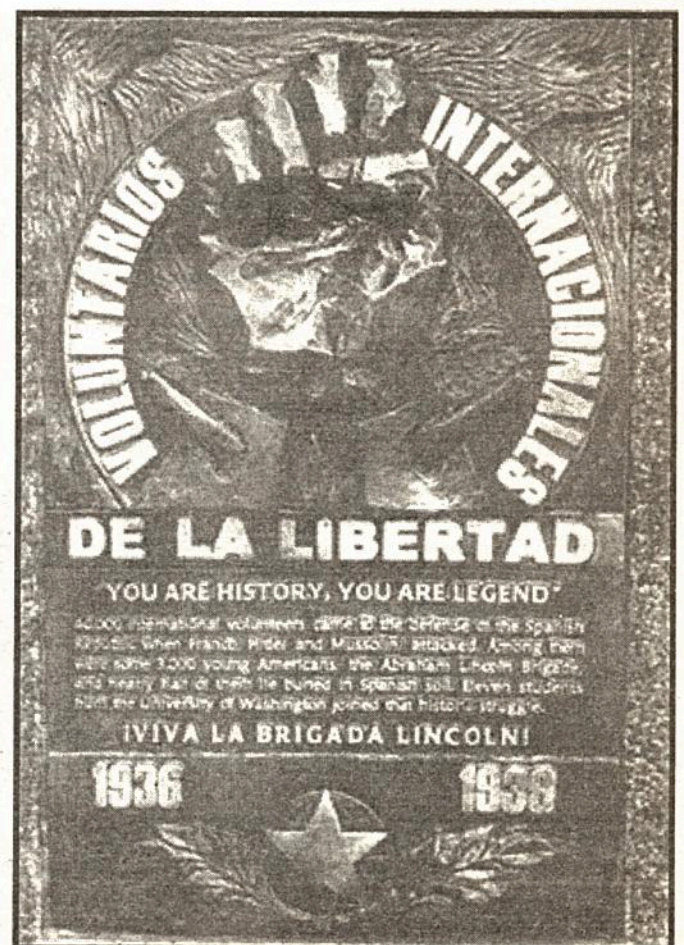
Those of us who understand where we are, and where we are probably going, are in the process of being a seed planter. That's how I view my work in life, as planting strong seeds and knowing it's winter now and spring will come and some of these seeds will sprout. And I've seen it in my life.

What's important is we may never win this f—ing shit, I'm gonna tell you honestly. What would be worse if we didn't fight it, and by fighting it you meet the nicest people. And it is very rewarding. Spain was not the good fight, the good fight

has been going on since people came out of the caves and it went on after Spain. The one thing I do know about the human species, no matter how much they f—k us over, there will always be a substantial and forceful mass that'll say f—k you, we don't go for it. And to me that is very reassuring.

So I think the central thing I try to give to young people is that if you become a participant in history, it's a great way to live. That's all I can tell them. Look at me, I'm in my 84th year and I'm still full of piss and vinegar. You'd have to hunt to find an 84 year old like me. And I like that. [S]

"The thing I try to deal with first is the importance of commitment. Translated that means, you're a part of history, like it or not, and are you going to be an observer, or are you going to be a participant? How important it is to be committed? And secondly, how important it is to struggle to make your thought and word and deed come out of the same thought?"



Seattle Volunteer

www.speakeasy.org/~seavol

HELP YOUR NEIGHBORS resolve everyday conflicts by volunteering at the Dispute Resolution Center. Basic conflict resolution training provided free in return for 9-month service commitment. Day and evening slots available. Training class now forming. Call 206-443-9603 for information packet.

LEARNING WITH COMPUTERS CAN BE FUN! Teach and train Youth Tutoring Program staff and students to utilize computers and educational software (grades 1-12). 6 tutoring centers in low-income housing communities. Tutor 2 hrs/week for the 1998/99 school year. Call Anna at 328-5659.

BOOKS TO PRISONERS. Our all-volunteer collective sends books to men and women in prisons nationwide. We need you to simply open letters and choose books from our library to match. Promote literacy, education, empowerment, and social justice. Mon at 10 PM, Wed at 5 PM-midnight. 1404 18th (and Union), Seattle. 320-0618 or jargon@uwashington.edu 11/5/98

VOLUNTEER DRIVERS NEEDED. Multi-Service Centers in desperate need of volunteers to pick-up and deliver donations from local grocery stores on a weekly basis. Five different locations available on the Eastside. Volunteer hours range between 1-3 hours per week. For more info call Oanh at (425) 869-6066.

CASA LATINA, a non-profit organization serving the homeless and immigrant population in Downtown Seattle, is in need of enthusiastic volunteer English teachers for our daytime ESL classes. Training provided. One year commitment required. Knowledge of Spanish helpful. Please call 382-1919 for more info.

SEATTLE POLICE DEPARTMENT VICTIM SUPPORT TEAM Community volunteers wanted to assist domestic violence victims and their children at secured crime scenes in the East and South Precincts during weekend hours. Call 684-7704.

