

PER

\$1

Feb. 22 - Mar. 7, 2001

Please buy from  
badged vendors only

# Change

Puget Sound's Newspaper of the Poor and Homeless • Volume 8, No. 5

Seattle Public Library

JAN 04 2006

**Inside: Scummy Landlords • Hope for the  
Morrison • Bill Gates Ponies Up • The Turtl •  
Reparations Talk • Life Out on the Fringe**

DAE

FROLICKING TREE FROGS, 2000, DAE GIEVER, COLORED PENCIL AND GEL PENS. GIEVER WORKS, DISPLAYS, AND SELLS HER ART AT THE STREETLIFE GALLERY ON SECOND AVENUE AND BELL STREET DOWNTOWN.

A look at the  
Apartment  
Association of  
Seattle-King  
County  
Part Two of a  
Two-Part Series

## Out of Favor: The landlord lobby, worlds apart from tenants, is losing ground with local officials

By Trevor Griffey

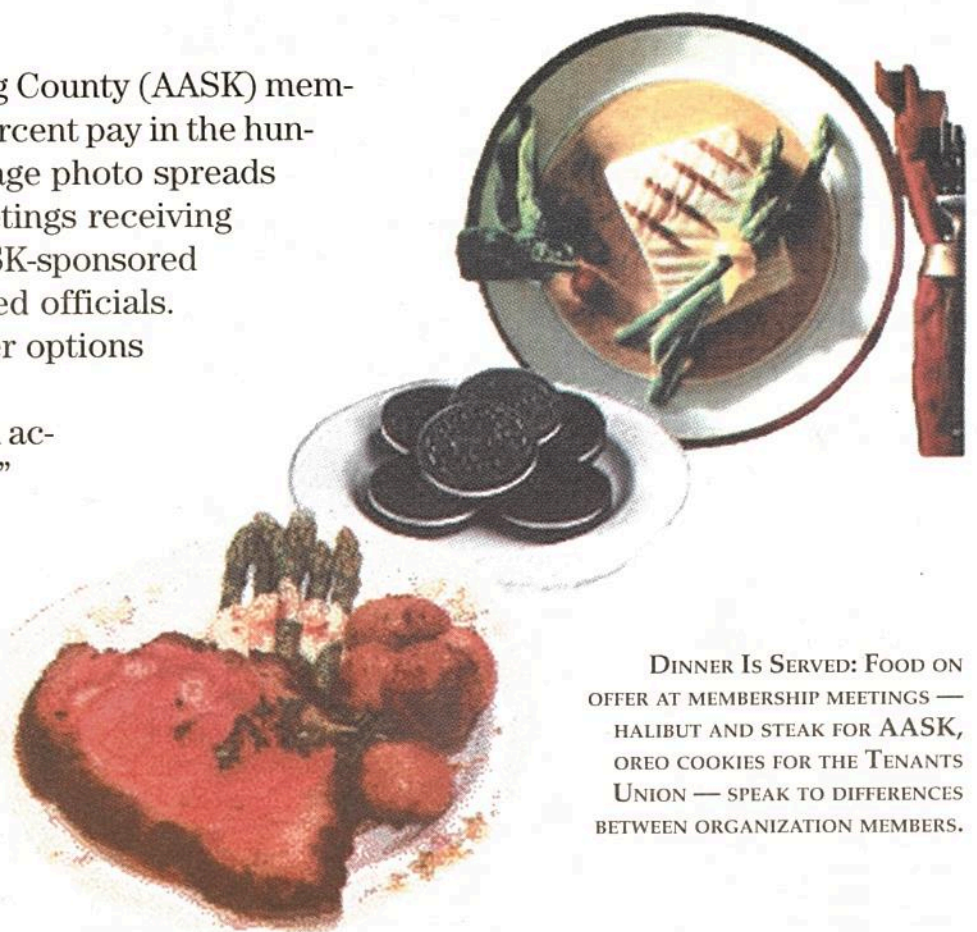
A majority of Apartment Association of Seattle and King County (AASK) members pay \$75 a year for membership, but roughly 30 percent pay in the hundreds of dollars. AASK's newsletters contain multi-page photo spreads of members at various organizational functions — at meetings receiving corporate-sponsored gift baskets and gift certificates, at AASK-sponsored golf tournaments, at elegant dinners, with powerful elected officials. General membership meetings cost \$30 and include dinner options such as "Halibut Mediterranean or Roast Prime Rib."

"The class differences are immense," says Tenants Union activist Scott Winn. "We bring Oreos to our monthly meetings."

While the contrast seems merely anecdotal at first, Seattle City Councilmember Judy Nicastro suggests that class differences have a deeper significance in the realm of power politics.

"Most people in politics are upper middle class," Nicastro says when explaining why landlord associations have more influence in government than tenant groups, "and AASK is upper middle class... and they have money."

*Continued on Page 10*



DINNER IS SERVED: FOOD ON OFFER AT MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS — HALIBUT AND STEAK FOR AASK, OREO COOKIES FOR THE TENANTS UNION — SPEAK TO DIFFERENCES BETWEEN ORGANIZATION MEMBERS.





## Park 'n Sleep

Dear Editor,

Part of the solution to homeless issues and other social problems is multiple use of buildings, facilities, and sites. Too many locations sit dormant after the end of the day. For example, I see many homeless in the doorways and on loading docks (some nestled in for the night as early as 7 p.m.) while at the same time I see many parking garages standing empty from 7 p.m. to 7 a.m. So I ask the not-so-obvious: why not allow the homeless to sleep in empty downtown parking garages? The benefits would be many and who could it hurt?

There are many advantages to this idea. Most importantly, Seattle's homeless would be out of the rain and off the streets. Cement garages are virtually indestructible and fireproof; most are open air, thus not much more than

a daily sweeping/hosing would be required to bring said "sleeping" garage back to parking use. With hours from, say, 9 p.m. to 6 a.m., the participating homeless could get off the streets, get a night's sleep, and still use local missions for clean-up, food, and work. The installation of porta-potties would be as easy as driving a truck up the ramp.

Local homeless agencies could provide security and, yes, the garage owner should be paid a fee for each parking spot "rented" for the night. If required, police, fire, and medics could all access the facility, due to the drive-up ramps.

This idea, while far from ideal, serves as an immediate alternative to unprotected and dangerous homeless haunts now in use. I believe many of the solutions are in front of us, and that a 24-hour, multi-user city is a more attractive and humane place. Don't you agree?

Sincerely,  
Billy King

## The Feelings I Have Inside

We need to pull together as one, try to find our goals, and then try to help each other to reach these goals. We can make this a better place to live if we just pull together. We need to support each other in the things we want to accomplish. We need to find out where we can receive resource sheets and use them to better our lives. But we have to know where to go to receive these resource sheets. We need to believe in each other; if we do that we can make

anything happen with the guidance of our Lord. Believe with me and we can make it happen. We need to want to better our lives for ourselves, and to make a better place for the next generation. They deserve better from us than what we are doing now.

I don't know about the rest of you, but I want my parents to be proud of me. I want to show them that just because they are watching me from above, I still want to do things the right way. I have graduated once already, and I am going to graduate again in three months. I owe all of this to the staff at our shelters for giving me the support that I needed to carry on with my life. They showed me how good I really could be if I really wanted to work to make myself better. They gave me the inspiration to go on with what I want to do for myself.

Now I want to help homeless people to do the same for themselves. I can give them ideas and I can give them a story about what happened to me. Maybe I can help them through the hard situations brought into their lives. This is a hard thing to deal with by yourself. I would like to be there for the people who would like to have someone who has been through it. I would enjoy giving them someone who will listen to what they have to say, and give them feedback. I would like to share my experience with them. It is the Lord above that really has a lot to do with this; all you have to do is ask for help.

I now have my life back together and I feel very proud of it. A lot of my thank yous go to the shelters that have helped me tremendously in getting my life back. I want to help them in any way that I can, whenever they could use help with anything.

Sincerely,  
Donna J. Stout

## Staff, Board & Advisers

### Executive Director

Timothy Harris

### Associate Director, RCHEP

Jan Munger

### Managing Editor

Adam Holdorf

### Production Manager

Molly Rhodes

### Vendor/Volunteer Manager

Megan Farley

### MacWorkshop Coordinator

Matt Crichton, VISTA Volunteer

### Intern

Aubrey Hiers, Cara Moore

### Board of Directors

Wes Browning (VP), Susan Forshey, Carole Frisell (Sec.), Luis Garcia, Jon Gould (Pres.), Marie McCaffrey, Al Poole, Scott Nodland, Robert Siegel, JoJo Tran, Bruce Wirth

### Editorial Committee

Wes Browning, Stan Burris, Anitra Freeman, Michele Marchand

### Contributing Writers

David Bloom, Shauna Curphey, Eric Detzer, Angel Djambazov, Anitra Freeman, Susan Friedrich, Peter Bloch Garcia, Mark Gardner, Rick Giombetti, Brian Goedde, Rahul Gupta, Michael Hood, Matt Lynch, Michele Marchand, Joe Martin, Chris Gordon Owen, Jim Pennington, K. Peterson, Rita Peterson, Janice Price, Emma Quinn, Bob Redmond, John Shaw, Liz Smith, Pappi Tomas, Melissa Wall, Delilah Jean Williams, George Winn, Scott Winn, Brenna Wolf, Kristine Wong

### Photographers

Daniel Caplan, Erik Castro, George Hickey, Sabine Koschorreck, Chris La Roche, Josh Root, Lisa Waldo, Adam L. Weintraub

### Volunteers This Issue

Maria Anderson, Dawn Dearmin, Dunn Devore, Carole Frisell, Josh Graber, Ayumi Hyatsu, Ioan Iltu, Jenny Jacyszyn, Brianna Morgan, Joyce Ng, Chris Gordon Owen, Brian Quinn, Tim Ryan, Joe Stumbo, Kevin Vanderhoef, Jenny Van West, Bruce Wirth

### Advisory Board

Nancy Amidei, U District—University Partnership for Youth

Bob Barnes, King County Rainbow Coalition

David Bloom, Community Activist

Juan Bocanegra, Downtown Human Services Council

Jean Colman, Welfare Rights Organizing Coalition

Walt Crowley, HistoryLink.org

Ishbel Dickens, John Fox, Seattle Displacement Coal.

Curt Firestone, Community Activist

Matthew Fox, Community Activist

Neil Fox, National Lawyer's Guild

Larry Gossett, County Councilmember, Dist. 10

Bill Hallerman, Archdiocesan Housing Authority

Bill Hobson, Downtown Emergency Service Center

Erin Katz, Homelessness Project

Mike Lowry, The Fairness Project

Paola Maranan, The Children's Alliance

Joe Martin, Pike Market Medical Clinic

Camille Monzon, Seattle Indian Center

Lonnie Nelson, Coalition of Labor Union Women

Trisha Ready, The Zine Project

Siobhan Ring, Tenants Union

Mary Robinson-Smith, Denny Regrade Planning Org.

Aiko Schaefer, WA Welfare Reform Coalition

Silja Talvi, Freelance Journalist

Jim Theofelis

Tamara Turner, Radical Women

Velma Veloria, State Representative, 11th District

Harriet Walden, Mothers for Police Accountability

# Change

Puget Sound's Voice of the  
Poor and Homeless

*Real Change* is published every other Thursday and is sold by the poor and homeless of Seattle. Annual subscriptions are available for \$35. All material 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 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.

# Beyond Charity

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. The *Real Change* newspaper is now a project of the Real Change Homeless Empowerment Project, our 501(c)(3) non-profit umbrella, so all donations are tax deductible.

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

NAME _____	
ADDRESS _____	
CITY / STATE / ZIP _____	PHONE _____
<input type="radio"/> Patron · \$100 or more	<input type="radio"/> Member · \$35
<input type="radio"/> Friend · \$50 or more	<input type="radio"/> Supporter · Any amount
<input type="radio"/> Call me about volunteering my time and energy.	
If you donate \$35 or more, please indicate whether you want a subscription mailed to you. <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	
Mail to: <i>Real Change</i> , 2129 2nd Ave, Seattle, WA 98121	



# Future Looks Bright

## Morrison Plan emerges with some wins for homeless residents

By Janice Hougen

**A**fter six long months of meetings, data analyses and financial assessments, heated debates, emotional appeals, and dozens of meetings, the long work of the Morrison Task Force is drawing to an end.

After all this, there appears to be a flicker of hope at the end of the tunnel. I dare say that substantial, real, and positive change could be close at hand for the 205 folks who call the Morrison home.

On February 27, the Task Force's final recommendations will have their debut before the Board of Commissioners of the Seattle Housing Authority, which owns and manages the building. On February 28, they will be presented to the Seattle City Council. These two bodies have the ultimate say on what happens next. They ought to follow along.

Below are the best of the Task Force's conclusions.

### 1. Affirm the building's purpose as permanent housing for the most hard-to-serve homeless clients.

The Task Force is recommending that the current population be maintained and that the current income levels (30 percent or below the area median income) be preserved. In addition, there should be no net loss of units.

This is a huge triumph to have this language put in the final recommendations, considering that only a couple of months ago SHA wanted to relocate tenants to make room for those who did not present the same level of need. The Morrison is the only permanent housing in Seattle that, as a rule, accepts the most challenging homeless clients, most of whom have one or more chronic disabilities. Several people at the table did not see the value of this housing.

### 2. Seek to transfer management and ownership away from SHA.

Secondly, the Task Force is recommending that "assuming any legal and funding barriers are overcome, SHA transfers ownership to a nonprofit [with] the experience and capacity to work with the resident population." For years, many advocates have argued that the building's sale is the only means to enforce positive change. Now it appears that SHA is amenable.

