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# Real Change

Puget Sound's Newspaper of the Poor and Homeless • Volume 7, No. 17

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## Picturing Seattle

Photos  
on Page 10

**Inside: Opening the Gates • Slade on the Run •  
Tent City Settles Down • Georgetown Jitters**

"REFLECTIONS OF YESTERDAY AND  
TOMORROW" BY ART J. KODWAT

# The Gates Swing Open

What a difference \$40 million makes. Regional experts assess.

By Adam Holdorf and Molly Rhodes

**W**hen the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation announced they would donate \$40 million to build transitional housing for homeless families in King, Pierce, and Snohomish Counties, we at *Real Change* blinked in amazement. The grant's impact will be significant: over the next three years, it will double the number of units giving homeless women and their children a stable place to live.

*Real Change* asked people who've spent years providing for human needs in the three counties what they thought. What does the Gates grant mean for the region's housing crisis? In light of the gift, what else needs to be done? Here are their reactions.

**A**s a lobbyist for the Washington Low Income Housing Congress, Majken Ryherd spent years pestering resistant representatives for more money for housing for homeless and low-income people. She's now legislative aide to state House Co-Speaker Frank Chopp.

"The Gates gift challenges the legislature to respond, to do more. There's a whole list of things that can be done. We could use money from the State

Housing Trust Fund for operational costs, not just capital dollars. So far, the state hasn't done that.

"There's less education — a lack of awareness — about the need to cover operational costs. Yet this awareness is growing, and grants like this one point out the need for state and local matching grants."

**E**d Petersen runs Housing Hope, an Everett-based nonprofit that provides about 145 shelter, transitional, and permanent housing units throughout Snohomish County. Housing Hope

plans to apply for Gates money to build housing for teenage mothers.

"The Gates Foundation grant will be wonderful leverage to access various city, county, federal, and state sources of capital money. Yet the grant covers only 15 to 20 percent of funding for services provided in conjunction with the housing. I don't see clearly yet where the other funds will come from.

"As far as I can tell, there's no operational subsidy [to run the housing] included in the grant. Income from rents for transitional housing, which are 30 percent of a tenant's income, are not

enough to cover the operating costs. Where this money is supposed to come from is a mystery right now. It's another need that hasn't been spoken to. Solving the operation subsidy is a vital element in the success of the grant and the projects it's designed to support. That, for us, is challenge number one."

**L**inda Olsen's organization, Eastside Domestic Violence, helps about 300 survivors of abuse find temporary housing each year. Olsen said her agency could seek Gates grant money for services for victims of domestic violence. EDV currently runs two homes, one a transitional home for chemically dependent battered women.

"It's a fairly costly place to run. We're constantly pursuing public- and private-sector grants. I know how tight it is out there. I really am curious who else is stepping up to the plate.

"We're excited about the grant money, but we're hesitant about the 15 percent provided for operating and supportive services. Who's stepping up to the plate to provide the other 85 per-

### What \$40 million does

- Establishes the Healthy Families Program, a new grant-making body run out of the city's Office of Housing
- Convenes a steering committee made up of Gates Foundation staff and representatives from city, state, university, and federal levels to make grant decisions
- Aims to provide development funds for 1,500 units of transitional housing for women and their children who are homeless or at risk of losing their homes over the next three years
- Gives money to services linked to the housing, such as health care, education, mental illness or substance abuse treatment programs

*Continued on Page 6*



# 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.

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#### Mission Statement:

*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 MacWorkshop, 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.



## Postcard from the edge

Dear *Real Change*,

I'm a mentally disabled Vietnam veteran who's been sleeping in the bushes of Seattle in a makeshift tent, a huge clear plastic bag that I found alongside the road. I'm getting welfare benefits (GAX) which amounts to \$339 a month. I applied for SSI in December 1998 and for a VA disability benefit in December of 1999 and am still waiting for our slow-moving bureaucratic machine to process me.

In the meantime, I'm homeless and can't find anywhere to rent on the low-income benefits I'm currently receiving. What low-income housing there is has waiting lists of a year long and some places, including some of the Section 8, have turned me down because my income is too low. Most private low-income housing is drug- and alcohol-infested and crime-ridden — too unsafe and unacceptable for someone with my mental diagnosis.

Please tell me what I should do. It may well be another year before I will

receive any benefits equal to enough to afford suitable housing; being homeless only intensifies and worsens my mental condition.

My diagnosis is severe panic disorder with major chronic agoraphobia, including scopophobia and social phobias so extreme that I refuse to go out in public unless self-medicated with alcohol and late at night when fewer people are about. I'm almost totally isolated and introverted, staying hidden and alone for days upon days. I'm also diagnosed with major chronic depression with suicidal attempts and ideation. Living like this is hell and most of the time I wish I was dead.

I've been in the VA hospital approximately five times, and in Harborview hospital twice. No one seems to know how to treat me adequately and most seem not to care ("Sorry, we don't know how to treat your condition, so goodbye and good luck"). It makes me feel totally hopeless.

I do know this much, though: having a safe, secure, and stable living environment, such as my own apartment, would be a big first step to my recovery (if there's to be any recovery at all).

It seems that the system has failed me and has probably failed a lot of others just like me. The people of this prosperous state and nation seem to care most about the environment, poor people in other countries, and about who's smoking in the bathroom, but

have yet to set up a system that works for the poor, disabled, homeless people right here in their own back yards.

My only hope for myself is that someone who can make a difference hears my plea and will take the initiative to come to my rescue in time. Then, in more time, maybe others will become involved to help people just like me.

If you know of anyone, any group or organization that may be of help, please let me know soon. I don't know for sure that I have the strength, courage, or faith left to endure much longer like this. I'm begging anyone to please pull resources in order to help me to get off the streets to somewhere where the recovery process is possible. Who knows? If given the chance I might eventually get well enough through medications, therapy, and a stable living environment to be able to go back to work in my preferred profession as a merchant seaman.

If not, well... I'd still be happy just to fulfill my dream of buying a used sailboat (with the disability settlement money) and live aboard her for the duration. I wouldn't have to worry then about paying rent, would I?

Thank you for listening.

With all honesty, truthfulness, and frankness,

Sincerely,  
Gary P. Cousineau  
Seattle, WA

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Support justice and dignity for all

**Y**ou don't have to read very far into this newspaper to find some of the best poetry, photography, and journalism that you will find anywhere.

All of this is brought to you by a host of volunteers and a small dedicated staff, without foundation or government grants. The StreetLife Gallery, StreetWrites, a bustling computer lab, and the Homeless Speakers Bureau, all projects of the Real Change Homeless Empowerment Project (RCHEP), are supported equally through contributions and grants. Make Sid the cat happy and help ensure our future by donating time or energy. Checks written to *Real Change* are not tax-deductible, and support the newspaper itself; checks to RCHEP are tax-deductible.

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# A Tent in Time

**Back off, DCLU:  
Tent City just got a six-month home**

By Chris Gordon Owen

For the past five months, a bunch of heroic homeless people have kept a tent city going, moving from site to site — 11 so far — despite official disapproval. First raised on an empty lot on Martin Luther King S, the tents have traveled as far north as Crown Hill and as far south as Rainier Valley, providing safe, round-the-clock shelter. By now, the encampment community reluctantly turns people away, because they believe they operate most safely and efficiently with a 100-person limit.

Until now, city officials have successfully used the threat of fines — for violating Seattle's land use codes — to discourage churches and private property owners from hosting the encampment for more than two or three weeks at a time. Officials have not offered other acceptable alternatives to the tent city residents.

When the music swells in a cowboy movie you know an extra contingent of heroes has appeared on the horizon. In real life, you can tell something's building up when city officials get tougher. And so, when El Centro de la Raza, the Latino community center on Beacon Hill, publicly invited the tent city to stay until at least Sept. 1, city officials stopped muttering and made good on the threats. On August 22, the Department of Design, Construction and Land Use began citing El Centro for land use code violations. The fines amount to \$75 a day; to collect payment, the city attorney's office will take El Centro to Municipal Court.

El Centro's responded courageously. They've made the encampment residents welcome until January 16, six months after they arrived, and are preparing a permit application with SHARE/WHEEL, the grassroots homeless group that started the tent city and helps keep it going.

Just to apply will cost \$2,500, plus an extra \$175 for every hour of work that the department puts in after an initial 10 hours ("Wash away your worries," *Real Change*, August 15). According to DCLU

**Call the Mayor's office, (206) 684-4000, and tell them to waive the fines against El Centro's Tent Village. Until everyone has a place to go each night, the city must stop targeting homeless peoples' efforts to stay warm, dry, and safe.**

spokesman Alan Justad, the whole procedure can take a couple of months — not counting possible appeals.

And people wonder why SHARE/WHEEL hasn't tried to apply before!

If DCLU just looked at the basic facts, they'd grant the permit in a minute. They say they study the traffic, garbage, and noise impacts that any new land use would have on a neighborhood. Tent city inhabitants use buses, not cars; from the beginning, they've taken care of their own garbage; and with only canvas between themselves, they regularly monitor allowable noise levels.

The tent city community actually goes beyond DCLU's concerns and forbids drugs, alcohol, and weapons on-site — a stricter code of conduct than plenty of affluent households observe. People have been permanently barred for failing to stick to the rules.

So what's the problem? Request granted, right?

DCLU says "complaints" have been lodged, though Justad acknowledges that this happens whenever something new shows up in a neighborhood: it's really just people wanting to know what's going on and if the city knows about it. If that's the problem, why not explain that there's a housing crisis and that this is one of the interim solutions?

Justad has also said that DCLU has never before had to consider an application for a tent city. There's no precedent for it — and obviously no one in officialdom is positively itching to set a precedent (no matter how worthy it might be). But they no longer have a choice: they at least have to examine those codes now. And we can only hope that they examine them honestly, remembering that they were written long ago, by people who couldn't anticipate the current state of affairs.

Another hope is that DCLU will find a way — in other words, the will — to suspend the fines and waive those punitive application fees. After all, they're not dealing with big bad corporations or career criminals but with people who can't afford safe places to live.