TECHNOLOGY ACCESS FOUNDATION TAF's mission is to bring computers to communities of color. TAF's Technical Teens program needs volunteers to write and teach curriculum in 5 areas: web design, web programming, networking, hardware, and advanced MS Office. Call Sarah Reynolds, 725-9095.

FIRST PLACE IS A MODEL SCHOOL and Therapeutic Center for low income and homeless children and their families that fosters hope, promotes stability, and provides resources for self-sufficiency. Volunteers support first place in a plethora of ways. Contact Robin F. Counts for details 223-6715. 11/5/98

DO YOU HAVE A FEW HOURS a month to guide and encourage young women to become successful working

members of your community? Help young women receive job training through the federally-sponsored Job Corps. Women in Community Service, 1-800-283-9427

REAL CHANGE/RCHEP needs volunteers for a wide variety of tasks. Front desk volunteers serve vendors 2 hrs a week. StreetWrites needs a driver to pick up food donations Sunday AM. We are also looking for Computer Center Interns for 10 hours per week. Minimum commitment of 3 months for all positions. Call Michele at 441-3247 for more info.

THE SHAREHOUSE collects quality furniture and household items to give to homeless families moving into permanent housing. The Sharehouse needs volunteer at its University District office to help with warehouse and donation pickup scheduling. Time commitment is 3 hrs/week. If interested, please call Young Kim at 527-5956 or 525-1213.

VOLUNTEERS OF AMERICA GREENWOOD FOOD BANK needs volunteers to deliver groceries to home-bound clients and pick up food from grocery stores. Must be friendly, reliable, and have your own truck or van. Regular (once per week) and substitute drivers needed, Monday and Wednesday mornings. Call 782-6731.

HELP "ADDRESS" THE HOUSING CRISIS. Fun office needs help updating rolodexes, other small tasks. Seattle-King County Housing Development Consortium (SHDC) is the association of non-profit housing developers working to increase the quality and supply of decent, safe, affordable housing in

King County. Call 682-9541 to make a difference. 9/3/98

HELP THE HOMELESS by volunteering at Downtown Emergency Service Center, Seattle's largest multi-service center/shelter for homeless men and women. Community volunteer drivers are needed to pick up donations for our shelter, mental health and housing programs. Training provided. 6 month commitment. Call David Strong at 464-1570 x3003

RELIABLE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED for Seattle Children's Home's Street Links outreach program. Go out on our van between 8:00 pm to 2:00 am, assist driver and other professionals in providing basic needs (such as food, clothing and hygiene supplies) for Seattle's homeless teens. Carol Fleagle, 206-298-9600, voice mail box 9838.

FOOD NOT BOMBS is a hunger relief volunteer collective that serves vegetarian meals to those in need every Sunday evening in downtown Seattle. To join us or to donate food or cooking equipment, call Jenny at 402-1857, or Chris at 860-3922, or Marsha at 789-9800. Meetings at Green Tortoise Hostel Sundays at 1:30.

HELP ADULT IMMIGRANTS LEARN ENGLISH or help native English speaking adults improve their basic skills and prepare for the GED test. Volunteers work in classrooms under the direction of our teachers. Classes are large and your help will really be appreciated. Call Arlene Springer at

North Seattle Community College- 528-4558." Community Calendar Listing: 11/5/98

UNIVERSITY YOUTH SHELTER Volunteers are needed to help maintain a safe and welcoming environment for youth ages 13 - 20. Kind, committed, outgoing individuals needed for overnight and evening shifts Wednesdays, Fridays, Saturday, and Sundays. Call Rachael Myers, 525-1213 x4204.

ATLANTIC STREET CENTER Tutor: Provide homework assistance or in-class tutoring to elementary, middle school or high school students. Locations in north, central, and west Seattle, Federal Way, and Highline. Times and days vary. Call Ginger Seybold, 329-2050.

FIRST PLACE is a model School and Therapeutic Center for low income and homeless children and their families that fosters hope, promotes stability and provides resources for self-sufficiency. Consider being a Teacher's Assistant, Lunchroom Assistant, Receptionist, Mentor or Activities Leader. Call Robin F. Counts at 323-6715.

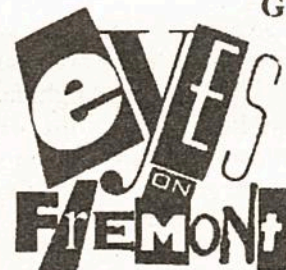
SEATTLE HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION seeks applicants for a commitment of 15-20 hours per month for work on issues of economic justice, police-community relations, and youth and schools. Call Paula Harris-White at 684-4540

OLYMPIA FOOD CO-OP

Natural Foods Member-Owned
Now! Ask about our **NEW**
Low-Income membership!

Eastside:
3111 Pacific - Olympia (360) 956-3870
Westside:
921 N. Rogers - Olympia (360) 754-7666

UNIQUE imported eyewear
GREAT vintage glasses!



MODERATE prices!