The Task Force would prefer to have the owner and the manager of the Morrison be one entity. The most likely and perhaps most qualified buyer would be Downtown Emergency Service Center, which runs the building's homeless shelter. DESC has a proven record of running quality housing programs and services for similar residents.

### 3. Extinguish all talk of closing the shelter or reducing the number of people it serves.

Perhaps the most troublesome debate in the process was over the fate of DESC's shelter. SHA and other Task Force participants wanted the shelter gone — with no plan to relocate, or fund the same level of beds and services somewhere else. This proposal whipped up an angry firestorm from the community. It also blindsided some of us on the Task Force, who thought our purpose limited to discussing the future of the permanent housing units. In the end, the Task Force recommends that the shelter stay put, continue its work, and maintain the current number of beds.

The financial future of the Morrison may also start looking up. The Task Force is recommending that SHA's \$100,000 annual payment from Morrison revenue to the Seattle Senior Housing Bond Program (SSHP) be resolved in a one-time payment. In subsequent years, this would take a \$100,000 burden off the back of the Morrison's new overseer, freeing up more operating funds. In addition, a three-year, \$100,000 per year grant from HUD should transfer over to the new owner.

The bad news is that too many years of deferred maintenance have taken their toll, and the old building needs as much as \$15 million in work. The heating, vents, electrical, and plumbing systems are unsafe, unhealthy, and require major capital investment. The city, King County, and other entities will have to do this without draining limited funds needed to build new low-income housing.

If not for the vigilance of housing and homeless advocates who have ceaselessly advocated for needed change at the Morrison to ensure the health, safety and wellbeing of its residents, it would be business as usual. If all the above recommendations occur, the Morrison should be a safer, healthier, saner, place for folks to live. That can only benefit us all. But don't just sit back and relax yet... the jury is still out. ■

*Janice Hougen is a member of the Morrison Task Force and co-chair of the Seattle-King County Coalition for the Homeless.*

## Inside:

### Opinion

Future Looks Bright: Homeless wins at Morrison Hotel  
by Janice Hougen ..... 3

### Regular Features

This Just In  
by Bob Redmond ..... 3  
News You Can Use: SHA's plans, Labor Ready's scams  
by Adam Holdorf ..... 4  
Adventures in Poetry  
with Dr. Wes Browning ..... 8  
Notes from the Kitchen: Just in time for dinner  
by Liz Smith ..... 12  
Street Watch  
by Emma Quinn ..... 13  
Seattle Timeline  
from the files of HistoryLink ..... 14  
Classics Corner  
by Timothy Harris ..... 14  
Calendar  
compiled by Kristen Alexander ..... 15

### News

Sound Start: Gates Foundation makes first housing grants  
by Molly Rhodes ..... 5  
Policy Watch: State budget, Housing Trust Fund, childcare  
by Nancy Amidei ..... 5  
Repairing the Harm: Reversing the legacy of slavery  
by Adam Holdorf ..... 6

### Features

Out of Favor: Landlord lobby loses ground  
by Trevor Griffey ..... 1  
Diner Delight: The Turf can still please  
by Adam Holdorf ..... 7  
Fringe Fantastic: 90 theatre companies on Capitol Hill.....7

### Poetry

Insights and surprises from Patrick Bissell, Stan Burriss, Jim Page,  
Liz Smith, Earle Thompson ..... 8-9

### Activism

Citizens Participation Project ..... 16



**S**now fell from the sky in the Seattle area last Friday, covering the entire region in a cloak of quiet white. Many people took the day off and scooped the snow into balls or pushed it back and forth across their walkways. If you walked as much as 15 or 20 feet, your shoes might be dusted with it, in which case a quick brush up with a horse-hair or oxtail brush and a thin application of shoe polish can repair any damage. Walgreen's has a sale right now on selected varieties of Kiwi brand shoe polish and other fine shoe care products.

From Kent to Bothell there was 1/4 inch of slush on the roads, aggravating drivers and pigeons, whose feet are so delicate and strange, with the three little pink toes in front and the one in back.

Kids were much more gleeful, scraping the stuff from their yards and making snow men or forts. The region recorded a total of 19/32 of an inch, with the equivalent of 8 foot pounds of pressure and a total mass of one-half ton.

Snow, as many people know, is a Native-American heritage food. Another little known fact about snow: as it descends, it changes shape, so that if it starts out as, for instance, the shape of a duck, it might end quite a different shape — like that of a star.

Also, the United States and Great Britain bombed Iraq. ■

—Bob Redmond



## Yesler's future

First, there were no plans. Then, it was 10 years away. Now, says Yesler Terrace resident Kristin O'Donnell, redevelopment of her home may happen much sooner than she's comfortable with.

Seattle Housing Authority Commissioner Harry Thomas sent O'Donnell and the rest of SHA's 1,200 Yesler Terrace residents notice that SHA's "long-term goal is to redevelop Yesler Terrace into a new, mixed-income community" within three years.

It would follow on the heels of big redevelopment at the Holly Park, Rainier Vista, and High Point public housing projects. SHA spokeswoman Virginia Felton says Yesler Terrace, on the rise above Pioneer Square, will probably go through a more gradual facelift. Instead of the wholesale demolition, street-realignment and reconstruction of Holly Park, 25 or 30 units may be renovated at a time. And SHA says it won't have a plan until 2003.

What's happening before then? SHA needs the housing. Early next year, it will begin relocating residents from the 481-unit Rainier Vista complex out to



YESLER TERRACE COULD GET A NEW DESIGN WITHIN THE NEXT THREE YEARS. PHOTO COURTESY OF SHA.

Yesler Terrace and other properties. Demolition is expected to begin next January. Construction at High Point will begin in 2003. Yesler Terrace and SHA's other properties will house these tenants, while renovation lasts about five years.

Another reason: the federal Department of Housing and Urban Development money that fueled prior redevelopments might not be around in the coming years, says Felton. Since Holly Park's redevelopment in 1996, SHA has gotten HOPE VI

grants to redevelop Rainier Vista (\$35million), Roxbury Village (\$17 million), and High Point (\$35 million). SHA is uncertain whether a Republican-led executive office will continue to make these funds available.

An aide to City Councilmember Peter Steinbrueck attended a February 14 community meeting, where SHA Commissioner Thomas assured residents that they'd be kept abreast of plans. The aide says Steinbrueck wants to see residents involved in the planning process, and he wants to ensure no loss of low-income housing at the site.

O'Donnell, past president of the Yesler Terrace Community Council, says she wants any development to provide for those still on SHA's waiting list. She doubts whether SHA's planning process will remain low-key. "The official line is, 'You shouldn't upset people before anything's decided,'" she said. But the planning timeline looms. "They say they have no plans. In planner talk, I think that just means the blueprints aren't ready yet." ■

—Adam Holdorf

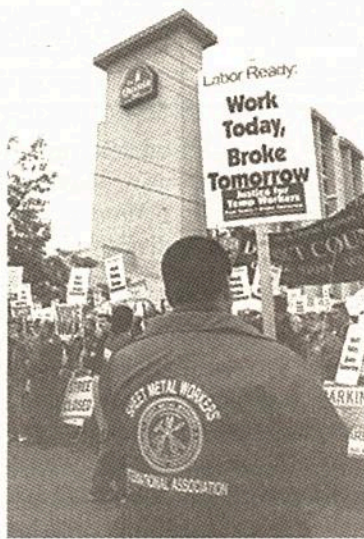
## Labor Ready under fire

Unjust ATM fees, low Worker's Comp payments, unpaid hours worked... these days, Labor Ready's taking it on the chin, in the stomach, and against the knees.

Oakland construction workers are the latest to file a class action lawsuit against Labor Ready, the Tacoma-based temporary employer that's also undergoing a class action suit in Georgia and a state audit here in Washington.

The Oakland suit seeks payment for workers' time dispatched to a job site, plus time spent waiting at the Labor Ready office for their daily assignments. Company policy doesn't start the clock until its workers have reached the job site. Workers arrive at the Labor Ready dispatch center around 5 a.m., wait for an assignment, spend hours traveling back and forth to the job site, and come back for their paycheck.

California law requires employers to pay time-and-a-half to anyone working more than eight hours a day. The suit contends that virtually anyone who's worked for Labor Ready in California over the last four years is eligible for back pay.



A RALLY IN OCTOBER TO IMPROVE LABOR READY WORKING CONDITIONS. PHOTO COURTESY OF MIKE BLAIN AT POWERUP MEDIA.



The Washington state Department of Labor and Industries (DOLI) is nearly finished preparing an audit inquiring into Labor Ready's workers compensation payments. The AFL-CIO documented that in 1998, Labor Ready classified nearly half of its workforce as clerical "office services" workers. The classification allowed the company to pay DOLI \$2 to \$5 million less than would have been required for an employer of manual laborers. If the audit finds that Labor Ready underpaid its workers comp insurance, the state could order back payment, penalties, and fines.

Meanwhile, the company practice of providing ATMs that assess fees of \$1-\$2 to get their pay from cash machines is being challenged via class-action suits in California, Georgia, and New York. Each suit is being launched by the national headquarters of the Building and Construction Trades Department, AFL-CIO. ■

—Adam Holdorf

## Hospital help

Washington hospitals are required to subsidize costs for low-income patients seeking health care. When patients hit financial straits to pay their medical bills, they can petition the hospital for relief. Yet half of the 17 non-profit hospitals in King County fail to tell their patients of the so-called "charity care" policy.

This according to health care advocacy group Washington Citizen Action, which has met with numerous patients who were never informed of the financial assistance. WCA is in negotiations with two Seattle hospitals to clarify their policies.

One important element in the charity care law is its debt relief provision. Eligible patients can get the debt collectors to stop pursuing them. And they can apply for relief at any time — even after paying their bills, when, if the hospital accepts their application, they will be reimbursed. ■

—Adam Holdorf

## Penney-wise, pound-foolish

The department stores have all polished off last year's inventory with those giant after-Christmas sales. What happens to the leftover clothing? Some of it is donated. Some goes to the shredder or the incinerator.

A J.C. Penney's employee told *Real Change* that when she asked what happens to clothing after a sale, her manager replied, "We burn it."



J.C. PENNEY, COMING TO A MALL, BUT NOT A CHARITY STORE, NEAR YOU.

Inquiring into the store's official policy, we learned that while "99.9 percent of the clothing sells," the Northgate Mall J.C. Penney store manager says whatever's left over gets carted off to a Tukwila warehouse. Its fate depends, as usual, on corporate headquarters' policy.

When contacted at the Plano, Texas, Penney's headquarters, company spokesperson Stephanie Brown says one of three things happens to leftover clothing: it's returned to the brand-name supplier, sold to a liquidator, or destroyed. Company policy prohibits donations to charity.

"You have got to be kidding me," responds Angela Toussaint, director of Dress for Success Seattle, which provides appropriate clothing for women to wear to job interviews. Toussaint's organization dresses about a dozen women per week; she says they would gladly take such clothing. She also has an answer to corporate concerns about donated clothing being returned for money: Dress for Success simply removes the brand-name tags.

Redmond-based clothing maker Eddie Bauer has a policy of destroying clothing returned by its customers, only if the item can't be sold again. Often, company spokesperson Lurma Rackley says, Eddie Bauer sends returned clothing to local charities. Rackley stated the company policy in response to a California customer who was told that a returned garment would be "shredded."

In completely unrelated news, a December 2000 federal Department of Labor report documented routine violations of workers' rights at a garment factory in American Samoa, where 300 mostly female Vietnamese workers were beaten, paid less than the \$2.60-per-hour minimum wage, and fed a watery porridge of rice and cabbage. "This was one of the worst sweatshop cases I've seen in 15 years," a New York-based labor rights activist told the *New York Times*. The factory made clothing for J.C. Penney. ■

—Adam Holdorf

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



# Sound Start

## Gates Foundation program makes first housing grants

By Molly Rhodes

**N**inety-three homeless families will find themselves in temporary homes within the next two years, thanks in part to \$1.7 million in grants from the privately funded Sound Families program.

The Gates Foundation started this program last summer with \$40 million, the largest-ever private donation to help combat homelessness. The money will help double the Puget Sound's amount of transitional housing. Within the next three years, the program aims to add another 1,560 transitional units, as well as provide funding for tenant support services such as job training, counseling, and daycare.

The new transitional units — where families are expected to stay approximately two years in the effort to move from homelessness to permanent housing — are hoped to provide much-needed relief to over-crowded emergency shelters. Last year, homeless people living in Washington were refused shelter 139,290 times; 63,000 of those times were in King County alone, and over half of those refused were women and children, according to the state's Emergency Shelter Assistance Program.

Out of 10 organizations that applied, the successful grants and projects included the following:

- \$735,850 for the Low Income Housing Institute to build 15 units of transitional housing in a 51-unit Meadowbrook View complex in Seattle, complete with services such as food banks, daycare, and medical and employment services provided by the Seattle Emergency Housing Services;
- \$406,135 for the Hearing, Speech and Deafness Center to provide 10 transitional housing units in the new, 96-unit Views at Madison in Seattle, complete with services for families with disabilities provided by the Department of Vocational Rehabilitation;
- \$290,000 for Vision House to build a home in Renton for 12 families of single mothers and their newborns, with services provided by Vision House;
- \$189,000 for Housing Hope to build transitional housing for eight young mothers or pregnant women in Everett, along with an educational system called The College of Hope, designed to teach both work and parenting skills;
- \$113,700 for St. Stephen's Housing Association to build 12 transitional units for low-income families in Auburn, in partnership with Catholic Community Services and developer Common Ground.