City officials have said they don't "believe" in tent cities as a solution to homelessness, as though such beliefs make homelessness go away. Fortunately the folks at El Centro believe what they see: a group of homeless people who have figured out a safe, efficient way to shelter themselves for the time being. They have also seen, and acted on, their own opportunity to help — even without official blessings. ■

## Inside:

### Opinion

A Tent in Time by Chris Gordon Owen .....	3
--	---

### Regular Features

This Just In by Bob Redmond .....	3
News You Can Use by Adam Holdorf .....	4
Adventures in Poetry with Dr. Wes Browning .....	8
Notes from the Kitchen: Eat Right! by Liz Smith .....	12
Street Watch compiled by Kristen Alexander .....	13
Seattle Timeline from the files of HistoryLink .....	14
Classics Corner by Timothy Harris .....	14
Calendar compiled by Kristen Alexander .....	15

### News

Gates Swing Open by Molly Rhodes and Adam Holdorf .....	1
Creeping Death by Susan Friedrich .....	5
Skeleton on the Run by Michael Hood .....	7

### Feature

Shutters on the Streets: Photo Essay by the Camera Club .....	10-11
--	-------

### People

Pat Altschuler by Joe Martin .....	6
Steve Clysdale by Jon Gould and Ginger Segel .....	6

### Poetry

Insights and surprises from Stan Burriss, Reneene Robertson, James Scofield, Earle Thompson, R. Ungrich, Marisa Wood	8-9
--	-----

### Activism

Citizen Participation Project .....	16
-------------------------------------	----



**THIS JUST IN!** Want some cake? That gravy-laden beef brisket? A whole-milk mocha with whipped topping, side of fries? Oh, but my cholesterol, you say, the cellulite, my doctor's warnings...

Well, worry no more! The Tertiary Stomach, a new product developed by local companies Immunex and Zymogenetics and tested at the UW, allows you to eat whatever you want, as much as you want — without ever having to digest it!

During an outpatient procedure, a small bypass tube is inserted in your intestinal canal. The tube runs to just above your hip, where, during meals of your choice, you attach a bag there, automatically activating the bypass switch.

After the meal, you unsnap the bag and throw away the undigested food (called "tailings"). No feeling bloated, no guilt, no unwanted calories! Imagine endless feasting on the holidays. A fifth of bourbon without getting drunk.

But what will you choose to digest? The product developers are working with Slim Fast to create a complete meal-in-a-pill, with all the nutrition and fiber you need. With the Tertiary Stomach, food can become a pure luxury experience. Children's models are also available. ■ — Bob Redmond



## Silent boom

You'd think a lunch spot across from the King County courthouse serving 150 customers every weekday wouldn't have to shut down indefinitely, thirsting for cash. Or that the managers would cut noon hours in favor of serving fewer people at breakfast. Not if it's the nonprofit Boomtown Café.

At \$1.75, Boomtown provides a dignified café setting for the cheapest sit-down lunch in the city. The customer pays for the food; everything else — from rent to labor to electricity — is covered by grants. Since it opened a year ago, business has exceeded expectations, but cash and in-kind donations have trickled in slowly, according to executive director Anthony Anderson.

Boomtown cut down on labor and food costs by closing at lunch — it also cut off one source of free money. Middle-class customers often make cash donations of \$10 or \$20 at the register. Fewer donations come in at breakfast; instead, the typical early crowd comes from nearby homeless shelters.

Though Boomtown's first priority is feeding poor people, lunchtime "created the ideal setting where people could mix," says Anderson. "We had police officers, lawyers from across the street, city workers, people on jury duty that had only heard about us before. It's not so much the sales from lunch that we miss; it's the influx of people."

Anderson says Boomtown will keep trying to fundraise, targeting individual donors and asking for free food from grocery stores like Safeway, QFC and Thriftway. ■

## Hey buddy can you spare an answer?



Here's a good question: 28 percent of the job openings in Washington state pay at least \$16.86 an hour, which is what a single parent needs to support two children. Every applicant competes for the job against 13 others. If a parent works fulltime at minimum wage, she earns \$1,092 a month — not enough to meet basic costs. If she works less, she can receive public assistance... for only five years. What happens then?

That's one of the questions the Welfare Reform Organizing Coalition asked passersby in Westlake Center as they "panhandled for solutions" on Tuesday, August 22, the fourth anniversary of the national dismantling of the welfare system. Instead of coins, they asked for

solutions: most parents leaving welfare earn about \$7.80 per hour; when the average apartment costs 87 percent of their income, how do they make ends meet? They also provided some facts: the U.S. spends less on social programs than any other western democracy; tax breaks to corporations in 1994 totaled \$104 billion, while aid to poor families was \$14 billion. ■

## SHA say what?

A group of social service workers and a few Morrison residents met up the street from the troubled housing project two weeks ago to drive home a point to city councilmembers Peter Steinbrueck and Nick Licata: the Morrison's still got security problems, and its manager, the Seattle Housing Authority, isn't getting serious.

Steinbrueck said SHA staff have assured him that added security would take care of the untended front door. The group soon disabused him of that perception. Even now that SHA has hired a new security firm, "I've had to stand at the front desk, insisting that someone check my ID, as people glided in behind me," one social worker said. Others pointed to once-troubled low-income buildings where enough front desk staff have fixed crime and drug problems: the Josephinum, the Gatewood, and the Frye Hotel.

Since SHA failed to find a new manager for the Morrison this spring, they've created a task force made up of local nonprofits, public administrators, and property owners; it met for the first time at the end of August.

At the meeting, Steinbrueck said the task force sounds like "a further postponement" of what needs to be done: beefing up security. But its mission, says SHA staffer Virginia Felton, is to devise a "plan for the future of the Morrison; it could be very broad-ranging." One of the participants is none other than the Samis Foundation, which recently evicted low-income artists from the Wash-



ington Shoe Building, down the street. Which would Samis be more interested in: ensuring the safety of residents in a public housing project, or gentrifying the neighborhood? ■

## Back to cool

This year 1,500 homeless kids are going back to school with backpacks, school supplies, and brand new shoes, courtesy of a volunteer effort by local social workers.

Students ages 3 to 5 are will pick up a pack filled with

colored pens, Play-Doh, construction paper, and other supplies; older students get highlighters, notebooks, and folders. Each backpack has a toothbrush, toothpaste, and a \$19 voucher for new shoes.

The program, called Project Cool Back to School, used to bring over 1,000 kids to Seattle Center to wait in line for free stuff. But volunteer Emily Noland now oversees the distribution to area shelters and transitional housing projects. The city discontinued its support of the project two years ago, "but they've helped us make contacts to keep it going," says Noland. ■



PHOTO BY EMMA QUINN

## Take off your boogie shoes

The condescending daily press coverage of mayor Paul Schell's veto of the city council's All Ages Dance Ordinance has named pint-size metal fans as the main plaintiffs. But the Music and Youth Task Force, a group of promoters convened by city councilmember Richard Conlin, crafted the law over 18 months of work. Now in a campaign to override Schell's veto with seven council supporters, they're zeroing in on two swing voters: Richard Conlin and Jim Compton.

Combs says both councilmembers may be persuaded if they know that dance promoters are fully insured against mishap. Clubs often have the proper insurance already, usually making additional insurance unnecessary. She's been trying to get that point across to opponents for months.

"No other business licensed by the city is required to get insurance but taxi drivers," she says. The city's mandating insurance "is all based on fear."

As the All Ages Dance Ordinance took shape, Combs says city attorney Mark Sidran started playing hardball.

"He'd just go in [to city councilmembers' offices] and lobby against it without making appointments," says Angel Combs of the Joint Artists and Musicians PAC, one of the bill's proponents. Once he saw the city council wasn't listening, "He said 'It's fine if this passes; when the first kid dies, then we'll do something.' That was representative of his attitude."

The vote to override Schell's veto takes place September 9. ■

**Do you have a story we should look into? Call Adam Holdorf at 441-8143, and just maybe we will.**



SOME OF THE THOUSANDS MARCHING OUTSIDE THE DEMOCRATIC NATIONAL CONVENTION LAST MONTH TOOK A UTILITARIAN APPROACH TO POLITICS. BILLIONAIRES FOR BUSH (OR GORE) WISELY JOIN THE RANKS OF CITICORP, BECHTEL, MICROSOFT AND OTHERS WHO'VE DONATED TO BOTH CANDIDATES, FIGURING AH, HELL, WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE ANYWAY? PHOTO BY CHRIS LA ROCHE.



# Creeping Death

Georgetown's toxic past catches up with its residents

By Susan Friedrich

**G**eorgetown resident Cathy Hendrickson moved into her basement apartment on the corner of Lucile Street and Denver Avenue three years ago. In this mixed-industrial neighborhood, the rent was affordable. The landlord allowed animals.

Since then, her pets have taken a turn for the worse. Both her dogs have died of liver cancer. Her cat was recently diagnosed with a liver tumor. This past summer she found a half-dozen baby birds dead in her backyard.

Hendrickson herself has been to the doctor numerous times over the last three years complaining of nausea, dizziness, and aching joints. On top of her health problems, she'll soon have to move. Her landlord, citing her health concerns, is evicting her in mid-September.

Hendrickson lives above a plume of toxic waste that has polluted the groundwater lying six to 10 feet below her apartment floor, and is moving west toward the Duwamish River.

Philip Services, a Toronto-based hazardous waste disposal company, owns the lot up the street, where the waste products — benzene and vinyl chloride, which cause cancer and birth defects — first spilled. An August meeting co-hosted by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and Philip Services was the community's first chance to hear about the 13-year-old spill. Instead of getting answers, they observed Philip Services, the state Department of Ecology, and the EPA scrambling to cover their backsides.

Philip Services has been negotiating with the EPA to extend the cleanup schedule. As part of the process, they were required to hold the meeting. Even then, Georgetown Community Council vice-chair Tim O'Brien says residents weren't notified at the proper time.

The cleanup schedule's approval is a foregone conclusion for the EPA. Under the new timeline, cleanup won't begin until 2002. Philip Services can continue to do business as usual.

Residents are looking elsewhere for help and coming up empty-handed. The state Department of Ecology, which certifies such toxic disposal sites, can't stop Philip from operating. "Our hands are tied," said DOE staffer Galen Tritt at the neighborhood meeting. "As far as the DOE is concerned they are operating within their permit."

Cathy Hendrickson calls the EPA a "lapdog" for letting the pollution spread, then approving a new timeline without community input. "This totally feels like a backroom deal."

**P**hilip Services purchased the lot in 1993. Since then, the company has

removed 16,000 pounds of toxic waste from the groundwater, but because the company and the EPA could not work out details, further cleanup has been delayed for more than seven years. In 1998 the company told the EPA that the toxic plume was spreading. EPA officials said they did not bother to notify Georgetown residents because nobody was drinking the groundwater.

Since toxic waste disposal began there in the 1950s, the site's hosted plenty of polluters. In August 1980, under the ownership of Ron West, the facility received 88 citations from the city's Fire Department. According to O'Brien, "the Fire Department found an open pool of cyanide in there, with Ron West running around like a mad scientist with a cigarette hanging out of his mouth."