206-634-3375
4254 Fremont Ave. N.
Seattle, WA 98103
eye exams available

• Breakfast • Lunch • Dinner • Breakfast • Lunch • Dinner •

Julia's OF WALLINGFORD
4401 Wallingford Ave N • Seattle, WA 98103
206-633-1175
Food with Thought • Groups Welcome • Wine & Microbrews

Breakfast • Lunch • Dinner • Breakfast • Lunch • Dinner •

CANDESS HODGES, MA

COUNSELING THROUGH LIFE'S TRANSITIONS

Relationships • Trauma
Loss/Grief • Identity
Lesbian & Gay Issues
SLIDING FEE SCALE
Capitol Hill....206-325-7380

"Horticultural Fine Art!"
- Sunset Magazine

Beautifully illustrated 36" x 24" botanical prints:
NW Woodland Wildflowers, Garden Herbs, Hummingbird Garden and NW Native Trees Series
\$16.99
\$30 laminated
free catalog...
1-800-631-3086
GOOD NATURE PUBLISHING COMPANY
SEATTLE, WASHINGTON
www.goodnaturepublishing.com

Art for your inner master gardener

Miss Management's Psychic Predictions For 1999!

Lucy Returns to Host New Game Show!
Lava Lamps Cure Virginity!
Sea Monkeys Revolt Against Cruel Masters!
Curious George Key in Flight 800 Disaster!
Elvis Alive, Well & Shopping at the **glam@rama**

Call for a **FREE Magic 8-Ball Reading!** 632-0287

CLASSIC TOYS
TACKY T-SHIRTS
WACKY GIFTS
PARTY APPAREL
Open Daily
3414 Fremont Ave N
(Near the Fremont Bridge)

Oscawana Childhood: to my father

I
In my Youth
When I was not
afraid of the woods

I would steer my own path
thru the trees

and

My sense of direction
never erred

NOW I would be afraid
of snakes
and men with Guns

II
In the days before
Houses crowded the Lakeside

When the water was
sweet to drink

BEFORE the algae
choked out the fish

Leaving only the snapping turtles
To grow big and fat in the muck

BEFORE the motorboats
Buzzed and sped across the surface

I could paddle our canoe
In tune with the gentle lapping
That was the

Language of the Lake.

—Marion Sue Fischer

DUI

Urgency, on a cold, wet night as the
purifying rain pours down the gutter
And the liquid warmth that stokes the
fire in my belly adds to the urgency on
This cold, wet night while the ringing
in my ears and those spinning demons;
As the cold rain drips down my
collar and kaleidoscopic headlights hiss,
Adding to my urgency on a cold wet night
that began midday on a slow dogged
Despair that's staggering toward midnight;
sleepless and shivering as my cold, wet
Feet test for solid ground and I find
myself lost again, adding to my urgency
And I declare myself guilty - Your Honor - of
drinking under the influence, so
Urgently, again, on a cold, wet night

—Tim Muir

Our Lakes, Rivers and Sound

They're not letting the Fish swim
in the water today.
They don't want them to get
shit in their mouths.

They can only sunbathe on the shore
and swing their fins around.
All the water's become condemned
today for swimming around.

The Fish all walk up on the
shore and purchase bicycles
or sneakers for themselves

The Salmon get picked up in Cadillacs
driven by blondes.

They're not letting the Fish swim
in the water anymore.
The lifeguard has a whistle
and tells them to come out.

Here they come like amphibians
up onto the beach.
They better get some
sunglasses quick.

—Roberto Valenza

At the Public Hearing for the Hanford Clean Up

Bureaucrats piss in the well.
Bureaucrats tramp muddy boots over the clean sheets of the dying.
Bureaucrats glue ground glass to the toilet paper.
Bureaucrats hide under their mothers' skirts
as the mob rampages
hefting heads on pikes.

We want someone to blame.
We need a salve for our sores.
We need someone to ride the donkey into the desert.

We just want straight answers
a face
a name
a desk where the buck stops.

Our eyes weeping bombs.
Our rivers glowing at noon.
Our children blown down wind.

At the public budget hearing
both sides of the argument
drank Coca Cola from plastic bottles,
shuffled papers in color-coded folders,
projected cries of alarm
and murmurs of calm overhead.
The budget numbers bumped and ground
like burlesque queens tired and tawdry,
spun on ice like Olympic nymphs,
tore holes in our hearts like irritated rhinos,
slipped and fell like rodeo clowns
making us laugh at death by trampling.
The budget numbers broke wind,
made us gasp,
the budget numbers hung on the gallery walls
like Rembrandt's dried vomit,
laid mine trip wires in the honeymoon bedroom.
The budget numbers
bent us backwards against
the cruise ship railing
and took us standing
against our will
as seagulls with melted bones
fell from the glowing sky
and armies of the fully employed
shoveled strontium 90 sand
into the playground graves.

—David Thornburgh

Norman, Oklahoma

I inhale. The freshly-cut grass
reminds me of the pea harvest
and Cayuse Oregon. I listen
to the evening leaves
they become words.
I become afraid

and I am smitten
with a woman
of slim elegance
and moon-curved lips.
I shall be closed mouth
and not destroy
this moment.

Again, I listen to the evening leaves.
I am writing this for her.
I remember the morning flight
among the sea of clouds
they rub the mountains
and quilted landscapes
pass me by.
I shake my head and dark hair
into place.
I long for a voice and the words.
I recall the stars dancing,
dancing in her eyes
Still, I listen to the evening leaves.