All of the projects approved in this first round of grant awards were chosen

because they were already significantly underway, with building design and most other funding in place, if not building permits already in hand, explained Seattle's Office of Housing coordinator for Sound Families, Paul Carlson.

The Office of Housing — the largest single provider of grants for low-income and transitional housing in the region, thanks in large part to the Seattle housing levy — is coordinating the distribution of the money. To do so, the Office of Housing has reallocated roughly \$120,000 from its existing budget to put towards funding Carlson's and other staffers' work.

Sound Families has taken care to make sure its money is distributed across the entire Puget Sound region. Government officials and service providers from King, Snohomish, and Pierce counties, as well as Everett, Tacoma, and Seattle, have come together to review the projects and then provide recommendations to the Gates Foundation, which makes the ultimate funding decisions.

However, even with Gates Foundation money, the developers still have to come up with 80 percent of the rest of the cost of building or renovating the

new transitional units. Vision House, for example, has more than 30 additional sponsors, including several churches, the Boeing Company, the Windermere Foundation, and the Medina Foundation.

In addition, the money provided by the Sound Families program for ser-

vices — a maximum of \$1,500 per unit over three years — goes only a small way in providing the kinds of extensive help these families need. All of the projects approved this round requested and received the maximum amount of service funding for each of their units. But of the \$1.7 million given, only \$405,000 will be used toward this end. This limit is compounded by the fact that funds for services are much scarcer than funds for buildings.

Yet the commitment of the Gates Foundation should hopefully inspire other private

sources to step up, noted Seattle Mayor Paul Schell at the press conference announcing the awards February 12.

"We have the talent and the resources," he said. "We need the commitment and the will." ■


**Last year, homeless people living in Washington were refused shelter 139,290 times; 63,000 of those times were in King County alone, and over half of those refused were women and children, according to the state's Emergency Shelter Assistance Program.**

# Policy Watch

By Nancy Amidei

**J**ust in case you think legislators go to Olympia and sit around all day, consider this.

In the first six weeks of the 2001 session, 1,063 bills were introduced in the Senate, and 1,133 bills had been introduced in the House of Representatives. (About half of those are Senate and House versions of the same bill). To survive, bills must be heard, taken up in Executive Session, and voted out of their respective policy committees by February 27 (House) and February 28 (Senate). If a bill you care about is not scheduled for action in Week Seven, call the relevant Committee members and urge them to take action.

 **Long-term Care:** Two bills to improve the quality of long-term care provided by the state (HB 1637 and HB 1576) as well as two bills aimed at ensuring affordable prescription drugs (HB 1319 and SB 5026) remain in committee with no scheduled action.



**Childcare:** A bill to begin a comprehensive, research-based plan to expand childcare services to homeless families and opportunities for parents, SB 5536, has yet to be heard in the Senate Human Services and Correction committee. State Schools Superintendent Teresa Bergeson requested \$1.7 million in the state budget to help schools pay for breakfast for low-income children.



**Civil Rights:** A bill to expand the jurisdiction of the Human Right Commission to include sexual orientation discrimination has no action scheduled.



**Disabilities:** A joint bill to continue health care coverage and support services for people with disabilities (HB 1390/SB 5423) has no action scheduled in the house, and has yet to leave the Senate Ways and Means Committee. HB 1513, which would provide funding

to DSHS to help special education graduates become gainfully employed has no action scheduled.



**Housing/Homelessness:** SB 5784 would return to tenants their money from interest on their deposits; this bill could be heard in Executive Session. However, a number of bills designed to raise the Real Estate Excise Tax to help local governments create more housing (HB 1790/SB 5659, SB 5918) have yet to make it out of committee.



**Housing Trust Fund:** The state's Housing Trust Fund has a solid record of creating and preserving low-income housing. Tens of thousands of families have benefited from the Trust Fund in the past decade; more than \$1.2 billion in additional funds have been leveraged. For every \$1 of trust fund money, another \$4 are raised from other lenders. The Governor's proposed budget cuts the Housing Trust Fund from its current level of \$78 million to just \$63 million. Additional funds would create or preserve homes for nearly 1,400 households.



**Mental Health:** SB 5271, which would require health carriers to cover, pay for, contract for, or reimburse

for diagnosis and treatment of a broad range of mental disorders, has no action scheduled.



**Welfare:** The Wheels to Work bill to create a transportation system for TANF recipients, SB 5031, has no action scheduled but is eligible for a possible Executive Session next week. HB 1144, allowing new mothers to be exempt from the work requirements in WorkFirst until their youngest child is one year old, has not left the House Committee on Children and Family Services and has nothing scheduled.



**Budget:** Among the human services programs slated for elimination in the budget proposed by the Governor are the education for people recovering from substance abuse, adult dental care and vision services, and 450 beds in state hospitals for mentally ill people.

Information on these and other matters can be tracked on various state web sites, such as the state legislature's web site: <http://www.leg.wa.gov>. ■

*Nancy Amidei is on the faculty of the University of Washington School of Social Work. Policy Watch is Amidei's weekly bulletin about legislative issues and events, available at the School of Social Work website (<http://weber.u.washington.edu/~sswweb/>).*



# Repairing the Harm

## Black-Jewish coalition calls for reversing the legacy of slavery

Interview by Adam Holdorf

In magazines, in books and newspapers, scholars and intellectuals are taking up the topic of reparations to African Americans for the historical effects of slavery and racial discrimination. Seattle's 1,000-member African American Jewish Coalition for Justice has launched a campaign to educate people about the legal case for reparations. Coalition co-chairs Jerry Saltzman, a practicing psychiatrist, and Thaddeus Spratlen, a University of Washington Business School professor, are the coalition's spokespersons. They told *Real Change* about their nascent campaign.

**Real Change:** Tell me a little bit about the concept of reparations. How is it different from affirmative action?

**Thaddeus Spratlen:** Affirmative action was aimed at creating opportunities for those who had been limited in some way. With reparations, you're asking institutions of society — whether it's government or whether it be business — to redress what has been denied to, or taken from, the descendants of slaves. It's a way of making restitution, rather than just creating opportunities.

**Jerry Saltzman:** In my own opinion, you have to look at reparations as not a Black issue, but an issue for society. You can not undo what you have done. You can not make up for what you have done, but you can help people heal and rejuvenate themselves. Look at the root meaning of the word reparations: "to repair." In psychological terms, you cannot live well with other people unless you repair the damage you have done to your relationships. People's openness and trust is limited in a society that has developed at the expense of a certain group.

A huge amount of wealth in this country comes from the stolen labor of kidnapped Africans and their descendants — and stolen land from Native inhabitants. When we as a society flourish on the basis of that theft, and have not addressed what has happened to those people, and blame them for their difficulties, we cannot live well. We have to go through a tremendous denial process, because if we really paid attention to what's real, it would be overwhelming. Just talking about reparations is an exercise in spiritual education, and a wonderful way of helping undo racism.

**RC:** Where would reparations come from?

**Spratlen:** One way to look at the issue is to think of all the business tax revenue paid to the U.S. government. There was never any payment made for the labor component of slave-owning businesses. When you exclude a large part of the value of the labor component, then government amassed benefits over a long period of time.

**RC:** What do you think of the counter-arguments — that viewing people as property was morally acceptable back then? Or that this was so long ago that it's impossible to address now?

**Saltzman:** That's not in line with the principles of justice. Back then, there were people who objected to slavery, even though there were slave holders. Some in the United States during World War II knew what was going on [in German concentration camps], and refused to do anything about it. There's something about capitalism, creed, and racism that makes people shut their eyes and act in complicity with what's wrong.

**Spratlen:** It is true that Jews and Japanese Americans were compensated relatively quickly after World War II — in time to pay many of the survivors of the camps. We're talking about descendants of victims 400 years back. But the harm did not stop after one generation. There's no statute of limitations on these kinds of injustices. Neither can you say, "Well, we didn't take care of this in 1865; whoops; it's too late now to ever do anything."

**RC:** How would reparations be distributed?

**Spratlen:** I don't get into any prescription as to exactly the best way of doing it — except that we need to address inequities in health, in the [criminal justice] system, in business. You will have to have a pretty extended debate about how to execute this.

The broadest way would be by investing in institutions. Or, you could do it on an individual basis, [deciding] what each individual descendant would be entitled to. That has more difficulties associated with it — you're talking maybe upwards of 40 million [potential recipients] now. And if you concentrate on individual payments, you could end up diluting the capacity to make structural change.

**RC:** Randall Robinson, the author of *The Debt*, said that when African Americans become middle-class, they are discouraged from talking about reparations. Do they have something to lose by bringing this up?

**Spratlen:** Some African Americans oppose affirmative action, on the grounds that it undermines and devalues their individual accomplishments. I think people are internalizing racism and disregarding history when they say that.

It's a combination of not really being able to approach the pain and the reality of it, and then buying into the notion that this is a divisive subject.

African Americans are the only group that has not received any consideration for redress. The movement for reparations would educate all people about the unjust enrichment, about the privileges that are sustained, and hopefully get everyone to understand. Just think of how society would benefit, if the number of African-American children living in poverty was no greater than that of children [of other races]. What quality of life would exist if we didn't have this situation?

**RC:** When Robinson spoke in Seattle in December, he said reparations should benefit that portion of the Black community that's been left behind, and that he would also contribute. What does that mean?

**Spratlen:** He means that the taxpaying public should pay. That's why I shy away from talking about [payments to individuals]. Because then you say, "You mean to tell me the government should cut a check to Magic Johnson?" Even if you were to make a case that Magic should be 10 times richer than he is, that takes the weight off what needs to happen in order to repair. Those Blacks of means, who have the capacity, would be making a contribution too.

**Saltzman:** Look at a parallel case. Over the last 20 years, survivors of incest and child abuse have come out and spoken. There have been certain cases where there's some restitution, but at least they got to speak their piece and got acknowledgment that their struggle has worth.

Whether every African American gets money or aid for health or not isn't really the issue. Some may not need it. But you know what every African American does need? Just as every Jewish person needs? A recognition that the stuff that was done to us was not because there was something wrong with us — that we were disgusting or obnoxious or something. They need to have people acknowledge their inherent worth and potential. Just as the survivor of incest needs that to go on, so do people who have been blamed for their problems because of racism.

This was especially important, in my opinion, for Jews at the end of the Holocaust. A lot of people said you shouldn't give reparations because it cheapens lives. I disagree. I think the message was, "You have been vilified, and on the basis of that vilification you have almost been exterminated. That vilification is a lie." ■

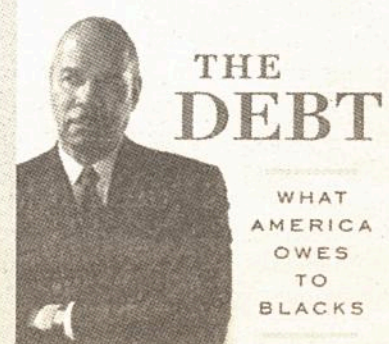
To get involved, call the African American Jewish Coalition for Justice at (206)781-6654.

## Did you know?

**Broken promise:** At the end of the Civil War, U.S. Army Special Field Order No. 15 designated a 30-mile strip of the entire southern Atlantic coastline for settlement by ex-slaves. African Americans were allowed 40 acres each. President Andrew Johnson withdrew the order that same year, and 40,000 settlers were forced off.

**Cases past:** Cornelius J. Jones's 1911 lawsuit sought \$68 million in unpaid wages for former slaves. Jones sued the federal Treasury, arguing that the U.S. government had appropriated these millions through a tax on raw cotton. A federal appeals court dismissed the case on the grounds that the government could not be sued without its consent; it never responded to Jones's challenge.

## RANDALL ROBINSON



ONE OF THE RECENT BOOKS ON THE NEED FOR REPARATIONS

**The precedent:** The Civil Liberties Act of 1988 acknowledged the government's wrongdoing against Japanese American internees during World War II. The Civil Liberties Act pays compensation to surviving internees and their next of kin.

**Black earnings, white wealth:** Up until the 1950s, racial discrimination in mortgage lending prevented thousands of Black families from owning their homes. By the time the Federal Housing Authority ended its policy of subsidizing mortgages subject to racially restrictive covenants, thousands of Black families had already missed out on millions of dollars. The current generation of Blacks is missing out on an estimated \$82 billion in equity due to these racist policies of the past.

The average Black white-collar worker has zero financial assets compared to their white counterparts, who on average hold nearly \$12,000 in net financial assets. Disproportionately dependent on its earnings to maintain its status, an average Black middle-class family could survive an economic crisis such as losing a job, for a relatively short time. ■

**Sources:** Howard Zinn's *A People's History of the United States*; Randall Robinson's *The Debt: What America Owes to Blacks*; Robert Westley's "Many Billions Gone: Is it Time to Reconsider the Case for Black Reparations?" published in the *Boston College Law Review* (1998).



# Diner Delight

## The Turf can still please

By Adam Holdorf

Two public amenities, pay phones and cash machines, are going the way of the dinosaur.

I heard the other night on the radio that the number of public phones in the United States has dropped 15 percent in the last three years. If you've got a

cell phone, no need to stand before the old coin-operated contraptions. Some have fallen casualty to the war against so-called broken windows: so-called Urban Pioneers say it just helps the druggies make their deals. As for ATM machines — well, the Pioneers argue,

who uses cash these days?

The Turf Restaurant and Smoke Shop, 10 blocks north of the upscaled Square, has both pay phones and ATMs. The Turf is another member of that endangered species: the diner. A place with comfortable seats and cheap, old-fashioned food. Time has darkened two letters of its big neon sign, christening the place "U F." Across the street, next to one of the few remaining Pike Street porn shops, is Lib rty Lo ns, next to A e Gro ery. In their dereliction, these signs advertise something else: this block is The Blade, the grain of grit in downtown's gleaming eye.