In October 1980, the EPA filed a lawsuit against West and two major clients, Boeing and PACCAR, under the Imminent Hazard Clause of the Clean Air Act of 1980. The EPA lost. O'Brien believes that since 65 percent of the toxic waste processed by West came from Boeing, big money was behind the case.

**T**he public-relations footwork coming from Philip Services has been larded with good will. The company sent the first-ever "Georgetown Community Newsletter" to residents on August 3rd, informing them of the public meeting where they could "discuss" the cleanup.

There, residents had to write out their questions on index cards or line up at a microphone while their questions were written on paper taped to the walls. No answers were given until all the questions had been asked. Company reps then chose which questions they would answer. No time for discussion.

Many residents left in disgust. "The people are depressed," says Tim O'Brien, "and they have a right to be depressed. They also have a right to information."

Even contemporary facts about the site are tough to come by. Philip Services will not disclose who their clients are, but will admit that they get waste from offshore, the military, and the U.S. government. The company claims it has not done the entire cleanup be-

cause it has not received an approved work plan from the EPA.

Morris Azose, vice president of Philip Services for the Georgetown site, claims his company is committed to "being a responsible neighbor." He said



CATHY HENDRICKSON'S INDUSTRIAL NEIGHBOR CONTAMINATED THE GROUNDWATER UNDER HER BASEMENT APARTMENT. SHE'LL BE EVICTED IN MID-SEPTEMBER. PHOTO BY KEVIN SKAGGS.

that hosting the meeting was not required, but it was important to let people know "that the process of environmental cleanup can be very slow."

Because of residents' demands, the EPA has been forced to seek help from the Federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The CDC began testing the homes of Hendrickson and another resident with similar symp-

toms in mid-August. Even if the tests show unsafe levels of contamination, Hendrickson's imminent eviction makes the results moot — unless, as she fears, her landlord puts another tenant into that basement apartment.

She says she'd like to stay in the neighborhood; it's part of her quest for the facts.

"If this company was so hesitant to let me know what was going on while I lived there, they sure as hell won't tell me anything if I leave," she says.

Even though hundreds of residents have the same concerns, Hendrickson wants to know why EPA staff react so coldly to her. One EPA administrator

has twice told her that she is draining valuable EPA resources whenever she makes an inquiry. "Twenty years ago the EPA was suing the facility," she says. "Now they are co-hosting a meeting with them?"

After what she knows now, she would never consider having a baby. "If I can get Philip Services closed down, that will be my legacy." ■

StreetLife Art Gallery Group Show  
Thursday, Sept. 7, 5-8 p.m.; 2301 Second Avenue



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# In Memory of Pat Altshuler

by Joe Martin

On Monday, August 14, Pat Altshuler died, leaving behind her sister Connie, her nieces and nephews, and a legion of loyal patrons. A tough, smart, classy, and good-humored lady, Pat owned and operated the famous Turf restaurant for close to two decades. Over that time, thousands of downtown Seattleites became her good friends.

The Turf was a downtown Seattle institution, and in those days it was located at 1407 Third Avenue. It was a sprawling old place with plenty of booths for dining. An adjacent spacious room contained a few pool tables, and the many chairs lining the walls of this area invited regulars to take a load off and stay as long as they wished. The Turf had a bar on the dining room side, and a cocktail lounge to boot, called the "Waggin' Tongue."

For many elderly individuals, working people, professionals, and those with little or no money who lived or worked downtown, the Turf was an eatery, a watering hole, and a gathering spot. Street folks, cops, and everyone in between were welcome at the Turf. Pat was a big reason why the wonderful old place was the way it was. When her husband Morris, the owner, died in 1978, that's when she stepped in and kept the place going.

In the mid-eighties, when a big-shot developer with grand ideas told Pat that the Turf would have to close its doors to make way for something more upscale, Pat was angry and distressed. She would probably have to stop the operation entirely. Where would all these old-

timers and other characters go for breakfast, lunch, or dinner? Where could they go and be accepted, and afford the fare as well?

When the Displacement Coalition offered to help her fight to stay in business, Pat was happy to get the support. The "Save the Turf" campaign resulted in the venerable institution's survival. The deal required that the Turf relocate, but the developer paid the moving costs. The Turf

has been at its current location at 107 Pike Street since 1988.

Pat retired in 1997, but continued to keep in touch with the Turf and the many customers who still comprise its clientele. She understood that Seattle's downtown, in spite of the transformation of the last few decades, is still home to a lot of folks who don't have a lot of money, but who still appreciate a place where community can be established and nurtured. Pat welcomed everyone with open arms. We'll miss you, Pat. Rest in peace. ■



PAT ALTSHULER SPENT CLOSE TO TWENTY YEARS OF HER LIFE RUNNING THE TURF RESTAURANT. PHOTO COURTESY OF JOE MARTIN

## Steve Clysdale, Takeover Artist

By Jon Gould and Ginger Segel

Last week, we learned with great sadness that Steve Clysdale passed away on August 10, 2000.

Seattle residents might remember Steve from the early 1990s. With his straight red hair parted in the middle, big glasses, and full beard, he was easy to spot in a crowd. He was an integral part of Seattle's Operation Homestead, a volunteer-led effort to save abandoned buildings from the wrecking ball and house homeless people.

Steve was homeless when he arrived in Seattle in the spring of 1991. We met him shortly thereafter, while serving food for homeless people at Columns Park (Pike and Boren) prior to a building takeover. Here is how Steve described our first meeting:

"I figured it would be just a bunch of do-gooders trying to make themselves feel better," Steve wrote in an article he penned for the June 1991 edition of the *SEA-TOWN Crier*, Seattle's homeless newspaper at the time. "But, after last week, I can honestly say that I was wrong and I'm glad I took the time to find that out."

From that beginning, Steve eventually led the charge and created lasting change. He was a leader in the five-day occupation of the Arion Court, making an abandoned building habitable and housing dozens of homeless people. His work spurred successful negotiations to renovate and preserve 37 units of low-income housing.

After the occupation, Steve knew that Operation Homestead needed a stable foundation in order to keep going. As many of the group were without homes, Steve became the point person on a campaign to gain control (this time legally) of two

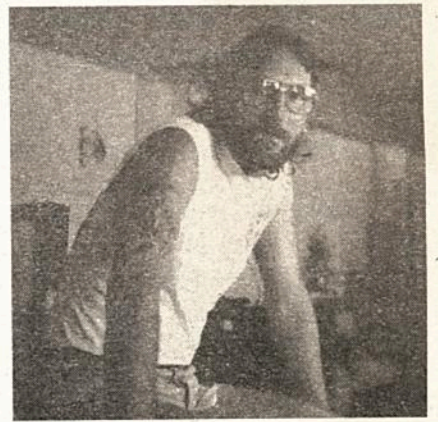


PHOTO COURTESY OF JON GOULD

abandoned houses owned by Providence Hospital in Seattle's Central District. Persistent and determined, Steve helped get a \$1/year lease for the two houses. They are now part of a five-house network of the Homestead Organizing Project.

Late in 1991, Steve became the first staff person for Operation Homestead, growing the organization and preparing for future takeovers, such as the Pacific Hotel occupation in the fall of 1992. Steve was also a volunteer for the Seattle-King County Coalition for the Homeless, helping to obtain donations for homeless children.

While Steve was always eager to help anyone in need, be it a longtime friend or new acquaintance, he had his own problems as well. For much of his adult life, he struggled with alcoholism, chronic back pain, and more recently liver disease.

Steve committed suicide in his apartment near San Diego, CA. He's survived by family in Edmonds and Lynnwood, and friends in every place he ever lived.

We'll miss you, Steve. ■

## GATES Continued from Page 1

cent? Until we better understand who's making up the rest, that's one of our main concerns."



Sharon Lee, executive director of the Low Income Housing Institute, develops transitional and permanent housing. LIHI is collaborating with Seattle Emergency Housing Services on a 30-unit building for victims of domestic violence. Lee says she plans to ask the Healthy Families Program for money for the project.

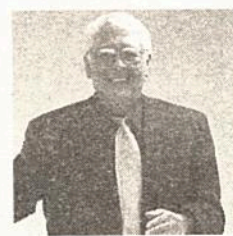
"This is a great gift to us that fulfills a very specific need. It won't take care of everything — emergency shelter needs, even for mothers and their children, for example, or emergency shelter for homeless men.

"It's a wonderful start, having a leader in the community contribute like this. Part of my concern is whether the city and the county will come up with new money. They should see this as a challenge to come up with additional funding in the fall budget. I hope they will; otherwise, it's business as usual.

"They can't dedicate already-existing funds to match the Gates grant. The only logical thing is

for the city and county to add new money to increase the supply.

"The city says they're out of money. We're concerned that we'll go to the Gates Foundation with a proposal, and they'll say 'Where are your matching funds?' and we won't have any, because public funds just aren't out there."



Bob Santos is a veteran activist on housing issues. He's now Secretary Andrew Cuomo's representative for the federal Department of Housing and Urban Development in the Pacific Northwest

and Alaska. Staff at his office will sit on the steering committee allocating Healthy Families money to eligible nonprofits.

"I've always hoped that this problem would get enough attention so that someone like the Gateses would step up. I was really surprised — pleasantly surprised. The implication is that more people than ever are aware of homelessness.

"People don't really know where the resources come from — they think the federal government, the state, the city pays for everything.

"The Gates Foundation does its homework. You know that they worked hard to make sure

they really wanted to do this. Out of all the requests for money they get every year, this must have surfaced to the top.

"There's a ripple effect, and it already hit us. The day after the announcement, I got a call from the Seattle Rotary Club, one of the largest Rotaries in the country, and they asked me to speak about homelessness at a lunch in October. I don't think they would have called otherwise." ■

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Photo © 1999, Rick Dahms



# Skeletor on the Run

Could a Democrat and some Indian allies unseat Slade Gorton?

by Michael Hood

It's quite amazing. He bears the image of a heavy in a bad action movie, yet he's lost only one election in 40 years.

We're talking about Senator Slade "the Blade" Gorton, who over his long career has been described as mean, cold, imperious, and reptilian even in these days of feel-your-pain politicians like Bill Clinton and smarmsters like GOP gubernatorial candidate John Carlson.

The old Republican has battled environmentalists, Seattle voters, and unfriendly editorial boards throughout his decades in office. But his most famous grudge is described by Washington state Tribal Chairman, Brian Cladoosby. "Slade Gorton," he says, "is the dean of the anti-Indian movement."

For the first time, just when the senior senator's seat looks vulnerable, tribal associations have begun spending money to expose

his poor environmental record and subdue his almost inexplicable agenda of anti-Indian initiatives.