—Earle Thompson

Climate

You can see them behind the trees, if
you stand there—
finding, in your own
hands,
reasons to deny

everything.
We raise this while we,
ourselves, fall
from the same trees through
time—our
creation
one of voting, first. Then,
standing with friends in the circle.
Inside ...
outside ...
with friends, around trees in the circle.

—Stan Burris

Fishing

fish
search
still can't find
my piece of mind
look for help
dangling line
sit around
wait and wind
reel it in
pass the time

—Ruth A. Fox

ADVENTURES IN POETRY with © Dr. Wes Browning

'Cuz I Said So!

Lately I've been asking myself a lot of questions. Questions that go to the heart of what will have to happen before we humans and quasi-humans can really claim success in this grand experiment we call "life in the big city."

Where does hypocrisy come from? Is intelligence an actual measurable quality, or is it, as the Jesuits might say, merely the absence of stupidity? And if you lack stupidity, can you be said to suffer a deficiency? Were Einstein, Feynman, and Mr. Wizard stupidity-impaired?

But above all, where does this authoritarian business come from? I don't just mean politicians. I mean control freaks in general.

Even *poetry* isn't free from these incredible *control freaks*! Only two days ago I was shocked to receive the following unsolicited "poem" by "email":

Q. Oh what saith the Lord(ess)? What might a poem be?
Might it be prose yet sweeter, with rhyme and strict meter?
Might it be words upon paper, shaped like a tree?
Might it alliterate like maybe pickles 'n peter?
Might it assonate like bats and classy cravats?
Might she personify and curts-eye and bow and say "Hi?"

Oh Lord(ess)! Please hear our pleas for clarity!
We can't stand all of this mystery!

A. Oh, stop it. And your rhythm's off anyway, you twit.

This message has been brought to you by the
Evangelical Church of Non-Rhyming Poets of
America, Reformed.

Can you see what's happening here? And it doesn't end with rhyme!

It doesn't end *anywhere*!

Being a scientific sort, when faced with a puzzle such as this I immediately think of experiment. In this case, dealing with a serious psychosocial problem, serious psychosocial methodology is called for. But you can't get those kind of drugs anymore, so my next idea was that I should voluntarily become an authoritarian. Then I will be able to report to an amazed and astonished world my findings as to where my head has gotten to.

So, I have become a rabid proponent of the Julian Day Calendar. You may not have ever heard of the Julian Day Calendar, but I'm sure you've heard of the Julian Year Calendar — the one that preceded the Gregorian Year Calendar which we've been using lately.

Well, the Julian Day Calendar is a Day Calendar, not a Year Calendar. You count days. Doesn't that make more sense? Don't answer that, I don't care what you think, because I am being an authori-

tarian, and I have just decided for you that counting days makes more sense.

Want to know how you'll figure out when years start and end? Why should you care? What, are you raising pigs? Don't you know pig-farming is a waste of time? You should be in the slaughtering business, that's where all the money is now! What, do I have to explain everything to you?! Look, how do you know now when it's high tide? You look it up in a chart, that's how. YOU LOOK IT UP. You don't make the rest of the world calculate time based on the number of tides that have elapsed since the Red Sea parted, just so you don't have to keep a tide chart handy!

So let's see, what have we learned by being authoritarians? Well we have learned that we are over 18,000 days old (18K in the metric system). We have learned that when we rant on and on about Julian Days, nobody cares. In fact we have learned that we are not legislators or executives or police so therefore we can't make anyone care. We have learned that authoritarians use the editorial "we" way too much.

But most importantly, we have learned that authoritarians think that they are right. Therefore they do not know they are being authoritarians. They think they are pointing out truths. So it doesn't do any good to tell a control freak to stop it.

NEXT ISSUE: WE NAG PAUL SCHELL ANYWAY! JUST BECAUSE WE CAN! [A]



STATEHOUSE, CONT. FROM PAGE 1

dren and families. According to the coalition, this amount is a "down-payment" on solving homelessness for families—\$31.1 million is only 10% of the dollars needed to house all homeless families in the state.

As a result of the November 1998 elections, several Seattle-area legislators with stated commitments to increasing low income housing now have more authority in the legislature.

Representative Frank Chopp (D-43rd District), the co-Speaker of the House, will control the flow of bills to be voted on by the House of Rep-

resentatives. This is the most powerful position in the House. Representative Velma Veloria (D-11th), a strong housing advocate, is the co-chair of the Committee on Housing, Trade and Economic Development Committee. Most housing bills will come through this committee.

The top priority of many low income housing advocates in the upcoming legislative session is to increase the Housing Trust Fund to \$100 million/biennium. Currently funded at \$54.7 million, the state's housing fund is underfunded and oversubscribed. As a result, many opportunities to create housing are lost. A significant increase in the Housing Trust Fund could save hundreds of units of Section 8 housing, provide housing for homeless farmworkers, and build and renovate housing to be controlled by non-profit organizations across the state.