Here on the Blade, the Seattle's Best Coffee cafe tables are tidily encaged, a small sign bars pedestrians from setting a spell on the cold wrought-iron chairs. It seems to be a rule of thumb: the fancier the drink, the less comfortable the seat.

Anyway, we are tired of lattes. We don't want paper cups. We want a coffee pot continuously circling the room in the hand of a kindly lady. We want lightly browned toast, sliced thin, slathered with salty butter. We want to be able to select a Grilled Cheese Sandwich. Sometimes, it's nice to have someone else make your grilled cheese. It reminds you of Mom's years of hard work.

If you feel the same, venture down to Pike Street, settle into one of The Turf's throne-like vinyl booths, and sing out for coffee.

Certified old-timer Joe Martin guards the lore of The Turf's salad days. In a memorial to former owner Pat Altshuler, he wrote that "for many elderly individuals, working people, professionals, and those with little or no money who lived or worked down-

town, the Turf was an eatery, a watering hole, and a gathering spot. Street folks, cops, and everyone in between were welcome."

You'll find it basically the same — still one of the few places in the whole of downtown where poor people find a comfortable berth. The waitress is not a gum-smacking white woman wearing rhinestone glasses, but a kindly Korean lady. In the grand tradition of truck-stop etiquette, she still calls her customers "Hon." The cops still come in. On a recent afternoon, a man who journeys up from his apartment in the International District browsed the local news over a cup of continuously refilled coffee.

The Number Two breakfast promises two strips of bacon, an egg, hash browns, and toast. The bacon was too dry, the scrambled eggs too greasy, but the hash browns — shredded, well-salted, and crispy on the outside — were just right. And the toast, thin and with the aforementioned salty butter, sopped up the leftover juices just fine. At \$3.99, the price is right. If you're up for lunch, the reuben was quite good. And even though it's comforting to have grilled cheese, we thought \$2.99 a little high for two slices of bread, American cheese, and a pickle on the side.

Perhaps you have some cash left over for pie. The Banana Cream (\$2.00) is wonderfully cool and calming, with whole chunks of potassium-giving goodness infused in the filling, and a really decent crumbly crust. The coffee, just a dollar for what seems a bottomless cup, goes wonderfully with pie. You get free refills on the thick hot chocolate, too. Sit back, pore over the newspaper, and keep your cup at the ready. ■

PHOTO BY LISA WALDO.

## Fringe Fantastic

More than 90 companies descend on Capitol Hill for the 11th annual Seattle Fringe Theatre Festival

Once a literal, last-minute gathering of like-minded, small-budgeted artistic thespians and their friends, the festival has grown into a local juggernaut of a theatrical showcase for smaller, burgeoning theatre companies from western Washington and around the world. From March 8 to March 18, from noon to late, you can see everything from naked people (some with reasons, others just because) to fire-dancing to thought-provoking verse.

The following is a list of some of the shows on offer during the festival. For

a complete list, you can visit the festival website at [www.seattlefringe.org](http://www.seattlefringe.org).

● *Spare Change*, by Pauline Luppert — An original satire about advertising, feminine hygiene, astral projection, Super Bowl mania, and homelessness, guaranteed to "certify your understanding of homeless culture." Chamber Theater in Odd Fellows Hall, 3/8 at 7:30 p.m., 3/10 at 2 p.m., 3/11 at 10:30 p.m., 3/12 at 6 p.m., 3/13 at 9:30 p.m., 3/17 at 8:30 p.m.

● *The One Man Revolution*, by Llwyd de Void — As a socialist/ atheist doing time in solitary confinement for his re-

fusal to register for the draft in WWI, Ammon Hennacy came across the Sermon on the Mount and became a Christian Anarchist. Fusion Dance Theatre, 3/9, 3/10, 3/16, and 3/17 at 8 p.m., 3/11 and 3/18 at 2 p.m., admission by donation, no advance tickets.

● *Me and the SLA*, by Mona Mansour — A multimedia, one-girl comedy about urban guerillas, a kidnapped heirless, and the woman who loves them.

Union Garage, 3/9 at 7:45 p.m., 3/11 at 3:30 p.m., 3/16 at 9:30 p.m., 3/17 at 6:45 p.m., 3/18 at 5 p.m.

● *Burt (or When I Was Five I Killed Myself)*, by Teddi Yaeger — Institutionalized at the age of eight, Burt Rembrandt is being detained for what he did to his classmate Jessica. NW Actors Studio, 3/9 at 7:30 p.m., 3/10 at 1:15 p.m., 3/11 at 7 p.m., 3/13 at 6 p.m., 3/17 at 12 p.m., 3/18 at 4:15 p.m. ■

### 411 on Seattle Fringe Festival

When: March 8 to March 18

Where: Broadway/Pike/Pine area of Capitol Hill

Tickets: On sale March 3rd at the Broadway Performance Hall, from noon to 8 p.m.; box office phone, starting March 3rd, at (206) 322-2018; advance single ticket sales available now at Ticket Window, (206) 325-6500, or online at [www.seattlefringe.org](http://www.seattlefringe.org)

Cost: \$12 per show, or \$10 per show with one-time purchase of \$2 Fringe Festival button. \$40 for five-show pass; \$150 for all-fest pass.

OUT OF THE MAINSTREAM

NEW & USED RECORDS, TAPES, CDs

**WALLOF SOUND**

MODERN ECLECTIC & WORLD MUSIC

2237 SECOND AVE (AT BELL) 441-9880

OPEN 7 DAYS • LISTEN BEFORE YOU BUY

**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)

Advertise in  
*Real Change*.  
It's a great  
deal for a  
great cause.

Call  
441-8847



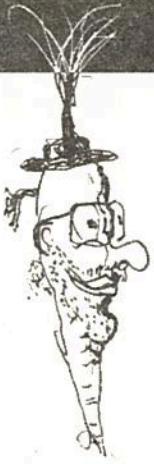
Abintra Wellness Center  
206-522-9384

**Jerry Chroman**  
L.M.T.

Trager™ • Shiatsu  
Swedish and Sports Massage  
CranioSacral Therapy™  
Autogenic Training  
\$5 off with this ad.

438 N.E. 72nd, Seattle 98115  
Near Green Lake





## Adventures in Poetry with ©Dr. Wes Browning

**T**oday I want to use words to talk about names. What's in a name? Willy Shakespeare answered with something to the effect that a rose by any other name would smell as sweet. A lot of people think that's the ultimate answer.

Balderdash! In the first place, the question was, "What's in a name?" — not "What's a rose?" In another place, Willy himself knew perfectly well there was more to it than that. He went right on ahead in the same play to make a case for the opposition. He clearly indicated that he was

inclined to believe that, while sweet smelliness sticks permanently to roses however named, if a Romeo Montague were to change his name to, say, Watson Whittaker, he'd get beat up by his cousins whether he married that girl or not. Names do so matter.

It has been demonstrated scientifically that even when collected into conferences and given little individual cards to pin on their shirts, and an indelible marker, scientists can't completely explain why names, such as "Montague," are different from words, such as "rose." But I believe the answer may involve the reptilian brain, the difference between the sacred and the profane, and Dicks Nixon, Clark, Cheney, etc.

Whatever the difference, it is now known that there is one. If your first pet dog was Blacky and you go around calling all dogs Blacky, people will call you Dingy. And rightly so.

Once we understand that names and words are different, we begin to understand why people might like to change names on occasion.

**We want to be able to declare bankruptcy if necessary, change names, and, "Make a new life for ourselves."**

For example, Amazon.com might want to change its name to Prosperity.com or Cornucopia.com or Nodotcom.com, on the theory that people might forget that unfortunate NASDAQ turn of events.

What the hell is a Verizon? When you ask that kind of question you betray ignorance of the

difference I am picking at. Verizon is just the new improved name of GTE, a name that escapes all the ugly associations that the old name has, like the association that everybody had learned to think "corporate weasels" when they heard "GTE". But you don't think "corporate weasels" when you hear "Verizon." Not yet. Instead you think, "What the hell is a Verizon?"

Similarly, the name US West served the function of a name, not a word. It helped the rest of us to identify that specific thing that screwed up our phone billing all the time. If the Internet connection went down exactly in the middle of our composing of our 500-page treatise on the relationship of the fluctuations in the perfume market to the practice of personal bathing in Europe, we could relieve our tension by uttering a curse upon the house of US West, a particular corporation, a legal body, near-person, and receptacle of a name.

US West heard those curses. That's why they are no longer US West, but the as yet not-so-cursed Qwest.

Here we arrive at a crucial distinction between names and words. Names can be cursed. Names accumulate curses. Names attach to persons and to entities perceived as persons, and they collect the feelings we have for those entities.

How cursed can a name become? Ask Seattle Housing Authority. But don't call them that when you ask them. Call them PorchLight. Or don't ask them. Ask anybody else. Typical reaction to hearing the name "Seattle Housing Authority" — "Boo." Typical reaction to hearing the name "PorchLight" — "Huh?"

It's part of the American Way. The accursed change their names and they expect everyone to forget the old names. And we do, because we want to reserve the same right for ourselves. We want to be able to declare bankruptcy if necessary, change names, get all new credit cards, move to the next great "growth center" (Houston, the last I heard), and start a new career, or as we put it, "Make a new life for ourselves."

It's only possible if everyone agrees to let it be possible. So it has to be part of the social contract.

What I'm getting at is, some day I could put ©Doctor Wes Browning away and start calling myself something like Flash Weston or the Artist Formerly Known as Wes, and this being America I could probably pull it off, even without incorporating. And rightly so. ■

## Sea Grass Waits for Our Arrival

visionaries are in all walks of life  
we share the secrets of the sun  
the light our beacon  
the darkness our trowel  
we weed the garden  
we tend the flowers  
we rise to the occasion  
and greet the Sun  
we sprinkle Seasons  
applying them like chives to a baked potato  
already saturated in the creams of butter  
we marinate our dreams in sour cream  
we fall victim to dinner  
the dinner which brings us out of our houses  
we sit high in the banquet's Chair  
we feed like it is the original sin  
we share graces with strangers  
we rise and smile, and pay our bill  
we bow out gently and leave a good tip  
we are witness to sparks,  
and shooting trails of light  
they ignite,  
and the sheen is that of a knife  
we glower like the eyes from Hell itself  
we sift like arrows in the sand  
the Fence of Sea Grass that waits for our arrival

— PATRICK BISSELL

## Lessons

She listens to cottonwood leaves mine gold  
afternoon sun creating blotches of orange.

She rests on glistening rail  
talking with her boys.

"When you're walking along the railroad tracks  
you can, sometimes, find Indian potatoes."

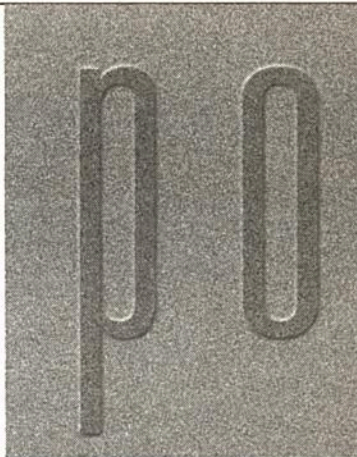
She sits with bare feet  
tucked under her  
sirling dress.

"Also, if you wish to use sage  
I can teach you how to cleanse, or cure yourself."

Truck hauling apples passes, their heads turn  
to the gravel road.

Listening to the collapse of their words brushing  
against the stained bone-coloured bar.

—EARLE THOMPSON



tur

Thei

M

as ou

w

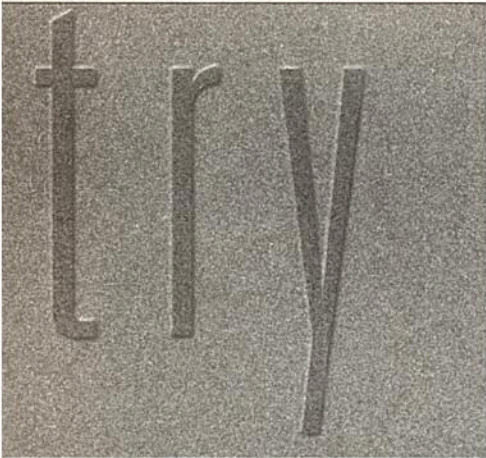
is ou

ev

wavi

se





ess... of course, we know!  
e the same  
've been standing  
today. The shame

n. We see the falling,  
e stand  
ends below our-  
m the land!

—STAN BURRISS

## 4 x 365 Trap

r left a baby on my doorstep  
aid no mama no papa. don't call the  
police or we'll bring more.  
what this means?  
with somebody's bastard kid.  
gitimate.  
it learned how to crawl, but sideways,  
eps bumping its head.  
last, but says bad words and  
the neighbors slam their door.  
out of its crib and up to the liquor  
t to steal all my gin.  
pid baby.  
serable whey-faced gutter mouth  
ashing quarter snitching brat.  
run away from home, but it  
read the map.  
loves me. I wonder who?