He's a worthy opponent. Known nationwide to Indians as the "intellectual Custer," Gorton doesn't base his crusade on misinformation. What makes him so scary is his exhaustive knowledge of federal Indian policy.

As Washington state Attorney General, he litigated against the 1974 Boldt decision, a landmark ruling and sweeping tribal rights victory that gave tribal fishers half the wild salmon catch. When the U.S. Supreme Court refused to hear Gorton's appeal, his 30-year war against Indian rights began.

Gorton, who was elected to the Senate for the first time in 1980, took his anti-Native campaign to the other Washington and expanded his legal attacks to many fronts.

He introduced legislation in 1981 to prohibit tribes from commercially fishing for steelhead. When Spokane Tribes defied state officials in 1994 by importing slot machines to the Two Rivers Casino, Gorton tried to get Attorney General Janet Reno to shut them down.

The Shoalwater Bay Tribe acquired land near Vancouver, Washington, for a development of townhouses and light manufacturing. They asked the Bureau of Indian Affairs to put the land in federal trust, exempting it from local zoning and taxation. In typical back-door maneuvering, Gorton amended a spending bill to prevent the BIA from doing so until Clark County approved the project.

Last year he tried to change the formula by which federal aid to Native

American tribes is allocated. Under Gorton's means-testing proposal, Indian tribes enriched by gambling casino profits would have received fewer federal dollars.

This tactic of cutting federal funding, sometimes by adding sneaky "riders" onto other more innocuous bills, has been mostly unsuccessful. But he doesn't always come from behind.

In 1998, as head of the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs, Gorton introduced a bill stripping tribes of sovereign immunity, making tribal governments subject to lawsuits and curbing tribes' authority over non-Indians living and working on reservations. It went nowhere.

The idea of Native sovereignty has always been controversial and unpopular with non-Indians. The U.S. made many treaties with Indian nations which are still

on the books and supposedly supersede federal and state laws. They are almost always upheld in the courts, despite the number of times legislatures and Congress have tried to run over or around them. Gorton calls these legal promises "special privileges," a term right-wingers love to use to smear affirmative action or gay rights.

The type of peevishness that Gorton is famous for showed mightily in 1991, in his criticism of a Smithsonian exhibit that dealt with genocidal and cruel treatment of Indians in America's westward expansion. Gorton said it "depicts a terribly distorted, negative, and untrue statement about the settlement of the West."

"He never quits," says Cladoosby.

Does this stuff hurt him with voters? Cathy Allen, Democratic consultant and board member of the National Women's Conference, says, "Slade's lack of compassion for Native Americans has particularly hurt him with women."

Environmentalists are spending millions against Slade, pointing to his op-

position to removing dams that threaten salmon, and letting industries like Boise Cascade, Chevron, and Kaiser Aluminum help write bills to gut the Endangered Species Act and weaken clean water regulations.

To "green-wash" his reputation, Gorton has proposed higher fuel-efficiency standards for SUVs and salmon-friendly alternatives to breaching dams. But a rider he attached on a late-night spending bill giving a Texas gold-mining company a cyanide leaching permit in the Okanogan has his opponents and environmental critics jabbing him relentlessly.

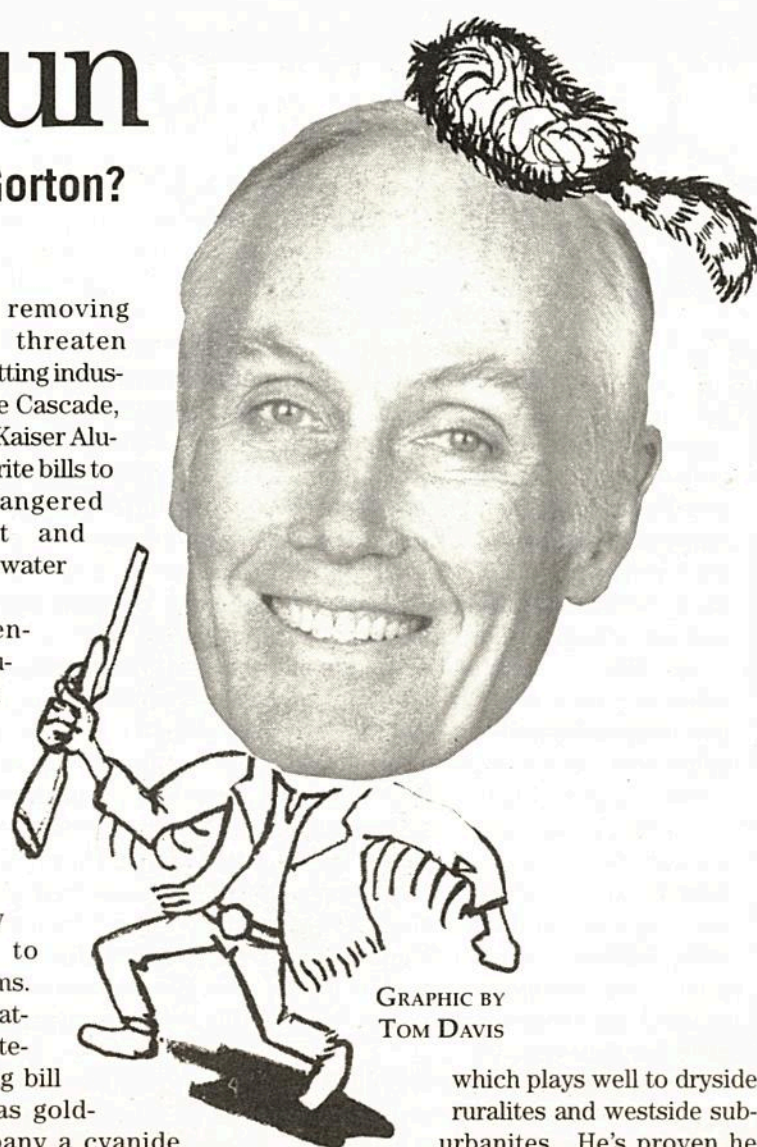
But as Slade has rich friends, he also has rich enemies, not the least of whom are Native American tribal associations and individual tribes from all over the country who are pumping money into campaigns against him.

Russ Lehman, of the First American Education Project, says "We're telling the public about Slade Gorton's record because he's made Indian issues a big part of his career." His group is running a TV spot highlighting Slade's sweet deal with the Texas gold-mining corporation.

Gorton doesn't even hold much promise to moderate voters concerned about issues like health care and handgun violence. He voted against the recent Patients Bill of Rights, and has always sided with the NRA against even the most moderate gun-control measures.

Can he win again? Even though he's not polled well and is known nationally as one of the weakest senators in this election, don't count him out. Slade always looks vulnerable at election time and manages to squeak by.

Gorton complains about Seattle "urban elites" and the "chattering classes,"



which plays well to dryside ruralites and westside suburbanites. He's proven he doesn't need Seattle voters.

Ron Allen, chairman of the Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe and vice president of the National Conference of American Indians, recently wrote, "While Slade is by no means new to Washington voters, he relies on voter apathy and a short memory to win at the polls."

The upcoming race offers unique challenges from two women vying for the Democratic nomination — one who can match him dollar for dollar, and one who can match him punch for punch.

Former congresswoman Maria Cantwell is leading scrappy state Insurance Commissioner Deborah Senn in a bitter primary fight. How Democrats come out of the primary will be crucial. "If Senn wins," says UW political science professor David Olsen, "and Cantwell refuses to throw her support, or vice versa, it's going to make it very difficult."

There's not much difference philosophically between the two Democrats; their differences lie in style. Senn is feisty and progressive, Cantwell is cool and moderate. Indians will support either one. "We just want to beat Slade," says Cladoosby. ■

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Adventures in Poetry with ©Dr. Wes Browning

## Modest Proposals

We here at the *Real Change* are sensitive to the charge that all we ever do is whine about homelessness. Instead of proposing practical solutions that our city and county governments find acceptable, we write editorials calling for affordable housing, blah, blah, blah, treating people with dignity, blah, blah, providing services that cost money, blah, blah.

So I've decided to rectify this situation, medically speaking. I've set forth a number of proposals for solving homelessness *that are all calculated to be acceptable to our hardworking local government officialdom and their deserving, fully paid-up allies*. Please feel free to refer back to that last sentence, frequently, when the following brilliant ideas become confusing to you, as they surely will.

My first proposal addresses the very heart of the homeless problem. And it won't cost a dime. We declare homelessness to be a personal disorder. We get the Feds to go along. OK, that part might cost some lawyers' fees, but you were spending money on lawyers anyway. This way they'll be doing something productive.

Here's the beauty of it: once homelessness is a disorder, everything we do about homelessness can be put down as therapy or rehabilitation. For example, you can put homeless people to work on contracted work-crews, and not have to pay them minimum wage! Because it would be therapy! The government gets the contract money, and gets to keep it "to pay for other needed services."

Have I got your attention, Heidi Wills? This kind of thinking is just your speed!

My second proposal deals directly with the chief complaint of all homeless people. They have no places to sleep. My solution is so effective that you will be able to present it as proof of your compassion. Hey, if they don't need to sleep, they don't need a place to do it, right?

So when a homeless person asks for shelter, we should give them methamphetamines instead. We can *cure* them of their need to sleep. OK, meth isn't 100 percent effective, so we'll still have to give them shelter every four or five days, but (do the math) that would allow us to get rid of half our existing shelter space!

Moreover, it would not be necessary to dump meth-crazed homeless people on the general public. We could require them to work on one of those crews until they come down. Then, repeat the therapy as needed. I think you can see that the public benefits would be enormous.

All that meth will have to come from somewhere. Perhaps we could offer donuts to our cops for their hoards. Hey, cops work long hours around the clock. You know what happens to unreported drug confiscations.  $2+2=4$ . Eventually a city-owned meth lab could cheaply produce enough for all of our homeless, plus replace our cops' stashes.

Once we have done so much to eradicate the problem of homelessness in Seattle, we will generate a new problem. We will make Seattle a magnet for homeless people all around the country, and the world. Therefore it would be irresponsible of me to make the proposals above, without also offering the means to prevent a massive influx of homeless immigrants.

My proposal is inspired by the great work of Mark Sidran. I could not have thought of the brilliant idea that I am about to explain, were it not for that giant of civic engineering. If I have been able to see further than he, it is only because I have stood upon his shoulders.

Sidran's great genius was realizing that if life for homeless people in Seattle was miserable, they'd go away. That sounds simple-minded, but it works! They did go away! To Los Angeles!

Trouble was, Los Angeles was worse! So they came back!