If the Governor's budget proposal is any indication of the reception housing will get from legislators, there could be trouble ahead. Governor Locke suggested only \$50 million for the Housing Trust Fund, a reduction from last year's funding level. Fortunately, the House and Senate will each write and pass a budget before a final budget is adopted and presented to the Governor.

isators, there could be trouble ahead. Governor Locke suggested only \$50 million for the Housing Trust Fund, a reduction from last year's funding level. Fortunately, the House and Senate will each write and pass a budget before a final budget is adopted and presented to the Governor.

hotline at 1-800-562-6000.

February 11th is Housing Advocacy Day, a day in which hundreds of advocates will convene in Olympia to demand more affordable housing. For more information or regular updates on how you can voice your support for more low income housing, call the Washington Low Income Housing Network at (206) 442-9455.

Jon Gould works at the Children's Alliance, a statewide advocacy organization for children, youth and families. Jon is also on the Board of Directors of the Washington Low Income Housing Congress. He can be reached at (206) 324-0340. [E]

You Can Help

Washington has one of the most open and accessible legislatures in the country. It is easy for state residents to communicate your opinions to your elected officials, whether through a personal visit or a telephone call to the toll free legislative



JUST ABOUT ANYONE WHO LIVES OR WORKS IN **CAPITOL HILL, LAKE CITY OR NORTHGATE COMMUNITIES** CAN JOIN GHCU.

- FULL RANGE OF FINANCIAL SERVICES
- GREAT RATES ON SAVINGS AND LOANS
- LOANS FOR ALMOST ANY REASON

TO FIND THE BRANCH NEAR YOU OR FOR MORE INFORMATION, CALL **206-298-9394** OR **800-562-5515**.

If the Governor's budget proposal is any indication of the reception housing will get from legislators, there could be trouble ahead. Governor Locke suggested only \$50 million for the Housing Trust Fund, a reduction from last year's funding level. Fortunately, the House and Senate will each write and pass a budget before a final budget is adopted and presented to the Governor.

If the Governor's budget proposal is any indication of the reception housing will get from legislators, there could be trouble ahead. Governor Locke suggested only \$50 million for the Housing Trust Fund, a reduction from last year's funding level. Fortunately, the House and Senate will each write and pass a budget before a final budget is adopted and presented to the Governor.