—LIZ SMITH

## The Banker and the Boss

Jesus came from the ghetto  
with the rats and the crust of bread  
went downtown with a big idea  
came back with a price on his head

you've all heard the story  
about the miracles and the king  
but if you listen hard enough  
you can hear the trap door swing

don't let 'em fool you  
it was the banker and the boss  
who took insurgent Jesus  
and hung him on the cross

nobody cares about a ghetto kid  
when he stays where he belongs  
but you go steppin' out of line my friend  
somethin's bound to go wrong

Jesus got smart one day  
and he began to realize  
you'll never get anywhere in this world  
unless you organize

so he went down town and started talkin'  
and then he talked some more  
he said it was the banker and the boss  
keepin' everybody poor

and people listened, yes they did  
they liked what he had to say  
how the poor would inherit the world  
and the rich would have to pay

nobody cares about a ghetto kid  
till he goes downtown  
starts agitatin'  
then the word just gets around

they send out their soldiers  
with their shiny silver blades  
gonna take insurgent Jesus  
gonna lay him in the shade

bring him in on charges  
don't matter if they stick  
you can call it religion if you want to  
but it was only just politics

nobody cares about a ghetto kid  
until he starts to make some waves  
then the law kicks in with a vengeance  
you know, it's always been that way

Jesus had a safe house  
and he had his comrades too  
but an infiltrator turned him in  
just like they always do

and when they took him off in irons  
you could hear his mother cry  
they convicted him of high treason  
and sentenced him to die

as they took him down  
from that execution cross  
they thought about what he said  
about the banker and the boss

and they knew it was a long time  
and a hard way to survive  
and they knew that the big idea was the  
right idea  
and they had to keep it alive

so when they told the story  
they told it this way  
that soldiers killed the bottle with the genie  
inside  
but the genie got away

'cause nobody cares about a ghetto kid  
until it's too late  
then they gotta wash the blood off their  
hands  
and get their story straight

but don't let 'em fool you  
it was the banker and the boss  
who took insurgent Jesus  
and hung him on the cross

—JIM PAGE



Sea Grass Waits for Our Arrival

visionaries are in all walks of life  
we share the secrets of the sun  
the light our beacon  
the darkness our trowel  
we weed the garden  
we tend the flowers  
we rise to the occasion  
and greet the Sun  
we sprinkle Seasons  
applying them like chives to a baked potato  
already saturated in the creams of butter  
we marinate our dreams in sour cream  
we fall victim to dinner  
the dinner which brings us out of our houses  
we sit high in the banquet's Chair  
we feed like it is the original sin  
we share graces with strangers  
we rise and smile, and pay our bill  
we bow out gently and leave a good tip  
we are witness to sparks,  
and shooting trails of light  
they ignite,  
and the sheen is that of a knife  
we glower like the eyes from Hell itself  
we sift like arrows in the sand  
the Fence of Sea Grass that waits for our arrival  
— PATRICK BISSELL



turnabout

Theirs might be less... of course, we know!  
Most faces are the same  
as ours, since we've been standing  
where we are, today. The shame  
is ours... our own. We see the falling,  
even while we stand  
waving to the friends below our-  
selves. We own the land!  
—STAN BURRISS

The Banker

Jesus came from  
with the rats and  
went downtown  
came back with :  
you've all heard :  
about the mirac  
but if you listen l  
you can hear the  
don't let 'em fool  
it was the banke  
who took insurge  
and hung him on  
nobody cares abo  
when he stays w  
but you go stepp  
somethin's bound  
Jesus got smart c  
and he began to r  
you'll never get a  
unless you organ

so he went down  
and then he talke  
he said it was the  
keepin' everybod  
and people listen  
they liked what h  
how the poor wo  
and the rich wou

nobody cares abo  
till he goes down  
starts agitatin'  
then the word ju

they send out the  
with their shiny s  
gonna take insur;  
gonna lay him in

bring him in on c  
don't matter if th  
you can call it rel  
but it was only ju

Lessons

She listens to cottonwood leaves mine gold  
afternoon sun creating blotches of orange.  
She rests on glistening rail  
talking with her boys.  
“When you're walking along the railroad tracks  
you can, sometimes, find Indian potatoes.”  
She sits with bare feet  
tucked under her  
sirling dress.  
“Also, if you wish to use sage  
I can teach you how to cleanse, or cure yourself.”  
Truck hauling apples passes, their heads turn  
to the gravel road.  
Listening to the collapse of their words brushing  
against the stained bone-coloured bar.  
—EARLE THOMPSON

The 2 x 4 x 365 Trap

Somebody left a baby on my doorstep  
The note said no mama no papa. don't call the  
police or we'll bring more.  
You know what this means?  
I'm stuck with somebody's bastard kid.  
I mean illegitimate.  
So finally it learned how to crawl, but sideways,  
and keeps bumping its head.  
It talks at last, but says bad words and  
make the neighbors slam their door.  
It crawled out of its crib and up to the liquor  
cabinet to steal all my gin.  
What a stupid baby.  
What a miserable whey-faced gutter mouth  
tire slashing quarter snitching brat.  
I told it to run away from home, but it  
Can't read the map.  
somebody loves me. I wonder who?  
— LIZ SMITH



## AASK Continued from Page 1

## Few friends on the council

**A**ASK has money and class on its side. It has long held a monopoly position as public representative of rental housing landlords. When AASK complains that tipping the scales of power in the favor of tenants will result in an affordable housing crisis [see Part 1, Feb. 8], legislators listen.

But AASK may have gone too far. Because of its constant opposition to even the most mild regulation of the rental housing industry, its extreme predictions and bitter name calling, AASK is losing favor among some in the Seattle City Council.

"They don't have a lot of friends here on the council," says Peter Steinbrueck, who chairs the City's Housing, Human Services, Education, and Civil Rights Committee. "Every time new protections for tenants are talked about, AASK gets its back curled and invests heavily in Council campaigns. I'd like to see them more proactive in addressing legitimate issues that tenants raise."

Steinbrueck focuses his criticism less on AASK, however, and more on what he calls the unproductive atmosphere of the entire affordable housing debate.

"Sometimes there's so much hostility and polarization [between the Tenants Union and apartment owners] that it gets in the way of mediating differences.... It seems like there's no room for compromises or problem-solving solutions that can address the issues fairly and squarely. I don't have the energy myself, and I'm glad Judy [Nicastro] has taken the lead, because it's a volatile issue that generates high emotion on all sides."

Nicastro initially reached out to AASK after narrowly winning an election in which the association went all-out to oppose her. "I was somewhat optimistic that we could have a positive working relationship," Nicastro explained. "That's not going to happen."

"They're a bunch of unproductive whiners. I needed their input and they were not at all helpful. I don't think they have much honesty and integrity."

## New kids on the block

**A**ASK has been able to shrug off its opponents' criticism in the past partly because it operated as the sole landlord association in Seattle. Politicians who wanted to tap into the growing concern of housing affordability in Seattle needed to reach out to them to seem balanced.

Soon after Paul Schell was elected mayor, he sent an open letter to AASK requesting their help in keeping rents af-

fordable (AASK replied with a request that the city not require sprinkler systems for all apartment units). When Nicastro held her Renters' Summit, *The Seattle Times* columnist Susan Neilson demanded that Nicastro include AASK, so as to give local landlords representation.

But Nicastro, who is taking the lead on rental housing issues as chair of the Landlord/Tenant and Land Use Committee, recently found a new landlord association she can work with and is beginning to give AASK the cold shoulder.

The Olympic Rental Association (ORA), described by AASK's president Alex Thole as a "rogue landlord association," was originally founded by former Washington Apartment Association (WAA) member Tim Seth four years

ago [WAA is the parent organization of AASK; see Part 1].

As opposed to AASK, ORA is an all-volunteer organization with much lower membership dues. Based in Olympia, it has members all across western Washington; roughly 25 percent of them own property in Seattle. AASK's membership has grown moderately in the past few years, with nearly 2,500 members today. By comparison, ORA has grown to represent nearly that many landlords in just four years.

Seth is quick to point out, however, that comparing memberships between ORA and

AASK is "like comparing peas and cantaloupes." Seth shies away from comparisons between the two, arguing that he's just "providing landlords with another association. We recommend people belong to their local [WAA affiliate] and us both."

Nicastro first met Seth when she called him to raise issues with an action alert he sent out about Nicastro's pending legislation titled "City Hall Proposal Trashes Landlords." "[She] won me over right away," says Seth. "She didn't get defensive, she didn't argue excuses. She said you're the first [landlord] to give some constructive ideas."

ORA and AASK agree on most fundamental issues to landlords. Both believe in supply-side economics. Both oppose rent control. Both oppose Seattle's Just Cause Eviction Ordinance. But whereas AASK is famous for its hostility to new regulations, ORA has a different approach.

"I'm a Republican," Seth says, "but it's inevitable that there's going to be more and more regulation. My philosophy is go to bed with them. My experience as a [former] state employee is that you can always find compromise."

Nicastro is working with members of ORA to improve her rent retaliation

legislation. She is also working to put together a panel of landlords and real estate leaders to discuss mutually agreeable solutions to Seattle's housing affordability problems. ORA is invited. AASK isn't.

## Still powerful

**B**ut don't expect AASK to go away any time soon. They fell short of last year's goal to increase their membership by 10 percent (they grew by less than four percent). They are losing credibility among some on the Seattle City Council. But they still have enormous influence in Olympia; they threaten lawsuits against legislators who overstep their legal bounds, and they're willing to spend big money in local elections.

For over 10 years, AASK has tried to overturn Seattle's Just Cause Eviction Ordinance (JCE), not by lobbying Seattle's politicians, but by lobbying the state Legislature to "pre-empt" Seattle's legislation. "We need to get this law abolished," noted Alex Thole as the Legislative session began this year. In 1998, AASK got JCE preemption passed in the Legislature, only to have Governor Locke veto it. "Many rental housing owners across the state feel that Governor Locke has tilted toward the Tenants Union," AASK activist and former Mayor Wes Uhlman complained.

AASK has considered trying to introduce legislation that would allow Seattle's law to stand, but would prevent every other city in the state from enacting JCE. According to AASK Executive Director Jim Nell, those discussions haven't gone anywhere yet. State preemption is the same general tactic used to make rent control illegal 20 years ago, and AASK makes no secret of their willingness to use their connections in Olympia to do the same when they don't get their way.

AASK filed a class action lawsuit

against the City of Seattle in the mid 1990s, which resulted in a multi-million dollar settlement. It filed another suit which overturned legislation meant to proactively find housing code violations rather than wait for tenants to complain. AASK threatened to take the city to court for violating the state's ban on rent control when it passed its 60-day notice ordinance (for rent increases over 10 percent), and it is not averse to flexing its legal muscle when necessary.

And while AASK has been engaged in previous elections, supporting everyone from militant property rights advocates for the state Supreme Court to moderate city councilmembers who publicly oppose rent control, their \$20,000 opposition to Judy Nicastro in 1999 and \$61,000 opposition to the Proposition 1 Parks levy last year were renewed statements of its ability to spend when it feels the need.

For what it's worth, we should note that executive director Jim Nell says that AASK's PAC never opposed Judy Nicastro — it merely supported her opponent, Cheryl Chow. Nell has no recollection of anti-Nicastro information on literature sponsored by AASK. And when Wes Uhlman, who was then co-chair of AASK's Legislative Action Committee, wrote a letter asking for donations to Cheryl Chow's campaign, he was, according to Nell, acting as an individual and not a representative of AASK.

But if AASK's opposition to tenant-friendly candidates isn't direct, it is still palpable. "I would be surprised if they didn't get that going again next year," says Lisa Herbold, who worries about the potential for AASK to target Councilmember Nick Licata next year. "When groups like the Displacement Coalition don't get what they want from Peter or Judy, they come to Nick."

But Nicastro, who was and perhaps still is AASK's Public Enemy Number



**AASK still has enormous influence in Olympia; it threatens lawsuits against legislators who overstep their legal bounds, and it's willing to spend big money in local elections, including a \$20,000 opposition to Judy Nicastro in 1999.**

## Inside Talk

### Bits and pieces from where the landlords stand

**For the children's sake:** "Picture yourself trying to tell your child that you could not give him or her the item he or she wanted because you had to pay a stranger's rent so the stranger could buy a gift for his child."

—From "Ten Reasons You Should Not Feel Guilty About Evictions," reprinted in the January 1998 AASK newsletter

**Never forget:** "Who remembers when King County and several cities considered adoption of just cause eviction ordinances similar to that in Seattle? It was AASK which made sure that the ordinance was rejected, and which asks every candidate for local office whether they agree with us in opposing just cause eviction."

—Chris Benis, AASK president, October 1999

**21st Century Malthus:** "Limitations are being imposed by population growth. We will have 12 billion people in 40 short years. We're running out of ozone, running out of critters.... Every way you turn, there are more regulations, and that's going to be the 21st century whether you like it or not."