So you see, Sidran was right, but we must go further. We must out-Los Angeles Los Angeles. We must make Seattle a living hell for everyone who has to be outside.

Los Angeles has lousy air. We can top that. We can scrap Metro. We can have poisonous air and poisonous water in just a year. People living outdoors will start to drop like flies. Not that that will be the intent of the program. No, the intent of the program will be merely to encourage homeless elements to look elsewhere for comfort.

We already don't let them sit down. Let's not let them breathe. That should finally do it. ■

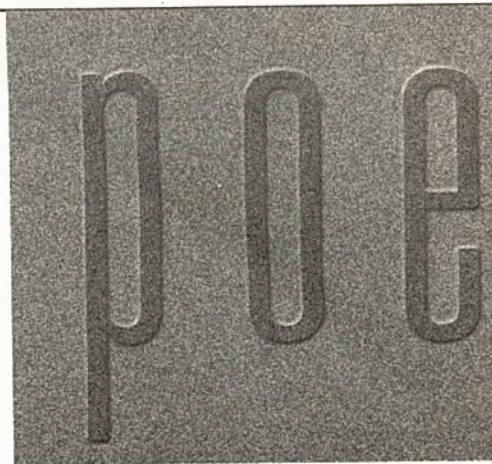
## memories

memories of

bye-gone  
days

a pebble in the hand

—R. UNGRICH



## Head Trip

Hop on... take a ride  
Take a ride deep down  
Round and round a  
To the psyche far below

Down below the surface  
Where things are real  
Down where all the  
Where each one has

Down below the pressure  
Of Pain and Fear and  
To the glowing center  
Where Peace and Love

And in that loving silence  
A quiet place where  
A place to rest and  
We'll spiral up and

To face once more  
Strengthened by our  
Knowing we can grow  
Wherever we need

## Ignorance Is a Luxury

"Writer's Conference,"  
she says.

I like the idea of it, but:  
— it costs too much;  
and  
— it's in a place I can't get to without a car.

I point these things out to her:  
—that not all 30-year-olds have cars  
(or even licenses to drive them)  
—that my budget already has more cuts in it than a paper snowflake  
(and once the rent is paid, it's just as thin).

She shakes her head, and writes something on her notepad  
(probably some psychobabble bullshit about my "rationalizations,"  
about my "fear of failure,"  
about my "fear of success").

I am not afraid to say this:  
—that her ignorance is a luxury  
I can't afford.

—MARISA WOOD

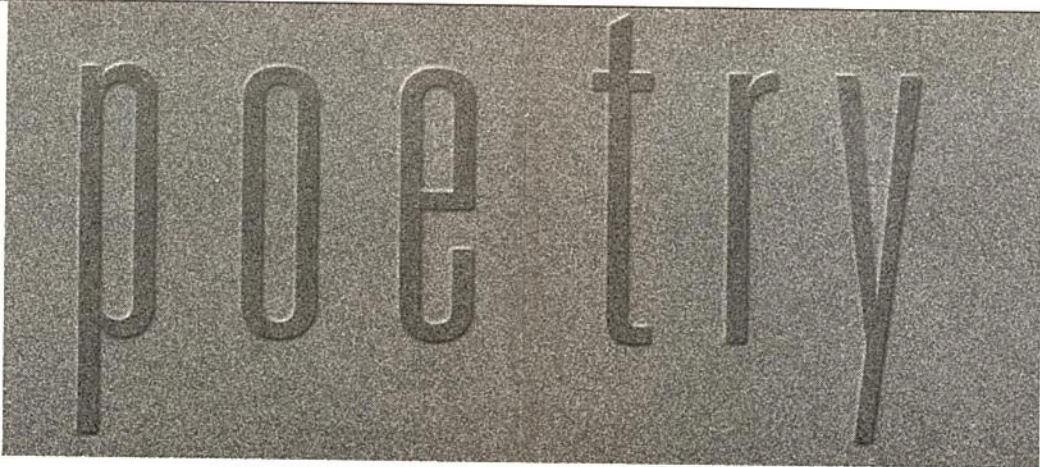


memories

memories of  
bye-gone  
days

a pebble in the hand

—R. UNGRICH



Head Trip

Hop on... take a ride ide  
Take a ride deep downown inside  
Round and round and and down we go  
To the psyche far beloelow

Down below the streetreet facade  
Where things are real, eal, where things are odd  
Down where all the trie true selves dwell  
Where each one has a is a tale to tell

Down below the painfainful shells  
Of Pain and Fear and pnd private hells  
To the glowing centraltral core  
Where Peace and Loveove bathe every shore

And in that loving peapeaceful tide  
A quiet place where we we can bide  
A place to rest awhile aile and then  
We'll spiral up and outout again

To face once more the the world outside  
Strengthened by our iur inner guide  
Knowing we can go beo below  
Whene'er we need our our peace to flow

—RENEENE ROBERTSON

Ignorance Is a Luxury

“Writer’s Conference,”  
she says.

I like the idea of it, but:  
— it costs too much;  
and  
— it’s in a place I can’t get to without a car.

I point these things out to her:  
—that not all 30-year-olds have cars  
*(or even licenses to drive them)*  
—that my budget already has more cuts in it than a paper snowflake  
*(and once the rent is paid, it’s just as thin).*

She shakes her head, and writes something on her notepad  
*(probably some psychobabble bullshit about my “rationalizations,”  
about my “fear of failure,”  
about my “fear of success”).*

I am not afraid to say this:  
—that her ignorance is a luxury  
I can’t afford.

—MARISA WOOD

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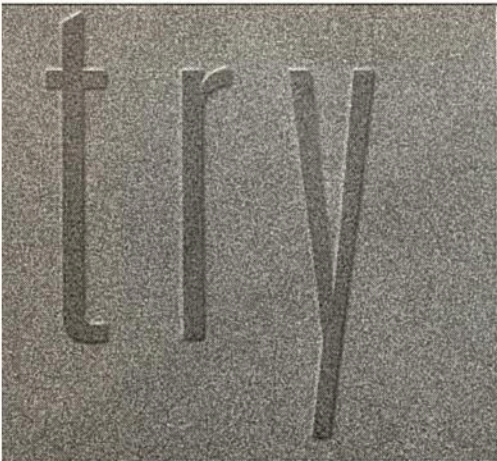
anotl

Nature

Walking on the thread, he listens  
to their morning cries  
as they fall from straw nests  
to grassy fields; no, waking  
dew hangs on barbwire fence  
cold as spring  
embryos  
vested robins skitter  
spiders weave stories, stutter,  
blood on the earth.

—EARLE THOMPSON





wn inside  
d down we go  
low  
  
et facade  
d, where things are odd  
true selves dwell  
a tale to tell  
  
nful shells  
d private hells  
al core  
ve bathe every shore  
  
eaceful tide  
we can bide  
le and then  
ut again  
  
he world outside  
inner guide  
below  
ur peace to flow  
  
— RENEENE ROBERTSON

Nature

Walking on the thread, he listens  
to their morning cries  
as they fall from straw nests  
to grassy fields; no, waking  
dew hangs on barbwire fence  
cold as spring  
embryos  
vested robins skitter  
spiders weave stories, stutter,  
blood on the earth.  
  
—EARLE THOMPSON

It Seems Each Day

It seems each day there are joys I cannot bear.  
Today it was the sunlit leaping of children.  
Yesterday, the wind shaking out the scent of hay;  
but, it does not matter what, when, or where,  
for soon, each joy, each love, will be broke and drained.  
  
I hear the wail of the hours, and I know somewhere  
there is a long silence, a featureless day.  
Something there is that stalks each joy, each pleasure,  
sins against hope; as close as the air,  
this guardian of fate, of unalterable law.  
  
—JAMES SCOFIELD

outreach

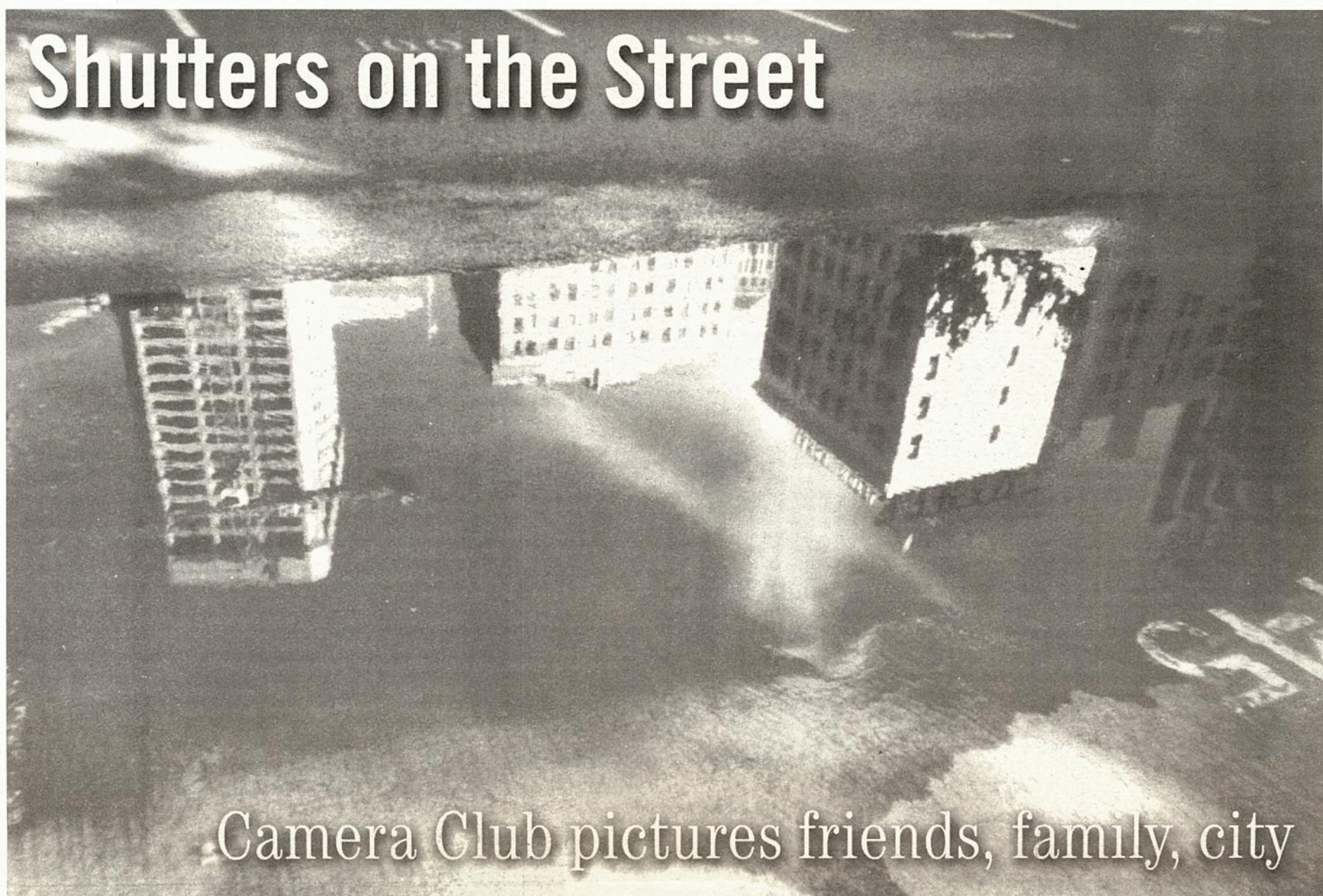
Have you feelings? There are  
Others,  
if you do that.  
If you keep them.  
Our own, can  
be denied (we say to ourselves. We  
know.) All  
in the past, we find  
  
ourselves in  
families. Each,  
in his home, is at  
home — never  
leaving, really! Never  
believing  
  
another.  
  