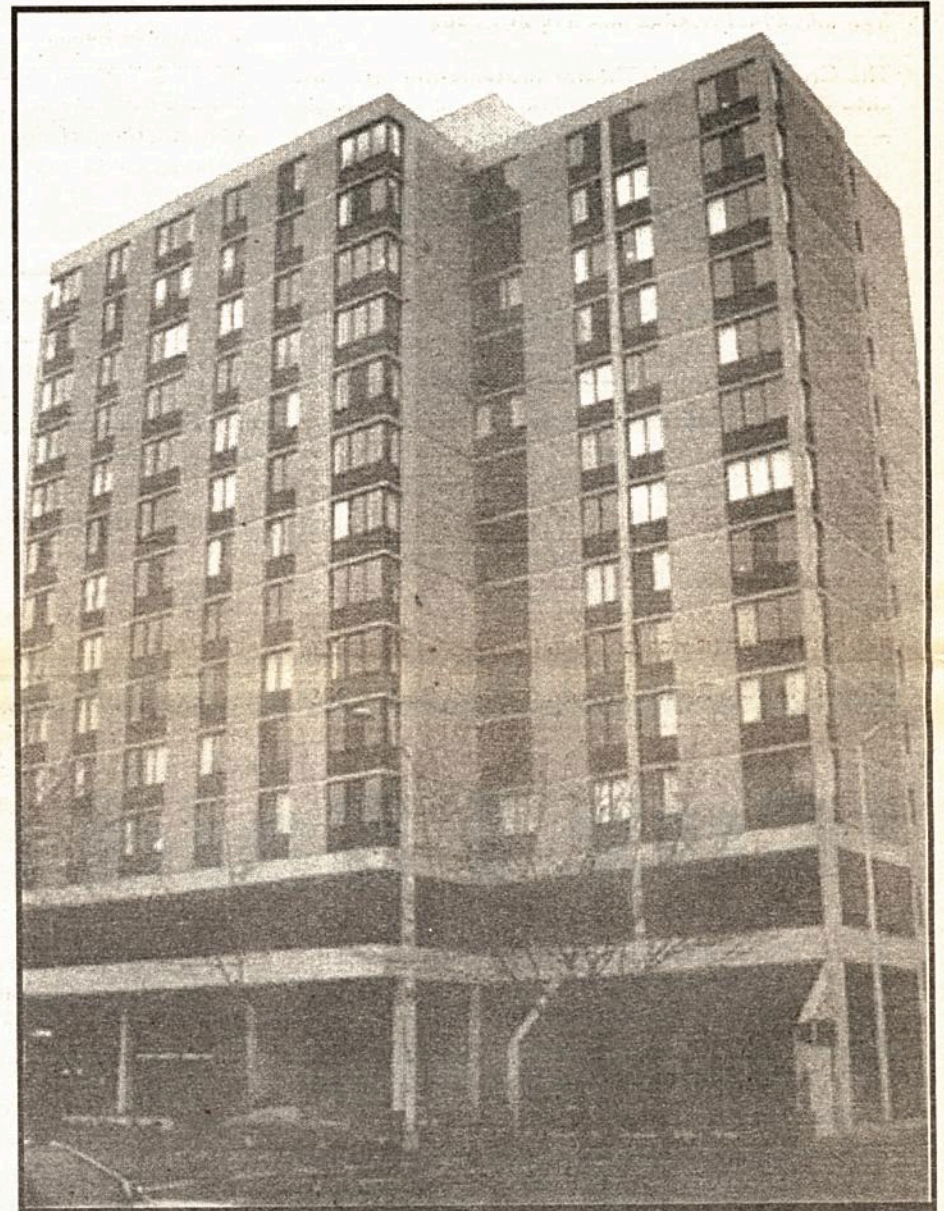
BILLINGS MIDDLE SCHOOL

A small school community focusing on the education and development of middle school children, grades 6 to 8.

High School Preparation - American Sign Language
Professional Artists - Outdoor Program
Computer Skills - Environmental Responsibility

4273 Woodland Park Ave. N.
Seattle, Washington

(206) 547-4614



SECURITY HOUSE WAS SAVED AS SECTION 8 HOUSING BY THE DETERMINED EFFORT OF ACTIVISTS. WITH YOUR HELP, MORE BUILDINGS CAN BE KEPT AFFORDABLE. PHOTO BY PATRICK BATSON.



(206) **623-7777**

All Major Brands: NEW, USED & CLOSEOUTS

- Office Systems • Chairs • Bookcases
- Computer Furniture • Desks • Files



Low, low prices,
huge selection & the friendliest staff!



Ducky's Office Furniture

Open 6 Days a Week • 1111 Mercer Street • Easy Freeway Access • Free Parking

THE MILLIONAIRE CLUB

Need help after the Holidays?
Hire a Millionaire Club worker!

- ◆ Clean gutters
- ◆ Take down Christmas lights
- ◆ Clean up around the house



206-728-JOBS

African American/Jewish Coalition for Justice 1/15
annual Martin Luther King Jr., Breakfast Celebration with speaker Prof. Hubert Locke, from the UW School of Public Affairs, a renowned Holocaust scholar, also known for his writings on society and justice, on "After 1-200: Where Do We Go From Here?", with small group discussions and ideas for action. 7:30 - 9 am, at Catholic Community Services cafeteria, 23rd & E Yesler, continental breakfast, donation \$5. Reservations 206-781-6654, info Thaddeus Spratlen 206-365-0956

The City of Bellevue Parks and Community Services Cultural Diversity Program and Youth Theater Troupe sponsor a program **"A Tribute to Martin Luther King, Jr."** featuring guest speakers, music and a presentation of "Inside Ourselves", an original play with dialogue stemming directly from Martin Luther King Jr's words and speeches; performed by the Crossroads Youth Theater Troupe. Noon, in Bellevue City Hall Main Lobby, Ground Level, 11511 Main St., Bellevue. Refreshments free, info 425-452-6884 info 425-452-6884

The Crossroads Youth Theater presents the play, **"Inside Ourselves"** an original play with dialogue stemming directly from Martin Luther King Jr's words and speeches and covering a wide range of topics from the anguish of racism to the values of racial acceptance. 7 pm, at the Barnes and Noble bookstore. Sponsored by the City of Bellevue Parks and Community Services Cultural Diversity Program, Crossroads Youth Theater and Barnes and Noble; info 425-452-6884

Sandy Bradley hosts a monthly house concert to benefit Real Change Homeless Newspaper, this time featuring Dehner Franks on the piano. 7 pm (and subsequent 3rd Fridays) \$20 includes light dinner. All proceeds benefit Real Change; reservations and location 206-441-3247

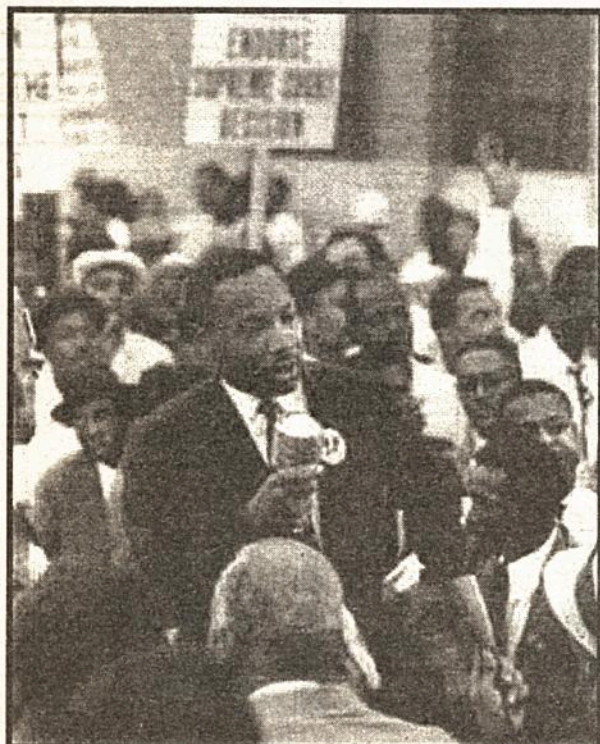
8th Anniversary of the Start of the Persian Gulf War (it was Jan 17 in Iraq) 1/16