—Tim Seth, president, Olympic Rental Association, on why he is willing to work on legislation other landlord groups will flat-out oppose



**AASK MEMBER RANDY BANNEKER.**  
PHOTO BY MIKE HAMRICK.



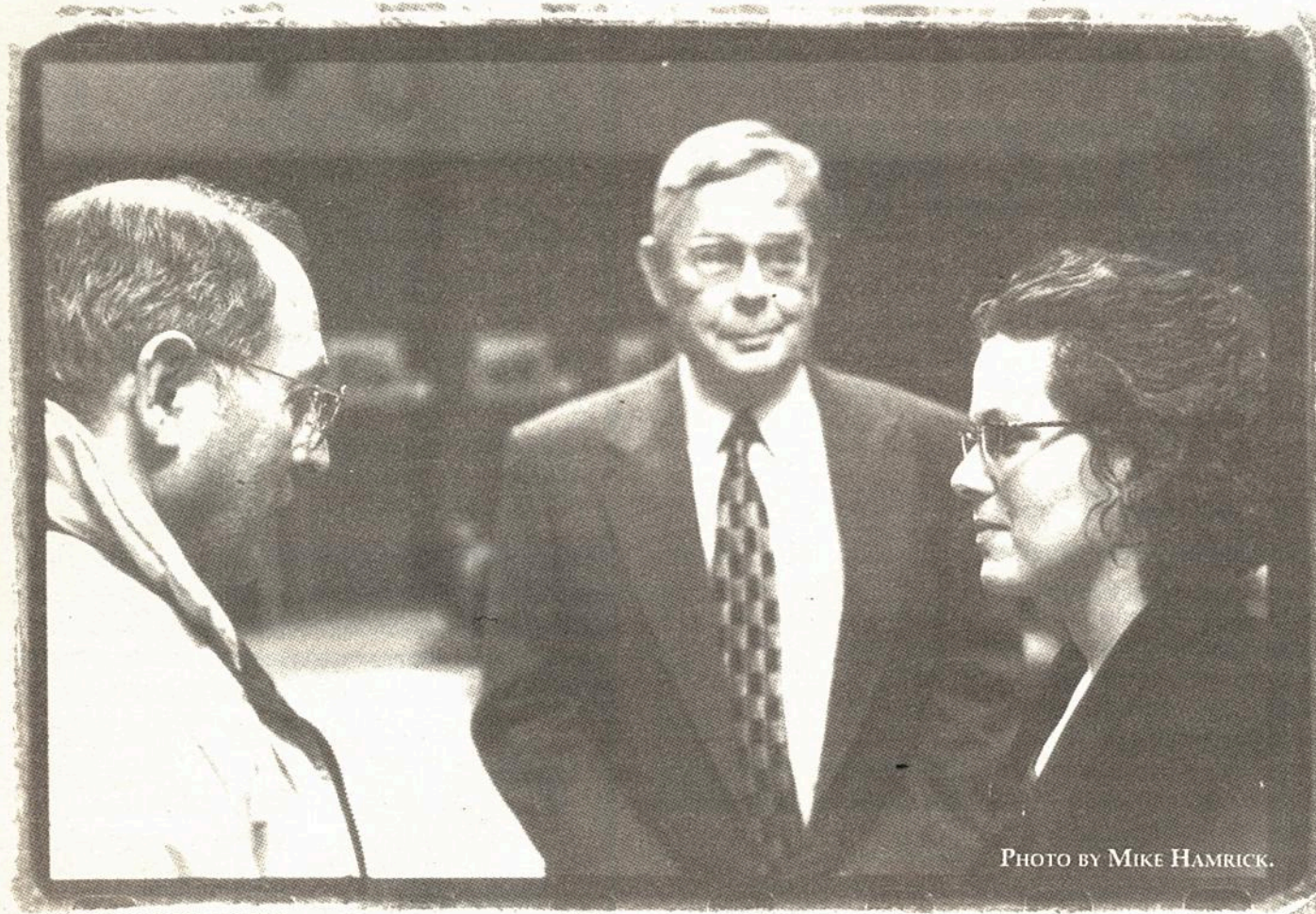


PHOTO BY MIKE HAMRICK.

THE "ROGUE" LANDLORD LEADER, TIM SETH, CENTER, WATCHES COUNCILMEMBER NICASTRO, RIGHT, IN ACTION.

**"Most people in politics are upper middle class, and AASK is upper middle class... and they have money."**

**Seattle City Councilmember Judy Nicastro**

One, is less concerned. "No candidate should be nervous about AASK," she says. "The fact that they couldn't beat me shows they're not as powerful as they think. They should have beat me. That was shocking. The fact that I [someone with no previous name recognition] won should leave any candidate without fear."

And despite AASK's opposition, the parks initiative passed overwhelmingly last year. "Which is not surprising," complained Alex Thole, "considering that we were outspent nearly 10-to-1." In an unusual political duel, AASK, which is used to having the ability to far outspend its opponents in the affordable housing world, was outspent 5-to-1 by the zoo alone. Thole notes, however, that despite that loss, "AASK-endorsed candidates won 16 out of 26 State Legislative races, four out of four Supreme Court races, [and] one out of two on the Superior Court."

### Undoing AASK: Modifying the ban on rent control

AASK's *raison d'être*, its number-one goal in any given year, is to ensure that the state ban on rent control is never lifted and never changed.

Yet the Seattle City Council's recent vote to modify this ban, that "no city or town of any class... may regulate the amount of rent" on private property, demonstrates that the ban is increasingly being seen as a stranglehold that prevents important legislative actions to remedy Seattle's affordable housing crisis.

"I think the rent control ban is the most important issue for tenant rights and affordable housing issues" says Judy Nicastro. "Some issues are so im-

portant that it should be for the local jurisdictions to provide. Rent control is interpreted so broadly... it includes [whether tenants have a right to] a lease. That's contract law, and our City Attorney thinks that's rent control."

Contrary to what AASK sometimes implies, there is essentially no support on the City Council for actually passing rent control as it's commonly known. Also contrary to what AASK implies, this is not an issue in which Judy Nicastro is alone. A majority of the Council, including Council President Margaret Pageler, want to see the ban at least modified in some way so as to provide Seattle the freedom to craft its own remedies to its housing woes.

And yet it's a battle the City Council simply can't win on its own. "We as a city have a multitude of high priority legislative issues," explains Peter Steinbrueck, "and this is not one of them."

"Given the full plate on our legislative agenda and our limited resources, there's only so much we can do," he says. "Our own Seattle legislators are hesitant to take it up."

"The apartment associations have done a spectacular job making rent control a dirty word," says Nicastro. "They've scared everyone from using it."

While AASK may have scared even Seattle politicians from using the words "rent control," both AASK and ORA may be more open to modifications than they usually let on.

"He may deny this," Peter Steinbrueck told *Real Change*, "[but] Chris Benis told me that as opposed to eliminating the state preemption bill [on rent control], if we had proposals

to modify it he would prefer that rather than an outright exemption."

When asked if he would support modifications to the state's ban on rent control to allow Seattle to require that landlords provide tenants with leases upon request, ORA's Tim Seth said it "wouldn't hurt a hell of a lot." "No one uses month-to-month up there anyway with eviction for cause. The whole point of month-to-month is to get someone out or change the terms."

Whether and to what degree the ban ever gets modified is a matter of the amount of popular pressure on enough people in Olympia. While it would require a statewide effort in part, and while it's unrealistic to expect this to happen immediately, it could start with local organizations trying to get Seattle's state legislators to be less apologetic for the way landlords run things in Olympia.

"I don't know why the Tenants Union doesn't make it their number-one issue," says Nicastro. She went on to list other groups — the Seattle Displacement Coalition, ACORN, the state Low Income Housing Congress — who have similarly failed to make it a top priority.

"If the public doesn't bring the issue to light, it's not going to be an issue. If it weren't for renters with courage, I wouldn't even know [rent retaliation] is a problem. All legislation comes from the public because they're impacted and realize what's wrong," says Nicastro. "If there's no movement from the public, it won't happen at all."

And if the public wants to stand up on this issue, they should know who they're going up against. ■

### The Uhlman File

**Name:** Wes Uhlman

**Occupation:** President, Wes Uhlman & Associates Inc., a real-estate development and management company that owns residential and commercial property in Washington and Alaska.

**Connection to AASK:** Served two terms as President, 1996-1997. Co-chair, Legislative Action Committee, until December 2000. An "occasional delegate" to the Washington Apartment Association.

**Claim to fame:** State Representative; State Senator; Mayor of Seattle, 1969-1977 (ran as a populist, promising to preserve Pioneer Square and Pike Place Market from large-scale demolition and redevelopment).

**Quote:** "People called me a communist, taking away their property rights. And I was taking away those rights, but there was a greater good. And now I think the business community agrees." —Uhlman, 1998, looking back on preservation

**Hobbies:** Beekeeper; grower of prize-winning dahlias; Colonel in the Washington State Army National Guard, served 36 years; member of the Brews Brothers, "The Malting, Mashing, Sparging, Hopping, Barming, and Drinking Society of Greater Seattle."

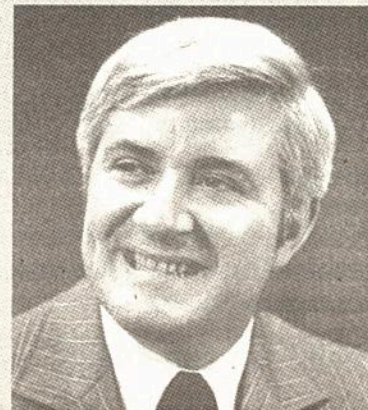
**On Uhlman:** "Virtually every civic initiative that now defines Seattle happened in about five years in the mid-'70s. No mayor will ever be able to put together that kind of list again.... And all this from a mayor that nobody ever liked very much." —Mayor Schell, perhaps ruefully, on the Uhlman legacy

"Wes Uhlman is [AASK's] ace in the hole, their big name, their power broker. They use him cautiously, when it's really important." —Lisa Herbold

"Wes Uhlman has been a major influence and major force in [AASK]. A former mayor and a land use lawyer, he's one of the most outspoken defenders of landlord interests and one of the most shrill. I don't think he's on a par with Norm Rice [in terms of power in Seattle]. That influence has faded. It's been almost 25 years now and Seattle was somewhat of a different place then." —Peter Steinbrueck

"Wes Uhlman lends a more moderate image to what the bulk of the membership [of AASK] would otherwise project. That image looks good when people open up a newspaper. But neither he nor AASK carry the weight that other interests do. He is not so directly tied to the corporate liberal crowd that runs this town, being a spokesperson for a wild group like the apartment owners." —John Fox

Sources: Washington News Council; Jim Nell, AASK; *The Seattle Times*; John Fox, Seattle Displacement Coalition.



UHLMAN STRIKES A POSE IN 1975.



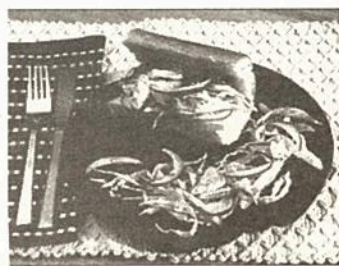
# NOTES FROM THE KITCHEN

## Just in time for dinner

By Liz Smith

It is rush hour. The streets fill with cars driven by tired-out people. They pick up their kids and spouses, and dive into the great river of glaring red lights flowing towards home. In one of these cars is a typical American family, consisting of Mr. and Mrs. Exhausted and their two children, Cranky and Rebellious. Mr. and Mrs. Exhausted are attempting to have a civilized adult conversation, but little six-year-old Rebellious is simultaneously pinching his sister and kicking the front seat of the car. Four-year-old Cranky starts wailing. Eons pass. Finally they pull into their driveway. Everyone is irritable and hungry. Mrs. Exhausted wishes she was somewhere far, far away, but she is brave and heroic, and it's her night to make dinner. She heads for the kitchen while her husband gets the kids into their pajamas. Because she follows the recipes given in today's column, dinner is on the table in 20 minutes.

You will feel like you have had a real meal: there are two different main dishes, some vegetables, and a dessert. The trick here is to do some advance planning. Buy some frozen chicken breasts, stock up on potatoes, and do a little preparation on the weekend. Everything else is fast and easy. I myself don't have a dishwasher and I hate doing dishes, so we use paper plates. Life is too short.



SANDWICHES: A GOOD MEAL MADE FAST AND EASY.

### Chicken Sandwiches

chicken breasts	lemon pepper (grated zest and ground pepper,
salt	available in the spice row of your grocery store)
	olive oil

Most grocery stores sell five-pound bags of frozen boneless, skinless chicken breasts. Lay each piece of chicken on a piece of foil. Put some salt, lemon pepper, and 1/2 teaspoon olive oil on the chicken, coating both sides. Fold up the foil. Put in a freezer bag, squish out the air, and lob it into the freezer.

To make the sandwiches:

1 half chicken breast per person	lettuce
sandwich bread	mayonnaise, mustard, or horseradish

The night before, take the chicken out of the freezer, and defrost in the refrigerator.

Bake the chicken at 350°. Toast the bread if desired. The chicken will be done in 12-15 minutes. Slap on some condiments and lettuce. Cut in half and serve.

### Wraps

Large flour tortillas	Pre-sliced turkey, ham, or chicken
Lettuce	Flavored cream cheese or hummus
	A little pepper or other spice

These are better if the tortilla is lightly sprinkled with water and heated about 20 seconds in a skillet on each side. Roll everything up in the tortilla, cut it in half, and serve.

### Mashed Potatoes (Serves 4-6)

2 lbs baking potatoes, peeled and cut into chunks	2 TB butter or olive oil
2-4 peeled garlic cloves, optional	1/2 cup hot milk
	salt and pepper

Simmer potatoes and garlic in freshly drawn cold water until tender. Drain water. Put back on low heat 1-2 minutes to dry.

Add butter and hot milk along with salt and pepper. Mash. Some cookbook writers say that when mashing potatoes, you should only use an up-and-down motion, never sideways, but in my opinion some food purists take themselves way too seriously. Mash them any way you want and they will turn out just fine. If you do put in some garlic, it will become quite tender and will blend in well with the potatoes when mashed.

You can prepare the potatoes up to three days in advance. Store in an airtight container in the refrigerator. At serving time, reheat in microwave or in a pan with a little milk.

### Carrots

Peel. Cut into slender lengths. Serve with salad dressing or dip, like hummus or cream cheese.

For young children: Cut the carrots into easy-to-hold pieces. Simmer carrots until tender and easy to chew. Let cool and serve.

### Fresh Fruit and Yogurt

This is a great dessert. The fruit can be cut up and layered in a glass like an ice cream sundae. An alternative is to mix sour cream with a little brown sugar and mix the fruit with it. ■

radical chic  
made simple.

It's basic.  
It's black.  
Our Real Change  
logo's on the back.  
It beats a burlap sack.