—STAN BURRISS

She Listens to the Rhythm

She listens to the rhythm  
of branches, frogs croaking,  
in the apple orchard.  
  
She stands, bowing her head  
to the moon, and strands of hair  
net light.  
  
She told me huckleberries grow  
close to the earth, describing  
their ripeness and taste.  
  
She watches a seal surface  
ribboning the water and magpie lopes  
into a pool of blue-grey junipers.  
  
She polishes a star,  
erasing the moon, and I compose  
one round sentence.  
  
—EARLE THOMPSON

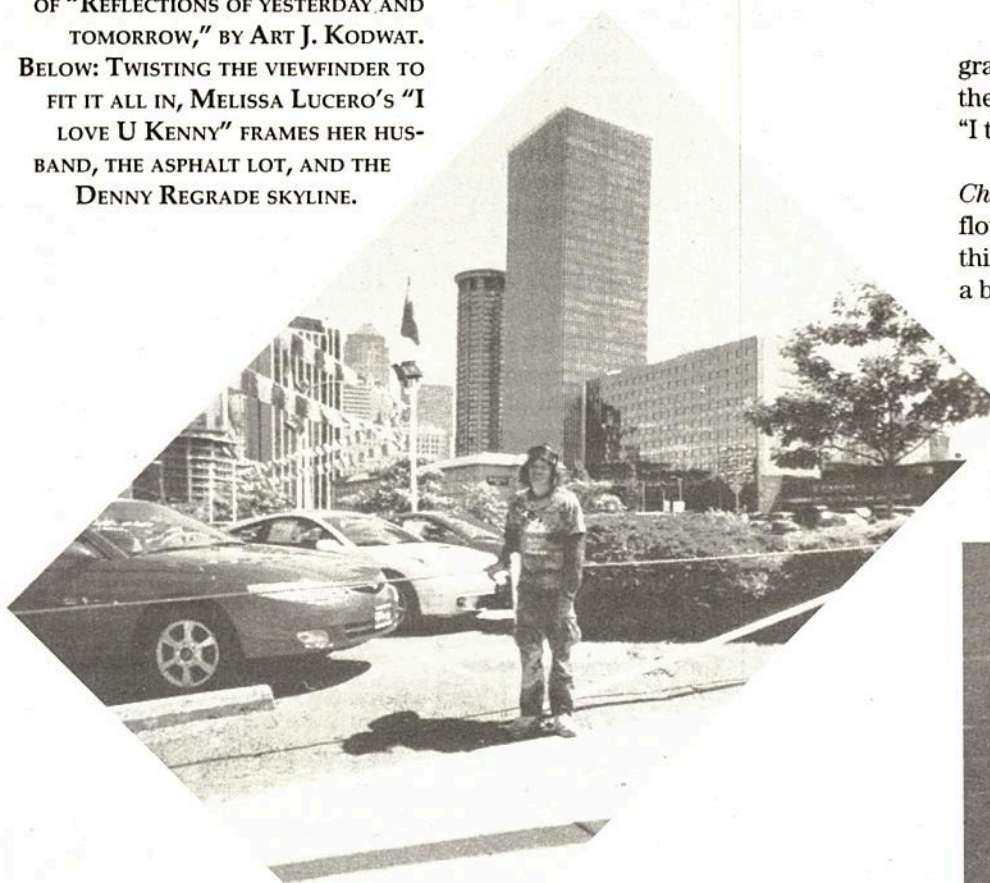


# Shutters on the Street



Camera Club pictures friends, family, city

ABOVE: BUILDINGS AND CONSTRUCTION CRANES CAUGHT IN A LIMPID URBAN POOL ARE THE SUBJECT OF "REFLECTIONS OF YESTERDAY AND TOMORROW," BY ART J. KODWAT. BELOW: TWISTING THE VIEWFINDER TO FIT IT ALL IN, MELISSA LUCERO'S "I LOVE U KENNY" FRAMES HER HUSBAND, THE ASPHALT LOT, AND THE DENNY REGRADE SKYLINE.



"FAMILY," BY ALEX CHESSE.

By Chris Gordon Owen

"I love the clouds, the sky, the water," says Margaret Shaw, commenting on her photograph of sunset-tinged clouds beyond the QFC where she sells *Real Change*. "I think God created them for us."

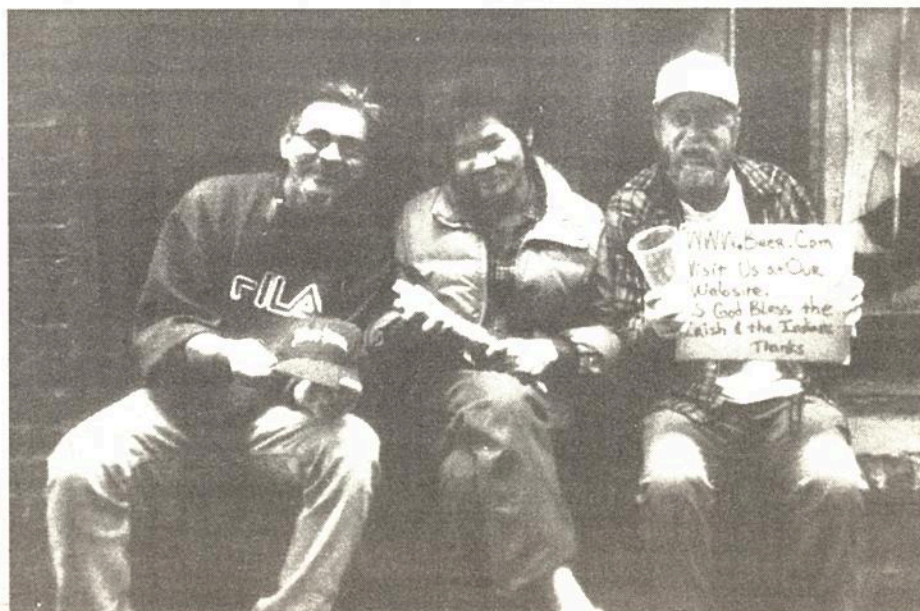
Shaw also has pictures of the *Real Change* window, fellow vendors, and a flower stand at Pike Place Market. She's thinking about what she would use in a book about homelessness.

With his wife, Melissa Lucero, Ken Kovaleski has accumulated what amounts to a photographic essay on downtown Seattle — from the waterfall park in Pioneer Square to a duck couple "looking for

a meal" at the Seattle Center. Along the way, the couple has horsed around at the Jazz Alley mural and enjoyed a hidden oasis separating the US West building from the Pine-Seventh Avenue traffic. But indicating a grassy field captured between a fence and the Seattle skyline, Lucero says, "I wish I could get in there." And Kovaleski says, "Someday..." as he gazes at elegantly set tables photographed through a restaurant window.

Asked how he decides what to shoot, Kovaleski says, "When I see it, I know."

Like most shutterbugs, these photographers and the other members of







CLOCKWISE FROM BELOW: "TAKING CARE OF BUSINESS," BY BILL O., SHOWS THE CAMERA CLUB AT ONE OF THEIR WEEKLY MEETINGS; "LEAVING SEATTLE," BY BILLY VARDEMAN, ON A POSTCARD-PERFECT DAY; "MY NATIVE AMERICAN FAMILY AT THE WALL," AND "FELIX MARTINEZ AT THE MARKET," BOTH TAKEN BY BEAR.



the Camera Club — about 25 in all — commemorate good, bad, and funny times and sights both beautiful and moving. These folks, though, have been using disposable cameras distributed by REACH, a four-year-old Evergreen Treatment Services program that offers intensive case management to homeless people.

According to case manager Kelley Craig, she and her colleagues spend much of their time working with clients out on the streets or in recently acquired apartments, with the Dutch Shisler Sobering Center serving as an office base for the past two years. It is there that the Camera Club has met once a week for the past couple of months, ever since case manager Tom Dean used private donations to buy a batch of disposable cameras and photo albums for his clients.

Dean got the idea after reading about a photography project that helped depressed refugee kids cope with their experiences in the war-torn Balkans.

Although attendance at the meetings is voluntary, Dean, a self-styled "recovering [commercial] photographer," says, "I don't know any other thing that brings them in."

As Margaret Shaw puts it, "This [club] got me motivated. They inspired me."

As for Kovaleski, he simply says, "There's a lot of pictures I could take out there." ■

More Camera Club photos can be seen through September in an exhibit entitled "Variety of Life" at Boomtown Cafe, 513 Third Ave, Mon-Fri. Call 625-2989 for hours. If you'd like to make a contribution to the project, call Kelley Craig at (206) 730-6511.





# NOTES FROM THE KITCHEN

## Do your homework: eat right!

By Liz Smith

The eastern sky slowly brightens, illuminating the craggy peaks of the Olympics. Soft light from the sun shines westward on the sleeping city. All is peaceful. Then, shrieking alarm clocks goad people out of bed and into their kitchens to make coffee. Children are roused, fed, washed, dressed, and hustled out the door. It's the first day of school, and you, the parent, get 12 opportunities to make this annual event pleasurable. In this column, I have some suggestions regarding meals that will make your life easier.

Careful planning and organizing will enable you to accomplish many goals: eliminate chaos, train your child's palate, teach responsibility, establish tradition, and save yourself a lot of work. Schedule a family meeting. Tell your child, or children, that they will be part of the "Family Kitchen Team" to plan breakfasts, lunches, and a Back to School celebration dinner. Explain to them that they'll learn how to take charge of their own cooking.