Global Human Rights Forum, info Nick Beehler 206-789-3466 or nbeehler@u.washington.edu

Citizens Concerned for the People Of Iraq meeting. Working to end the inhumane economic sanctions that have killed over one million Iraqi civilians. 3 pm (also subsequent 3rd Saturdays) at University Baptist Church, 4554 12th Ave NE; info Fellowship of Reconciliation 206-789-5565

Youth Dialog On Race annual meeting, 1/17
 2 - 5 pm, info Ray Jones or Edie Weller at Church Council of Greater Seattle, 206-525-1213

Seattle Chapter **Fellowship of Reconciliation**, with union activist Althea Burton-Lute, President of the Coa-



January 18 is MLK Day

lition of Black Trade Unionists on "Building Coalitions To Achieve Equal Opportunity", 5 pm potluck, 6 pm announcements; 6:30 program, at Woodland Park Presbyterian Church, 225 N 70th near Greenwood info 206-789-5565

Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration, 1/18
 workshops and speakers on a variety of issues relating to racial and economic justice, one of the nation's largest MLK Day events, 9:30 am workshops, 11 am rally, starting at Garfield High School, 23rd Ave near E Jefferson; noon march to MLK Jr Memorial Park, info 206-329-4111 x317

Nonviolent Action Community of Cascadia presentation from activists who attended two actions to "Stop Military Madness held Oct 19 at the Pentagon and Nov 22 at the School of the Americas in Fort Benning, Georgia. "The War Resisters League's Day Without the Pentagon" was a 700 person rally and direct action to close the Pentagon, and the action at Ft Benning had 7000 participants. Two speakers will give background on the School of Assassins, video footage from the actions will be shown with a discussion of future activities taking place to shut the school down to follow. 6:30 to 8:30 pm., at University Baptist Church, 12th NE and NE 47th; info 206-547-0952 or can@drizzle.com

Planning meeting for 1999 International Women's Day, 7:30 at Jobs With Justice office, 3rd & Cedar in building with Musicians Union, enter on Cedar. Newcomers welcome (and subsequent 3rd Thursdays); info Carol 206-328-9637 or femme2@scn.org or http://www.scn.org/basecamp

Nonviolent Action Community of Cascadia general monthly action planning meeting: everyone welcome, 7 pm (and subsequent third Thursdays), at University Baptist Church, 4554 - 12th Ave NE; info 206-547-0952

Foundation for Global Community presents a one-day workshop (repeated Jan. 30) 1/23
 with option for participants to proceed with an eight-week course, "Living on the Edge of Evolution", about the planet's future and what cultural changes are necessary to move beyond the American dream. FGC is a non-profit educational foundation that contributes to a transformation of cultural values, from the dominant culture of growth, of more, of materialism, to a "culture of enough," of quality and excellence; RSVP and info Carol Smith 206-283-8003 or Jerry Martin 425-746-7304 or martins@televar.com http://www.globalcommunity.org

Empower 2000: Women's Forum for Social Change, on the 26th Anniversary of Roe vs Wade (the Supreme Court decision making abortion legal in the USA); join like-minded women for a day of planning, sharing, organizing and socializing. 10 am - 4 pm, at Garfield Community Center, 2323 Cherry at 23rd Ave; sponsored by Pro-Choice Washington Coalition. Lunch provided, info and RSVP Natalie Reber at Cedar River Clinic, a Feminist Women's Health Center 425-255-0473 x 215 or Natalie_Reber@fwhc.org

Seattle Women Act for Peace and 1/24
 Women's International League for Peace and Freedom present an educational meeting with Mariam Shakow, a Fulbright scholar and field anthropologist, on "Effect of US Policy In Bolivia;" refreshments, 11 am, at 3842 NE 90th St. near 35th Ave NE RSVP to 206-523-1127 appreciated

Nonviolence Dialog Group, informative 1/25
 discussions on all issues concerning nonviolence, 7 - 8:30 pm (and subsequent 4th Mondays), at Christ Episcopal Church, 47th & Brooklyn Ave. NE, Wilson Hall, enter on 47th; info Andrea Franklin 206-236-9536

Meeting of Foundation for Global Community, which contributes to a transformation of cultural values, a transformation from the domi-

JANUARY

NOTABLES

nant culture of growth, of more, of materialism, to a culture of enough, of quality and excellence, of spirit, a culture which works for the diversity of life, meet to support one another in pursuit of this goal. (also subsequent 4th Tuesdays), various locations, all interested individuals welcome, info on local events Jerry Martin 425-746-7304 or martins@televar.com, info on national organization http://www.globalcommunity.org