100% cotton. Available in M, L, XL.  
Send \$15 to 2129 2nd Ave., 98121

UNIQUE imported eyewear

GREAT vintage glasses!

MODERATE prices!

206-634-3375

4254 Fremont Ave. N.  
Seattle, WA 98103

eye exams available



We offer you choices  
and trust your decisions.

¥ early and late abortion	¥ medical coupons
¥ medical abortion	cover abortion for
¥ no parental consent	low-income women

Cedar River Clinic - in Renton

425.255.0471

a Feminist Women's Health Center  
see [www.FWHC.org](http://www.FWHC.org)

- 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 Cleaner  
(206) 841-9021



Discrimination.

Had enough?

Let's talk.



Seattle

Office

for Civil Rights



SOCR investigates cases  
of alleged discrimination  
Our services are free  
fair and impartial. Call us

Seattle Office for Civil Rights

(206) 684-4500 (TTY) (206) 684-4503

[www.cityofseattle.net/civilrights](http://www.cityofseattle.net/civilrights)





**Julia's**  
of  
**WALLINGFORD**  
is proud to  
present  
**local Jazz  
Piano Artists**  
every Thursday - Saturday  
7-10pm  
no cover, patio seating  
4401 Wallingford Ave. N  
for reservation call 206-633-1175




**MAMA'S  
PIZZA**  
FREE DELIVERY  
322-6444  
700 E Pine  
Capitol Hill, Seattle  
We Deliver Downtown  
Fax # - 322-7884  
Homemade hand tossed  
We can cater to your downtown business order  
\$2 OFF any pizza with this ad



**FARESTART**  
Job Training and Placement in  
the Food Services Industry  
1902 Second Ave  
Seattle WA 98101  
between Stewart & Virginia St.'s  
Phone (206) 443-1233  
**Because where  
you come from  
isn't as  
important as  
where you are  
going**  
Join us for orientation  
on Tuesdays at 9.30am

**OLYMPIA FOOD CO-OP**  
Natural Foods Member-owned!  
Ask about our NEW  
Low-Income Membership  
Eastside:  
3111 Pacific - Olympia (360) 956-3870  
Westside:  
921 N. Rogers - Olympia (360) 754-7666




**Wed., Jan. 31, 9:05 a.m., 8th Ave.** The owner of a deli on 8th witnessed the suspect, a former employee, throw a large rock through his store window, causing \$500 worth of damage. The suspect now lives at a downtown homeless shelter. The suspect later returned to the place of business, and stated that he was sorry about the window and wanted to pay for it, but had no money. No charges were pressed.

**Wed., Jan. 31, 10:16 p.m., 12th Ave. S. and King Street parking lot.** Officers on a routine patrol noticed a group of males loitering behind a row of bushes, on private property just off S. King St. This location is a known narcotics area where transients often go to use drugs. One male was observed as he dug a small hole in the ground and placed a plastic bag into it. Upon inspection, the bag contained crack cocaine. The five other suspects were interrogated and released at the scene; the man who dug the hole was arrested and transported to King County Jail.

**Thurs., Feb. 1, 9:47 p.m., 3rd Ave. and Bell.** Police on patrol spotted a homeless black male crossing the street against the "Don't Walk" sign. This is an area of intense narcotics activity, and so they stopped him, explained why, and asked for ID. He had none, but gave them his name. A routine check on the computer showed the man's name indexed under several different aliases and DOBs. Unable to settle these discrepancies on the street, the man was brought to the station and questioned. He was then issued a citation for jaywalking and released.

**Fri., Feb. 2, 1:38 p.m., 200 Block Virginia St.** Seattle Police officers on patrol noticed two persons, a homeless man and a woman, standing in a recessed doorway. The man was holding something in his hand, and police stopped the two, patting down the man for concealed weapons. They found a crack pipe in his pocket, and his name was run through the police computer. He was found to have a protection order out against him, and after questioning his companion, police discovered that she was the woman named in the protection order. He was booked into King County Jail on drug charges and violation of a court order. The woman, who was unhurt, was released at the scene.

**Fri., Feb. 2, 6:44 p.m., Pier 57, Alaskan Way.** Officers were called to the above location and contacted a homeless white male who had jumped into Puget Sound in an attempt to commit suicide. On arrival, the officers asked the man if he was okay, to which he replied, "Well, I just tried to commit suicide." At this time, he was clinging to a pillar in the water, and was in the process of being rescued by Seattle Fire Department. He said he had been recently diagnosed with psychosis, and was taking Haldol. He stated all he wanted to do was talk to his family. He was transported to Harborview Medical Center for medical and mental health treatment. ■

Compiled by Emma Quinn

## DONATE YOUR USED CAR, VAN, TRUCK, OR BOAT

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.

CALL (206) 461-3660

905 Spruce St., Suite 111, Seattle, WA 98104

sehs@emergencyhousing.org www.emergencyhousing.org

A member of United Way of King County

To advertise in Real Change,  
call 441-8847

**kbc**  
**91.3 fm**  
Worldwide Jazz & Folk



Every Weekday, 6 pm

The nation's first listener-supported, community-based radio network, bringing you a 1/2 hour of daily news and issues not represented in the mainstream media.

## CounterSpin

Tuesdays, 6:30 pm

A weekly radio critique of the news by the media watchdog group, FAIR (Fairness and Accuracy in Reporting).



Making Contact

Wednesdays, 6:30 pm

A weekly program committed to investigative journalism and in-depth critical analysis, focusing on the human realities of politics, and the possibilities for hopeful democratic change.

**KBCS 91.3 fm**

is listener-supported, public radio for the Seattle area. We bring you the best variety of locally programmed Folk and Jazz music from around the World and around the corner.

For a complete program guide, call or check our website: 425-564-2427 or kbc-fm.org

Your local source for alternative news  
and public affairs—

and great music.

kbc-fm.org

**COMMON  
GROUND**  
RADIO'S WEEKLY  
PROGRAM ON  
WORLD AFFAIRS

Thursdays, 6:30 pm

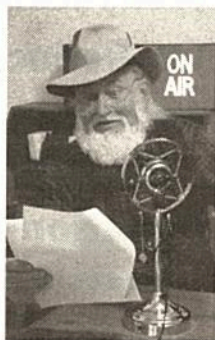
World affairs, featuring the voices of world leaders, thoughtful observers and ordinary citizens doing extraordinary things.

## Oyate Ta Olowan

Songs of the People

Fridays, 6:30 pm

A rare and authentic collection of Native American music.



**U. UTAH PHILLIPS**

Loafer's Glory:

Hobo Jungle of the Mind

Sundays, Midnight

A patchwork of tall tales, labor songs and stories, tramping and railroad lore, and a general and often comic assessment of the passing parade.





**O**n February 23, 1873, Seattle Mayor Corliss P. Stone embezzled \$15,000 (more than \$550,000 in present-day dollars) from his law firm and left for San Francisco with a woman who was married to another man. John T. Jordan, Stone's predecessor, was appointed acting mayor until a special election could be arranged. Republican Moses R. Maddocks was elected to fill the final two months of Stone's term.

**W**ashington became the first state to ban the sale of cigarettes to anyone, adults as well as minors, on March 7, 1893. The law was struck down in the federal courts the following July, but Progressive reformers continued to agitate against the "little white slaver," and the State Legislature renewed the ban in 1907. Two years later, the Legislature enacted an even more sweeping prohibition, banning the possession as well as the sale and manufacture of cigarettes and cigarette paper. Union leader and IWW organizer "Big Bill" Haywood was the most famous violator of the new law. Seattle legislator Josiah Collins led the campaign for its repeal in 1911, arguing "When you pass a law you know is going to be violated... you are merely bringing all law into contempt."

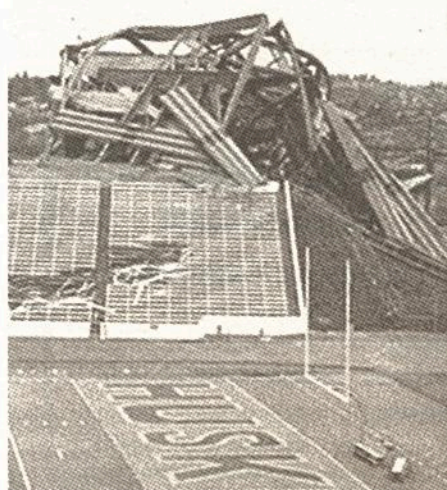
**D**uring the early morning hours of March 1, 1910, near Stevens Pass, an avalanche roared down the Cascade Mountains, taking with it two Great Northern trains and claiming 96 lives. This was one of the worst train disasters in U.S. history and the worst natural disaster (with the greatest number of fatalities) in Washington.

**O**n February 27, 1932, the George Washington Memorial Bridge was dedicated. The dedication was originally scheduled for February 22, 1932, George Washington's 200th birthday, but unfortunately the bridge was not finished and the dedication had to be delayed a few days. The bridge is nicknamed the Aurora Bridge because it is part of Aurora Highway, which in turn forms part of U.S. Highway 99, a north-south thoroughfare that extends from Canada to Mexico. The bridge is 2,945 feet long and 70 feet wide, and stretches 167 feet above the water of Lake Union, between Seattle's Fremont and Queen Anne neighborhoods.

**I**n defiance of state law, Native Americans protested the denial of treaty rights by fishing the Puyallup River on March 2, 1964. Inspired by sit-ins of the civil rights movement, Actor Marlon Brando, Episcopal clergyman John Yaryan from San Francisco, and Puyallup tribal leader Bob Satiacum caught salmon in the Puyallup without state permits. The action was called a fish-in and

resulted in the arrest of Brando and the clergyman. Satiacum was not arrested. The Pierce County Prosecutor refused to file charges, and Brando and Yaryan were released.

**O**n February 24, 1986, the King County Council passed Motion 6461, redesignating the namesake of King County to commemorate the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., the civil rights leader, rather than William Rufus DeVane King, the Vice President-elect for whom the county was named in 1852.



QUICK, BUILD ANOTHER STADIUM IN PIONEER SQUARE!

**O**n February 25, 1987, at 10:09 a.m., a section of the Husky Stadium on the University of Washington campus, which was under construction, collapsed. It was a 215-foot addition to the bleachers, which became, in about 12 seconds, a 250-ton pile of twisted steel.

**O**n March 5, 2000, Jerry and Sally Sinnema discovered a foul odor and foamy discoloration in a stream on their Snoqualmie Valley dairy farm near Ames Lake Creek in central King County. They traced the contamination to an avalanche of manure and other waste, measuring at least 100 cubic yards (equaling 20 dump truck loads), which had slid from an illegal hilltop dump site into the stream. ■

*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.*

## Thrift Store

Universit y Temple United  
Methodist Church  
Fridays, 2-5 p.m.

15th N.E. and N.E. 43rd in U-District  
please use alley entrance

## Great Bargains

Clothing, housewares, linens,  
games, books, etc.

## CLASSICS CORNER



by Perfess'r Harris

**W**e at Classics Corner have always asked the wrong questions. This made us a terrible Catholic. When we favorably compared Christianity to Communism in Sister Mary Jane's social studies class, grave concern was expressed for our immortal soul. Priests were notified. Conferences held. Saint Mary's School was not ready for Perfess'r Harris.

Maybe we never got over it. Still, when recent revelations from the Human Genome Project sent us scurrying to Genesis, the first dozen chapters or so left us more confused than ever.

For example, we all know about Adam and Eve, but who were those others east of Eden in the Land of Nod? What were they like? More to the point, what did they know and when did they know it? Did they have their own Trees of Wisdom, or were they just born wise? Who made the snake so smart? Was God of two minds?

What about Adam and Eve's other kids, the unnamed sons and daughters of Genesis 5:4? Were they jealous of firstborn Seth? Did they still love Cain? Did they resent the loss of Eden? Did they ever stop thinking of the

Tree of Life? Does the Angel with the flaming sword ever sleep?

Civilization, in all its lovely complexity, first arises in the sixth generation after Cain, with Jabal the herdsman, Jubal the

**God thinks only of sin.**

**A little omnipotence proves a dangerous thing.**

musician, and Tubal-cain the blacksmith. Hardship made them strong. Work made them whole. God, however, thinks only of sin. A little omnipotence proves a dangerous thing.

His great flood ushers in a new age of inbreeding, alcoholism, incest, and war. Enter Noah, descended from Seth, who, with his wife, his three sons Shem, Ham, and Japeth, and their wives, repopulates planet earth. Who were these women? How did it feel to sleep with the Last Men on Earth?

Compared to this, Adam and Eve's indiscretion was very small potatoes. The Original Sin was God's killing flood, and why not? God gropes his way through life just like everyone else, and like us, he makes mistakes.

Soon after the flood, Noah cultivates the earth, ferments some fruit, and drinks like a man dying to forget. He passes out naked in his tent. Noah has seen better days. Ham finds him and tells Shem and Japeth. They avert their eyes and cover him with a blanket. When Noah awakes, he randomly curses Ham's son Canaan. All of his progeny will live as slaves to the line of Shem.

This strikes us as a lousy way to renew the promise of humanity. Not surprisingly, Shem's family line leads to David, the great warrior king who kicks ass in the land of milk and honey. The Promised Land, oddly enough, is populated by the accursed Canaanites. David smites them. Blood runs. He has Noah to thank and God as an accomplice.