If they give you a look of worried surprise because you have always done all the work, be reassuring. It's your job as a parent to help your kids become strong, capable, and resourceful people. Tell them, "We will learn as a team, so when you grow up you won't embarrass yourselves."

Have your children make a list of what they would like to eat. If you need menu ideas, the Secret Garden Bookstore in Ballard has a couple of books that will steer young eaters toward healthy, nutritious foods. These are *Taming the Candy Monster* and *365 Foods Kids Like to Eat*. In other words, let them make their decisions, but warn them that you'll veto anything too outrageous.

If your family decides that buying school lunches is the way to go, I have to say school food isn't very good. It's like Communism — it looks good on paper, but the reality is pretty unpleasant. To ameliorate school food, try to get them to eat oatmeal for breakfast. It can be made right in a glass bowl in the microwave. Here's the recipe:

1/2 cup regular oats	pinch of cinnamon
1 cup milk	1 TB wheat germ

Cook on high for 3 minutes. Sweeten with maple syrup or honey. Add chopped up dried fruit. If child is skinny, let them add some cream.

If your mornings are hectic, have your child put a lunch together while you are doing the dinner dishes. Start with small steps. Even a five-year-old can make a peanut butter sandwich and pour milk into an unbreakable thermos.

An easy tradition, which will help you stay connected with your offspring, is to put a daily positive note in with their lunch. Write it on a small card. It can be a joke, a short poem, or even a sticker. Elliott Bay Bookstore sells a book called *Lunch Box Notes*, with easy-to-remove pre-printed similar sayings. With families spending so much time apart, it's a simple way to let your child know you're thinking of them.

Another way to tell your kids "you're important" also shows them that school's important: have a Back to School celebration dinner. Your dinner doesn't have to be complicated either. It's the spirit, not the soufflé, which your kids will remember. Let them put up the crepe paper and balloons while you heat up the soup and iron the grilled cheese sandwiches.

To sum up, as you get your kids bundled up and hustled off to class, keep some things in mind: it's better to have simple meals which don't leave you with a kitchen full of dirty dishes. Let your children assume gradual responsibilities for what they eat. Establish simple traditions which make everybody feel connected. Lastly, have desert!

### Beginner's Blueberry Muffins

Pinch of salt	4 TB melted and cooled butter
2 tsp. Rumford's baking powder	2/3 cup milk
2 TB wheat germ	2 eggs
1/3 cup sugar	1 cup blueberries, rinsed, sorted, and dried
2 cups unbleached flour	

1. Preheat oven to 400 degrees F.
2. Place paper muffin cups in muffin pan.
3. Mix dry ingredients in order given.
4. In a separate glass bowl, mix wet ingredients in the order given.
5. Add liquid ingredients to dry ingredients along with blueberries. Stir briefly with a fork until just moistened.
7. Fill paper cups approximately three-quarters full.
8. Bake 12-15 minutes.
9. To cool, remove from pan and let sit on a wire rack or a paper towel.
10. To store, put in a plastic bag in the freezer. ■



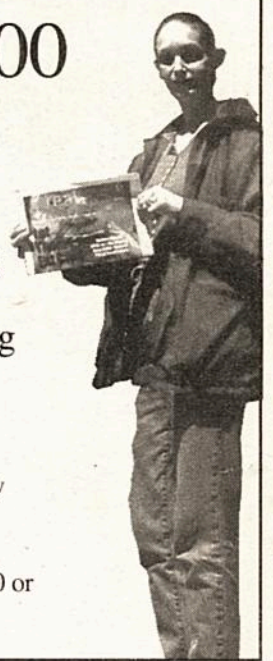
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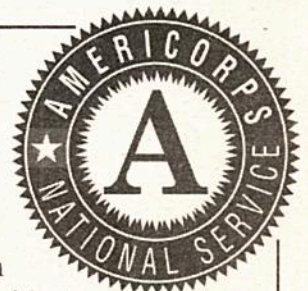
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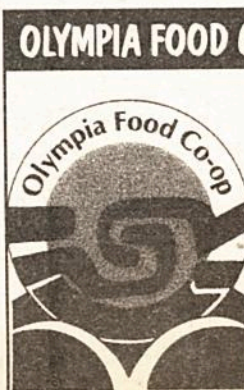
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**August 16, 10:08:** Officers went to the parking lot of a local Burger King restaurant where witnesses reported two females engaging in suspicious activity. The two females, who claimed to have been living in their cars, were parked side by side in the parking lot and appeared to be transferring unknown items to one another. The two women then each ducked down in their cars and appeared to be ingesting a substance, according to witnesses. A routine search of their vehicles produced no illegal substances, and the identification check came back with no warrants. No arrests were made.

**August 17, 12:30:** A man was arrested outside of a Chevron gas station after a clerk reported that he had spotted him stealing food and beverages. Officers arrived as the man was beginning to walk away from the station. Officers searched the man and found four candy bars and two Cokes hidden in his pockets. He was arrested and later booked into King County Jail.

**August 17, 03:14:** On a routine patrol of Occidental Park, officers spotted what appeared to be an intoxicated man stumbling through the park after closing hours. Officers later discovered that the man had been assaulted by two men who hit him on the back of the head with a broken ketchup bottle. The wound was superficial, and the man refused medical treatment. He said he was recently homeless after losing his job.

**August 18, 20:00:** Police responded to the scene of a disturbance outside of a residence on 15 Avenue where a woman claimed to have been sexually assaulted by an unknown attacker outside of her home. The man exposed himself to her as she pulled her car into her parking space and then asked her if she wanted to "go for a ride." The woman screamed and was assisted by a man who later said he was homeless. The homeless man yelled for help as the woman used her cellular phone to call 911. The suspect left the scene, and no arrests were made. ■

*The events described above are taken from beat cops' reports filed at the Seattle Police Department's West Precinct. The reports describe "transients" — people who couldn't give the police a home address — often as crime victims, more often as suspects. We recognize this is a biased source, so we're searching for others. If you have a true story of a run-in with police or security, send it to Real Change, 2129 Second Avenue, Seattle WA 98121. If you'd like to help write Street Watch, call Adam Holdorf at (206) 441-8143.*

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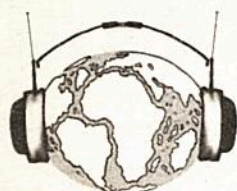
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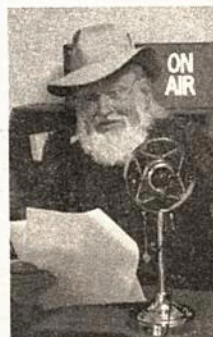
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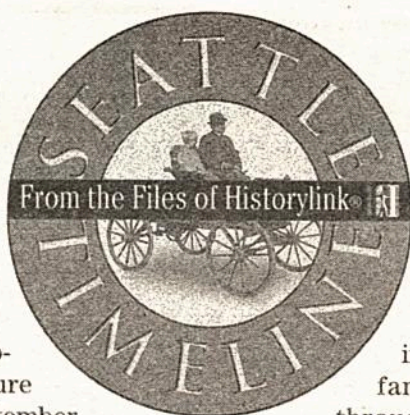


**L**uther M. Collins, Henry Van Asselt, and Jacob and Samuel Maple filed the first formal Donation Land claims to property within the future King County on September 14, 1851. The farmers, who had relocated from the south Puget Sound area, selected rich Duwamish River bottomland in what would later become Georgetown. Ironically, this same area had been chosen a year earlier by John C. Holgate, but he neglected to register his claim.

The Donation Land Claims Act of 1850 granted U.S. citizens 320 acres (640 acres for married couples) to encourage settlement of the Oregon Territory. On page 20 of his *History of Seattle*, Clarence Bagley notes that a descendant of Jacob Maples reported that the farmers actually staked and filed their claims on June 22, 1851, the date of their arrival, but provides no further evidence.

The Duwamish settlers assisted the Denny Party, which arrived later that fall, and Luther Collins served as one of King County's original commissioners, but the Georgetown community itself was overshadowed by the rapid development of Seattle proper. It was annexed by its larger northern neighbor in 1910.

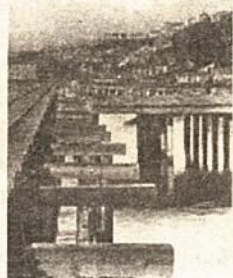
**O**n September 12, 1893, the day after the *Seattle Post-Intelligencer* alleged problems with city finances, Seattle Treasurer Adolph Krug disappeared along with approximately \$125,000 in city funds. Later that day, he was observed crossing into Canada. Six days later, he was arrested in St. Paul, Minnesota, as he was about to board a train to New York. On October 31, 1893, Krug and five prominent Seattle businessmen were indicted for "using public money in a manner not authorized by law." Named as co-defendants with Krug were David T. Denny, Luther H. Griffith, Henry Fuhrman, Fred E. Sander, and L.D. Ross.



**I**nventor Thomas A. Edison, accompanied by his wife and daughter, visited Seattle while on a long-deferred vacation in September 1908. The family had just gone through Yellowstone Park.

Edison promised his wife that he would not work so hard but even on this vacation he carried a notebook and constantly jotted down ideas to investigate later. One of his interests was hydro-electricity. With the depletion of coal, an alternative source of energy was essential. Back then, transmission lines could only carry electricity economically 500 miles; Edison was trying to figure out how to extend the range so the immense waterpower of the Pacific Northwest could be brought to a greater number of people and businesses.

**A** long struggle for control of Seattle's central waterfront climaxed on September 5, 1911, with King County voters' approval of the Port of Seattle district



RAILROAD AVENUE  
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and the election of the first three port commissioners, Gen. Hiram Chittenden, Robert Bridges, and Charles Remsberg. The election was a high-water mark for the local Progressive Movement, which advocated public control of essential facilities and utilities, and a pivotal defeat for the railroads that had long dominated Seattle's harbor thanks to imprudent municipal concessions. ■

To learn more about these and other events and benchmarks in Seattle and King County history, visit [www.historylink.org](http://www.historylink.org). All photos are courtesy of historylink. Copyright ©2000 History Ink. HistoryLink is a registered trademark of History Ink.

## CLASSICS CORNER



by Perfess'r Harris

**F**rom time to time, each of us needs to stand back, look ourselves in the eye, and ask, "What has the Protestant work ethic done for us lately?"

We at Classics Corner hid out at a mountain resort last week to do just this. For fun, we brought along Hesiod, a seventh- or eighth-century B.C. farmer-poet from the backwaters of Greece. As it turns out, Hesiod is one of history's first workaholics, but even he says to rest in August, when work is done, the sun is hot, and "women's lust knows no bounds."