Green Party of Seattle monthly general meeting, come check out, learn about, and become a part of Seattle's progressive political option. 7 pm (and subsequent last Tuesdays), at NE 50th & University Way NE, U Heights Center district. To get involved, become a member, or for info about the Greens 206-215-1158, or sgreens@boutell.com or PO Box 95515, Seattle WA 98145-2515, or http://boutell.com/seagreens

Critical Mass, an organized coincidence of bicyclists who ride around the streets of Seattle en masse. It happens when a lot of cyclists happen to be in the same place at the same time and decide to cycle the same way together for a while. Come join the fun! 5:30 pm (also subsequent last Fridays) at Westlake Park, downtown, 4th & Pine; More info http://www.oz.net/~nic/cm.html

Foundation for Global Community presents a one-day workshop (for details, see 1/26 listing). 1/30

Seattle Progressive Coalition meeting, a group coming together for the purpose of placing progressives onto the Seattle City Council in the 1999 election; Noon, at CAMP, Central Area Motivation Program, 722 - 18th at Columbia; info Curt Firestone 206-329-1048 or Charlotte Carroll 206-324-9712

Emergency response plan if US bombs anywhere, meet at Seattle 1/24
 Federal Building, 2nd Ave. between Madison and Marion, at 5 pm, day after such action is announced (up to midnight Seattle time), info Nonviolent Action Community of Cascadia 206-547-0952

Free Video Rentals of Citizen Vagrom's micro-media offerings, a video magazine highlighting independent, micro-media from Seattle and beyond, (also on TV Channel 29 Sundays 8 pm), at Rain City Video, Fremont, Ballard, Sunset Hill; Video Vertigo, 913 East Pike; Broadway Video, Broadway Market; Scarecrow Video, 5030 Roosevelt Way; also Sundays on Channel 29 at 8 pm info 206-344-6434 or citizen@speakeasy.org

Boycott Gallo of Sonoma Wines to support the United Farm Workers union (Mondavi dispute is settled); local info 206-443-7645

WEEKDAYS: visit the Jet Equipment and Tools picket line in Auburn, on strike since January and in need of support. 5 am-6 pm; directions, rides, info Steve Leigh sleigh@u.washington.edu or 206-443-7645

KBCS Radio 91.3 FM, **Pacifica News**, get another side of many stories, news from a more progressive viewpoint than NPR and the networks! 6:30 pm

Dare to Dream

HOPE Act Prioritizes Street Youth

The CPP seeks to provide you with the views and concerns that homeless, poor, and working peoples' advocacy organizations have about pending legislation, both local and national, in a clear, concise, and meaningful way.

Our hope is that the information provided here will help make your participation in the legislative process a good experience. Indeed, something that you want to do.

LEGISLATIVE ISSUE: The HOPE Act is a legislative plan that is designed to address the immediate and future developmental needs of adolescents who are homeless and/or street-involved. Standing for "HOmeless youth Prevention/ Protection and Engagement Act," the HOPE act would provide millions of dollars for a continuum of services to the state's street youth, a group that is usually overlooked in social service planning.

One year ago the HOPE Act made its debut in the Real Change newspaper (January 98) as a fledgling idea by longtime youth advocate and therapist Jim Theofelis. Now, supported by numerous social service organizations and advocacy groups, the HOPE Act has captured the interest of several state senators whose staff members are working on a draft of a bill that could be introduced in the next month.

BACKGROUND: In the Seattle/ King County area an estimated 2000 youth are homeless each night. In Spokane, 1200 youth were served by community homeless projects during 1997. In Snohomish County, 350 youth were served in community shelter and housing programs during 1997. Smaller communities without formal programs for homeless youth report an increase in the number of kids who have no safe place to live.

These statistics provide the most poignant perspective:

Over 60% of youth on the streets report having been physically and/ or sexually abused prior to leaving home.

85% report having at least one chemically-addicted adult in their parental hierarchy.

Approximately 30% of homeless youth are already in the legal custody of the State of Washington.

Compounding the urgent need for services to youth is the lack of those very services. The major state initiative to date has been 1995's Becca Bill, a measure that targets kids as perpetrators rather than examining the more complex situations that cause them to end up on the streets.

The HOPE Act offers a comprehensive and specific plan to address those needs, and make a difference at every level.

It would establish communication between service providers and families of first-time runaways (prevention); increase the number of emergency shelter beds and increase penalties for those who exploit street youth (protection); increase drug, alcohol, and mental health services (treatment); create independent living programs for those who aren't served well by regular foster care, and provide higher education/ voc tech opportunities (engagement).

ACTION NEEDED/ RECOMMENDED MESSAGE: Contact your local legislators in the House and the Senate and tell them you support the HOPE Act for homeless and street-involved adolescents. The legislative hotline number is 1-800-562-6000.

Call Senators Jim Hargrove (D-Hoquiam; 360-786-7646), Jeanne Long (R-Mill Creek; 360-786-7678), who have shown leadership on the issues and taken an interest in possible legislation, and thank them for their support.

Contact friends and family around the state, tell them about the HOPE Act, and get them to take the same action you did.

Real Change/RCHEP
2129 2nd Avenue
Seattle, WA 98121

Seattle Public Library, Series Unit
1000 Fourth Ave.
Seattle

WA 98104