Long before David, however, we have perhaps the most under-reported event in the entire Old Testament. Shem begets Shelah who begets Eber who begets Peleg, and in his day, says Genesis 10:25, "the earth was divided." We'd like to know more about this. On that day, our world began. ■

## Donate Your Vehicle

- Free Pickup
- Tax Deduction
- We Handle all the Paperwork



- Donation Benefits Seattle's Homeless

(206) 728-JOBS

Ask about our Vehicle Donation Program



MILLIONAIRE CLUB CHARITY  
Celebrating our 80th Anniversary



# Feb - March Notables

## Thursday, 2/22

**Green Party of Seattle** monthly general meeting, come become a part of Seattle's progressive political option. The first 15 minutes is an orientation for newcomers, this and subsequent last Thursdays, 6:30 - 8:45 p.m. at New Hope Baptist Church, 124 21st St, one block north of Yesler in the Central District, near #48 bus line, for info about the Greens 206-264-5110 or [sgreens@boutell.com](mailto:sgreens@boutell.com) or P.O. Box 95515, Seattle WA 98145-2515, or <http://www.seattlegreens.org>

## Friday, 2/23

**Crossroads Cultural Arts Series** presents local actors, actresses, poets, and singer/musicians in performances and presentations focusing on pro-diversity, this and subsequent last Fridays, 7 - 8:30 p.m., at Barnes and Noble Bookstore, Crossroads Shopping Center, corner of NE 8th and 156th, Bellevue, info Gail Paul 206-517-4107 or Kevin Henry 425-452-7886.

## Saturday, 2/24

**Neighborhood Leadership Program Workshop "Getting The Word Out I — Make Headlines!"** learn how to write and issue effective press releases that will generate head-

lines for your organization! Instructors Irene Stewart & Jo Ellen Warner, sponsored by the Department of Neighborhoods, free, 9 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. at Miller Community Center, 330 19th Ave. E, pre-registration or info Sandy Brooks 206-684-0719 or [randy.wiger@ci.seattle.wa.us](mailto:randy.wiger@ci.seattle.wa.us) or <http://www.cityofseattle.net/don/>

**Community Action Network presents "Hairspray" (the movie) Theme Party**, watch the movie and then we'll do the Madison (and other dances) to songs from that era, in the spirit of Divine cross-gender dressing is encouraged, so gals slap on the brill cream and guys spray that big hair and join us, CAN supports local organizations working for justice through global scales, sliding scale \$5 - \$20, refreshments and snacks provided, doors open 7:30 p.m. show starts at 8 p.m., at the CAN office, 115 Prefontaine Pl. S. near 3rd and Yesler, info or to help out 206-632-1656 or [can@scn.org](mailto:can@scn.org)

## Monday, 2/26

**A Neighborhood Leadership Program Workshop "Generating Resources II"** this workshop is for those who know something about fundraising but want more in-depth knowledge about writing effective direct-mail letters, soliciting major donor

prospects, developing fundable projects for grant support, and involving the board in fundraising. Instructor Jean Leed, sponsored by the Department of Neighborhoods, free, 6 - 9:30 p.m., at Seattle-King County Chapter, American Red Cross, 1900 25th Ave. S, pre-registration or info Sandy Brooks 206-684-0719 or [randy.wiger@ci.seattle.wa.us](mailto:randy.wiger@ci.seattle.wa.us) or <http://www.cityofseattle.net/don/>

## Tuesday, 2/27

**The July 7<sup>th</sup> Coalition** presents a video produced for Native Voices Public Television, "White Shamans and Plastic Medicine Men" with discussion afterward with producer Dan Hart; documentary deals with popularization and commercialization of Native American spiritual traditions by non-Indians, first of a series on issues related to racism and stereotyping of American Indians, 7 p.m., at University Friends Meeting House, 4001 9th Ave. NE, just north of University Bridge, info Jeff Smith 206-632-0500 or <http://www.july7coalition.org>

## Thursday, 3/1

**Asian/Pacific Islander Advocacy Day**, info 206-325-2542.

**Washington Association of Housing/Services for the Aging Advocacy Day**, info 206-248-7434 or [marshall@wahsa.com](mailto:marshall@wahsa.com)

**Radical Women General Meeting**, learn more about their current activities and campaigns, everyone welcome, dinner with vegetarian option at 6:30 p.m. for a \$6.50 donation, 7:30 p.m., at New Freeway Hall, 5018 Rainier Ave. S, info, rides or childcare 206-722-6057 or 206-722-2453.

## Sunday, 3/4

**International Women's Day Event**, come see what Seattle-area women are doing to make the world a better place, both locally and globally, information, photography exhibits, slide shows, short speeches, plus a section devoted to health screening and information for women and children, IWD 2001 will honor the memory of Anci Koppel, co-founder of Seattle Women Act for Peace, who died last summer at the age of 93. Free admission, free childcare, free entertainment including the Ragging Grannies, ASL interpretation, 12-5 p.m., at The Center House at the Seattle

Center. Info Carol Hoyt 206-328-9637 or or Seattle NOW 206-632-8547 or <http://www.scn.org/basecamp/iwd>

## 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, noon-1:00 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>

**Radio Show "Teen Talk,"** 30-minute show for, about, and hosted by teens, features teens interviewing people and experts about a variety of subjects such as eating disorders, employment, good nutrition, anger management, gangs and youth, and crime prevention, 1 p.m., on KSRB-AM, 1150, info 425-452-2834.

## Ongoing Sundays

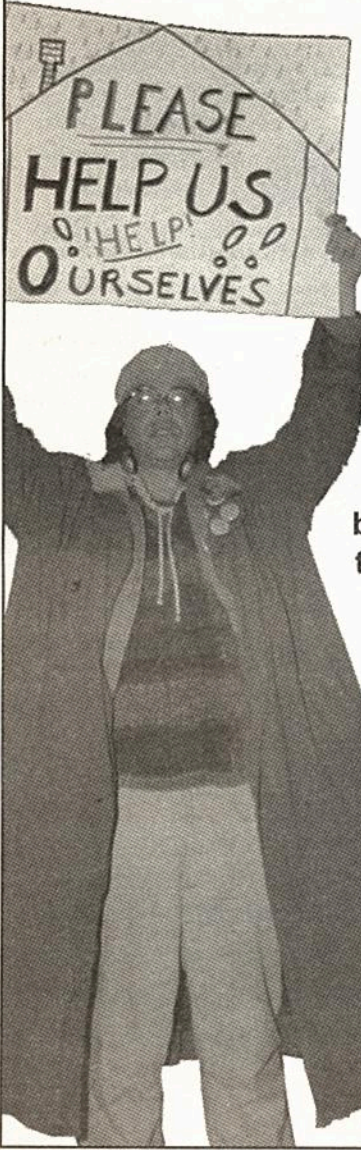
**Seattle Food Not Bombs** collects food and serves free vegetarian meals to the homeless each and every Sunday, 12-4:00 p.m., cook, call for location, 5:30 p.m. share dinner at Occidental Park, info 206-985-2247 or [fnb@scn.org](mailto:fnb@scn.org) or <http://www.scn.org/activism/foodnotbombs>

## Ongoing Daily

**FareStart** assists people who are homeless through training in life skills, food service, and the culinary arts, and runs their own restaurant, lunch daily and dinner on Thursdays only, with guest chefs from area restaurants. A 3- or 4-course dinner is only \$14.50 plus tax and tip, with all of the proceeds going to FareStart, 1902 Second Ave. between Stewart and Virginia. Please consider logging on to <http://www.farestart.org> and making a donation.

*Compiled by Kristen Alexander. For complete listings with meeting times for local advocacy and peace groups, see Jean Buskin's Peace and Justice Events calendar (<http://www.scn.org/activism/calendar>)*

# Do Something!



**First things First** is the organizing project of *Real Change* that works to preserve low-income housing and put a roof over every bed. **You can help by pledging to take action when First things First alerts you to critical decisions affecting the poor and homeless.** When you join our action alert list we will contact you by your preferred method when your voice needs to be heard. **You will not get a lot of junk mail. You will be part of creating real change for the poor and homeless.**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

**Mail to:** Real Change  
2129 2nd Ave.  
Seattle, WA 98121.  
Call (206) 441-3247 for more info.

## StreetLife Gallery

where the pavement meets the canvas

### StreetLife Gallery Group Show

Every 1st Thursday, 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.  
Over 20 artists represented


The StreetLife Gallery is a self-managed working gallery for low-income and homeless artists, sponsored by the Real Change Homeless Empowerment Project.

You can also visit us on the web at: <http://www.realchangenews.org/StreetLife>

**We're looking for the following:**

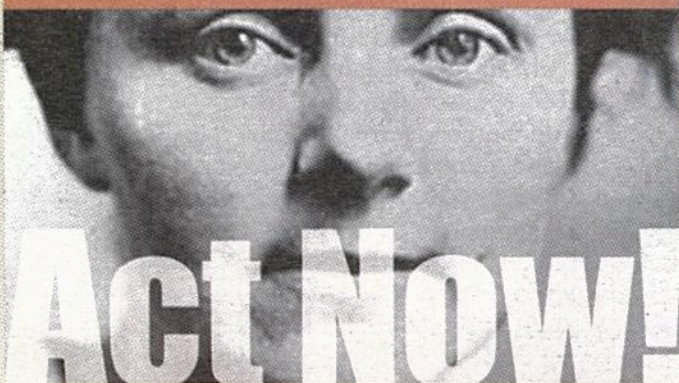
Thread	Pens/Markers
Watercolors	Brushes
Acrylic Paints	Canvases
Paper	Pencils
Masking Tape	Cleaning Supplies

**2301 2nd Ave., Belltown (206) 956-8046 open daily from 11-8 p.m.**





## citizens participation project



# Low Income Families Need Energy Assistance

**Issue:** The state House of Representatives is in the position to support a \$2 million plan to provide much needed relief to help low-income families pay the skyrocketing costs of heat and electricity this winter.

**Background:** Every year, due to limited funding, the state Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) exhausts its resources before the end of the heating season. Typically, only 17 percent of people eligible for assistance are served. Three out of four households that use energy assistance are families with children; approximately 75 percent of low-income families use electric heat at home.

This year's unprecedented electricity and natural gas price increases have hit hardest on low-income households. The state is experiencing dramatic increases in the costs of electricity and natural gas, with increases averaging between 30 and 70 percent, as a result of many factors out of the state's control. Requests for assistance are expected to increase by over 40 percent this winter.

While the state has received emergency allocations from the federal government, the combined circumstances of increased need for help and the higher cost of energy make it likely that, even with the emergency federal assistance, without the state bills, fewer citizens will be served.

The \$2 million provided by SB 5717 would serve 5,000 families this winter and would come from the state's supplemental budget — meaning it would not compete with other human service needs in the 2001-2002 budget.

State senators approved the Senate version of this bill, SB 5717, earlier this month. A House version, HB 1860, is working its way to the full House vote. Yet it still needs a push in order to be put on the fast track toward approval.

**Action:** Contact your representatives and give them the following message:

"Please pass House Bill 1860 to provide a \$2 million emergency appropriation to the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program. Families cannot wait until next year to get help paying their heating bills."

You can leave messages for your two representatives and the Governor via the toll-free Legislative Hotline, (800) 562-6000. During the legislative session, the Hotline is open Mon-Fri 8-8, and Saturday 9-1. You can also contact your legislators directly at the following phone numbers and email addresses:

43rd District: U-District, Capitol Hill, Madison Park, Downtown  
Rep. Frank Chopp  
chopp\_fr@leg.wa.gov  
(206) 389-2410

Rep. Ed Murray  
murray\_ed@leg.wa.gov  
(360) 786-7826

36th District: Magnolia, Queen Anne, Fremont

Rep. Helen Sommers  
sommers\_he@leg.wa.gov  
(360) 786-7814

Rep. Mary Lou Dickerson  
dickerso\_ma@leg.wa.gov  
(360) 786-7860

11th District: West Seattle, International District, Beacon Hill

Rep. Eileen Cody  
cody\_ei@leg.wa.gov  
(360) 786-7978

Rep. Velma Rosete Voloria  
voloria\_ve@leg.wa.gov  
(360) 786-7862

**Real Change**  
2129 2nd Ave.  
Seattle, WA 98121

Seattle Public Library, Serials Unit  
1000 Fourth Ave.  
Seattle, WA 98104

KUNG FU & SELF-DEFENSE  
CLASSES TAUGHT BY  
AND FOR WOMEN

Established 1981.  
Call for class times.



**SEVEN STAR  
WOMEN'S  
KUNG FU**

(206) 720-1046

153 Fourteenth Avenue  
Seattle, WA 98122

**the BELLTOWN  
BARBER**  
and Manicure

Tues.-Fri., 9:30 am to 5:30 pm  
Sat., 10 am to 4 pm  
2219 2nd, Downtown Seattle  
441-4738

## LEFT BANK BOOKS

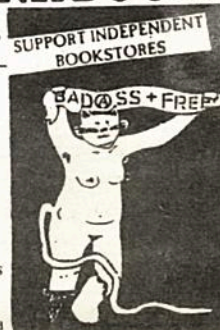
92 PIKE ST.

New and Used Books—

Scholarly, Radical,  
Hard-to-find,  
Magazines, T-shirts,  
Bumperstickers,  
Pamphlets, Comics,  
Postcards & Buttons  
Records, Tapes & CDs

622-0195

Collectively Owned and Operated



**The CoHo Team**

of Windermere Real Estate Agents  
[www.cohorealty.com](http://www.cohorealty.com)

Working Assets is your phone company.  
Ben and Jerry created your ice cream.  
You read Real Change.



Who is your real  
estate agent?

For an agent who will donate 1/3 of his commis-  
sion to the Seattle Foundation call 234-7009.

We are licensed Windermere R.E. NW. Inc. agents

**Writers, photographers,  
illustrators wanted.**  
Call Adam at 441-8143