"Then," he says, "ah then, I wish you a shady ledge and your choice wine." He also recommends thick goat's milk, freshly baked bread, the meat of a free-range heifer, and sparkling wine mixed with three parts water. Having none of these essentials on hand, we substituted scotch and tried to avoid fried foods.

While we did not find Hesiod's remarks upon the habits of women to

be particularly accurate, we were still obsessively drawn to *Works and Days*, his 829-line poem on how to work hard, marry well, lead an honest life, have good crops, and avoid drowning at sea or blaspheming the gods.

**Life is struggle, says Hesiod.**

**Get used to it.**

Hesiod's poem is addressed to his lazy brother Perses, who bribed the local "gift-devouring kings" to lawyer the poet out of his inheritance. Perses is exhorted to end his scheming, get off his butt, and "Work!"

Ever since Prometheus egged the gods into hiding the "means of livelihood" in the earth, most of us poor humans have had to scratch out our precarious existence with constant toil. This, says Hesiod, is the way of the world. Life is struggle, he says. Get used to it.

From the perspective of our lakeside adirondack chair, we found all of this quite bracing indeed.

But we were drawn most to Hesiod's obsession with justice. Having recently survived the prayer-soaked public coronations of Bush and Gore, we found the poet's idea of a people's god immensely appealing.

Belief in justice, says Hesiod, transcends the individual to concern the entire community. In an immoral world where might makes right, "grief and pain will find us defenseless," and "evildoers and scoundrels will be honored."

Hesiod believes there are spirits who function as the ethics police, invisibly roaming the earth and seeing that justice is served. When corruption is allowed to spread, he says, the entire community is punished, so everyone has an immediate interest in behaving morally.

Even Hesiod, however, has his moments of bitterness and doubt. "As matters stand," he says, "may neither I nor my son be just men in this world, because it is a bad thing to be just if wrongdoers win the court decisions."

In Hesiod's world, god looks out for the little guy, and his faith in this keeps him an honest man. Hesiod's practical mind would see a god of the rich, powerful, and corrupt as worse than no god at all. His is a useful belief, and 2,800 years later, with god half-dead, it still rings true. ■



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# September Notables

Friday, 9/1

**King County District Court Collection Amnesty Program** allows defendants with traffic or criminal fines in collections to come into their nearest King County District Court and pay those fines without having to pay the collection fees, may allow people to get their license back and drive legally, depending upon whether they have additional fines in other courts, info Tracey Smith, Licensing Coordinator 206-205-0639, for nearest King County District Court location call 206-296-3594.

Monday, 9/4

**Global Economy Working Group** to study and educate others on the impact of IMF, WTO, World bank on people's lives and the environment, this and subsequent 1st Mondays, call to confirm and for time, at St. Mark's Episcopal Church Library, 1245 10th Ave E, info Mary Margaret Pruitt 206-382-3785.

Wednesday, 9/6

**Jobs with Justice Seattle Organizing Committee meeting**, this and subsequent 1st Wednesdays, 5:30 p.m., at Labor Temple, 2800 1st Ave, info 206-441-4969.

Thursday, 9/7

**League of Women Voters Forum**, this and subsequent first Thursdays, 7:30 p.m., at Seattle First Baptist Church, Harvard & Seneca, info 206-329-4848 or [lwvseattle@aol.com](mailto:lwvseattle@aol.com) or <http://www.scn.org/civic/lwvseattle>

Saturday, 9/9

**Support Imprisoned Native American Rights Activist Leonard Peltier**, convicted in a

highly flawed trial, noon, start at First and Yesler by Chief Seattle Statue, Seattle Leonard Peltier Clemency March followed by Rally at Steinbreuck Park, just north of Pike Place Market, info Northwest Leonard Peltier Support Network 253-593-9631 or [NatAimer@aol.com](mailto:NatAimer@aol.com) or [bayou@blarg.net](mailto:bayou@blarg.net) or <http://members.aol.com/TurquoiseW/JusticeforLeonardPeltier>

**World Premiere of "This Is What Democracy Looks Like."** Cut from the footage of over 100 media activists, it provides a scope, and passion that the corporate media cannot rival. It captures the energy of the WTO protests while clarifying their global and historic significance. With a driving soundtrack by Rage Against the Machine, DJ Moosaka, DJ Splice, and Cypher A.D., and with narration by Michael Franti, the show artfully weaves together a moving portrait of a week that changed the world. At the Seattle Art Museum, 100 University St., September 9 & 10, 7 p.m. & 9 p.m. Tickets are \$7-\$20 sliding scale, available at the door or in advance at The Independent Media Center, 1415 3rd Ave., info (206) 262-0721 and Speakeasy Café, 2304 2nd Ave, Seattle. More info at [www.thisisdemocracy.org](http://www.thisisdemocracy.org) or (206) 352-6463.

**Neighbornets! 2000 and U-District "Share Fair"** connect with others interested in sharing resources, skills, housing, rides, interests, needs, and friendship, 1-5 p.m., at Tallmadge Hamilton House, University Senior Activity Center, 5225 15th Ave. NE, free, info <http://www.neighbornets.org> or 206-721-0217 or [habib@thegarden.net](mailto:habib@thegarden.net)

**Join the Nader Caravan 2000!** Follow the caravan all day long as it makes its way through to city blaring music, speakers,

bright signs, and raising awareness both of the Nader campaign of issues bring ignored by those other parties; bring your car, ride your bike, walk on foot; kick-off 11 a.m., at Phinney Ave. N. and 34th N in Fremont.

Sunday, 9/10

**Seattle Peace Concert**, free, collection of canned food for Northwest Harvest, noon - 6 p.m., at Volunteer Park, info <http://www.seapeace.org>

Monday, 9/11

**Tenant Organizing Meeting** sponsored by the Tenants Union, to further tenants rights and support the struggle of tenants to save their housing, this and subsequent 2nd Mondays, 6 - 8 p.m., at the Pike Market Senior Center, 1931 1st Ave, enter at the side door on Virginia St, info 206-722-6848 ext. 102.

**Co-housing Salon** sponsored by Northwest Co-housing, no reservations needed, this and subsequent 2nd Mondays, 6-8 p.m., at Delfino's in University Village, info <http://www.thefoundry.org/cohousing/> or 206-763-2623.

Wednesday, 9/13

**Homestead Community Land Trust open general meeting**, we can help prevent further displacement of lower-income families from our neighborhoods, strengthen our neighborhoods through increased access to home ownership; help government to make the most of our limited housing subsidy funds, this and subsequent 2nd Wednesdays, 7-9 p.m., at 1307 - 13th Ave S, info 206-324-6822.

Ongoing Wednesdays

**Dances of Universal Peace**, 7:30 p.m., at Keystone Church, on Keystone N just north of 50th in Wallingford, info <http://www.teleport.com/~indup/>

Ongoing Saturdays

**Seattle Food Not Bombs** re-distributes free produce to the members of the Yesler Terrace Community Center, Produce to the People, Right On! 10:45 a.m., sort vegetables at noon - 1 p.m., Free Market, at the Yesler Terrace Community Center, 835 E Yesler Way, info 206-985-2247 or [fnb@scn.org](mailto:fnb@scn.org) or <http://www.scn.org/activism/foodnotbombs>

Ongoing Sundays

**Seattle Food Not Bombs** collects food and serves free vegetarian meals to the homeless each & every Sunday, noon - 4 p.m., cook, call for summer location, 5:30 p.m. share dinner at Occidental Park, info 206-985-2247 or [fnb@scn.org](mailto:fnb@scn.org) or <http://www.scn.org/activism/foodnotbombs>

Ongoing Daily

**Call the City Council** at 206-684-8888 and tell them to fund **Services for Homeless People**, not lights on bridges, not studies, and tracking systems. When shelters don't turn people away they will know they have enough of them!

**Studio X**, a new community netcasting facility broadcasting to the world on topics such as politics, homeless issues, youth issues, global issues, police brutality from downtown Seattle between 4 p.m. - 2 a.m. (west coast time) on the Internet at <http://www.microradio.net>, connecting you to 'unmediated' voices from Seattle's social movements including October 22 Coalition, Women's International League for Peace & Freedom, StreetWrites/Real Change, Red Bandanna, People's Assembly, and more, 4 p.m. - 2 a.m., info and to find out how to get your own show call 206-736-1400, please attend our monthly time slot giveaways on second Sundays at 1 p.m. in the Speakeasy Cafe, Backroom, 2304 - 2nd Ave. ■

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## citizens participation project



# Restrict housing subsidies to those who need them

**Issue:** The city wants to give money away to renters who don't need it.

**Background:** The draft Consolidated Plan, which lays out city spending priorities from 2001 to 2004, commits half its rent subsidy dollars to people earning less than 30 percent of the area's median income (median income for a family of four in the Seattle area is \$62,600). Under the current rule, the other half of funds for rent subsidies go to people earning between 30 and 50 percent of this median income. This is designed to help people who would otherwise have to pay more than 30 percent of their income in rent.

Yet under a new rule, the other half would go to everyone else below 80 percent of median income. The city's own research shows that most of these people can already afford the average rental rates.

For example, under the new rule, a four-person family earning \$50,000 could get rental assistance for a two-bedroom apartment, even though the city's own calculations show they most likely wouldn't need it. The average two-bedroom in the area is \$900 a month, which would take up a very manageable 22 percent of this family's yearly income. The city's plan shows households earning \$50,000 a year can in fact afford to pay up to \$1,200 a month in rent.

"This is the first time we've had such a commitment written into the Consolidated Plan," says Bill Rumpf of the city Office of Housing, which drafted the plan with local nonprofit housing developers.

Not only are families earning \$50,000 well-capable of affording the city's current rental market, cushioning their rents will take away money from lower-income families that are truly in need. The city's plan shows that households earning 50 percent of median income, or \$31,000 a year, fall \$120 short a month on the average two-bedroom rental cost. If there aren't even modest subsidies available to help them — if they're having to compete against families that could survive without the subsidies — they will have to take this money from their already strained funds for food, clothing and education.

**Action:** The proposed rent subsidy rule will go to councilmember Peter Steinbrueck's Housing, Human Services, Education and Civil Rights committee on September 13. Call or write Steinbrueck and Priscilla Call at the Office of Housing before this meeting to let them know that rent subsidies for the middle class are not only unnecessary but will ultimately hurt those who are most in need.

Contact for Peter Steinbrueck:  
600 Fourth Avenue  
Seattle, WA 98104-1876  
(206) 684-8804  
Fax (206) 684-8587  
peter.steinbrueck@ci.seattle.wa.us

Contact for Priscilla Call:  
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