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Creale Change

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**Inside: Tips from the
Unemployed • Nickels'
Neighborhood Revolt •
Heidi's Competition •
Everyday Heroes •
Classics Corner**

Little Friends

Doney Memorial Pet Clinic ministers to poor peoples' pet problems

By Megan Doyle
Photos by Brooke Kempner

Rita Fields brought her pregnant cat, Sissy, up from Des Moines to visit the Doney Memorial Pet Clinic. She had been calling around to find a clinic that would work with her budget. She has a total of five cats, and one that comes around to be fed. Neighbors even bring stray cats to her. "I just love cats, I can't help it," Fields says.

Sissy, who is about three years old and has had two litters, had been injured by a car and may have to have her tail amputated. Fields is afraid that the kittens will not be born alive.

Patients and companions will sometimes wait for hours before the doors are opened and the volunteer veterinarians see them. They are given numbers at the door, walk downstairs and wait for their number to be called for check-in. After being screened, they are asked to wait again until the veterinarians call their number. In just two hours, the volunteer vets see up to 60 pets.

"They take better care of their animals than themselves," Louise Garbe says of the men and women who bring their animals to Pioneer Square for the twice-a-month clinic.

Garbe started volunteering for the clinic when an aide at the Loyal Heights School

Continued on Page 9

DR. LAURA KREYENHEYEN, LEFT, GIVES SHOTS TO KITTIES GRAY AND ROSCO AS OWNER LINDA DINGLEDY LOOKS ON.





Catholic, uppercase

Dear *Real Change*,

Regarding Timothy Harris' review of *Ten Little Indians* by Sherman Alexie ("Beautiful Losers," *RC* May 29). I can not let this go: the use of the word 'Catholic' ["Alexie seems to pick up where Carver left off, but with...a hopefulness that seems almost, well, Catholic." The word 'catholic' (lowercase) is one of my favorite words just because to me it's so contrary to what the word 'Catholic' (uppercase) represents to me. Does Timothy really mean to imbue and connect Mr. Alexie's writing with the Catholic religion? Or with the "universal, general" catholic? Thank you!

Carol A. Sund
Seattle

It's not a typo. Sherman Alexie is Catholic, with a capital C. Sorry to disappoint. As an ex-Catholic, I sometimes find myself having to admit that there are good things about that particular religion, and some of them find their way into this book.

So long, Dad

Dear *Real Change*,

At this moment I am at lost for words, trying to hold back tears as I try to write this letter. I don't know who to write to at this moment since I just read the article from Michele Marchand and Anitra Freeman "All Our Relations" (*RC* May 15-28). From word of mouth I had to go to your web site to see if it was true, since no other paper carried anything about what happened.

Before I get a head of myself let me introduce myself. I'm Sam Olebar, George's son. I had no idea that my father had died, since we were not very close in contact with each other. That doesn't mean that I didn't love him very much and I knew he had loved me just the same. We had lost contact long time ago when my mother had decided to move from here to Illinois. When I came back I saw him off and on through the years and we always spent the time together when we did see each other. It was somewhat difficult to find him at times; every time I went to Seattle my eyes always looking out the window to

see if I can spot where he is. If you talk to people on the streets they would always know who he was and they knew me because he had always talked about me, even to people I had never met.

I don't know where to start to find out anything else about what happened that day; this is why I wrote to you. I love my father very much and every time I leave after a visit I always had missed him, now I will miss him more than ever.

The one regret I have that will be with me for a long time is that he had never met his grandson. I have showed him pictures and he knew who he was. For my birthday, I was going to go and find him and bring him over to my house for the weekend to visit to learn more about my son — that would've made him happy. It might be instincts or just because, but I will always glare out the window to see if I can spot him walking around.

Samuel E. Olebar
Auburn, Wa

Correction

City Council candidate Robert Rosencrantz was not the manager, but a janitor at the Biltmore Apartments on Capitol Hill ("The Pile-On," *RC* May 15-28). He says that he created and preserved over 1,000 units of affordable housing, a legacy he's proud of — and he didn't "wheeler-dealer" real estate deals, as the article said. —ed.

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Real
Change

Puget Sound's Voice of the
Poor and Homeless

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Mission Statement:

Real Change organizes, educates, and builds alliances to create solutions to homelessness and poverty. We exist to provide a voice for poor people in our community.

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. Programs include the *Real Change* newspaper, the *MacWorkshop* computer lab, *StreetLife Art Gallery*, the *StreetWrites* peer support group for homeless writers, the *Homeless Speakers Bureau*, and the *First things First* organizing project. All donations 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. *Real Change* 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.

In Praise of Multiplicity

As the city's big dailies fight it out, the little guys satisfy readers

By Bess Dwyer and Adam Holdorf

What would local citizens lose if the Joint Operating Agreement (JOA) between The Seattle Times and the Post-Intelligencer was broken, and the P-I wound up without ad reps, deliverers, or presses to print on? The P-I would fold. We'd lose, and we'd win.

The daily papers signed a Joint Operating Agreement (JOA) 20 years ago that consolidated the ad, circulation, and printing responsibilities under one roof (the *Times*). Claiming three continuous years of net financial losses, *Times* publisher Frank Blethen wants to sever the agreement; the P-I is suing to keep it intact. The P-I's owners, New York-based Hearst Corp., says the paper would be put out of business if the JOA ends. Blethen and his family owns a razor-thin majority of *Times* stock; the newspaper chain Knight Ridder owns the rest.

Blethen has said that there isn't enough room, or readers, for this town to support two papers. As circulation shrinks and private enterprises fold, it is feared

"As circulation shrinks and private enterprises fold, it is feared that morning papers will go the way of the typewriter. And lawyers are the only ones certain to reap the benefits if we lose one major news source."

that morning papers will go the way of the typewriter. And lawyers are the only ones certain to reap the benefits if we lose one major news source.

There are benefits to having two daily papers in one market — even when they look and read as alike as Seattle's. While each paper can be relied upon to cover what the other considers news on a day-to-day basis, exclusives do turn up; reporters and editors at both papers should be proud when they get the edge on their competitor. As in most other work-related rivalries, the cross-town rivalry is of little interest to anyone outside the newspaper business. The papers' in-depth stories highlight some distinctions: Not content to simply cover a deteriorat-

ing environment, the P-I chose to advocate for concrete measures to clean up in an excellent series of stories, "Our Troubled Sound." The *Times* rattled Seattle's liberal consensus by endorsing George Bush in the 2000 election. But for the most part, each paper looks and feels the same.

The *Times* paints this as a Corporate Media versus The Little Guy issue: Hearst Corp. (which can be credited with the invention of the JOA, having lobbied the Nixon Administration to pass the Newspaper Preservation Act, which exempts such confabulations from antitrust law), the big boy, needs to get off the struggling independent owner's back. The Blethen families' holdings in the *Times* and other newspapers are not disclosed, but guessed to be worth hundreds of millions of dollars. It's the kind of worth big media conglomerates should want to buy out — and Hearst has attempted to, twice. Knight Ridder has also expressed an interest in buying up the rest of the paper it owns 49.5 percent of.

The recent rule change at the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) adds more to the story. The FCC wants to allow companies unlimited access to market shares: theoretically, one company could own all the media outlets (newspaper, television, radio, print) in every market.

The *Times* has never pushed much harder than the P-I to cover untold stories. It has forever been up to independent media — local weeklies, smaller community newspapers, radio stations — to fulfill that role. One recent issue that never got enough coverage was the FCC field hearing on the rule change, held at the University of Washington this spring. TV, radio and newspapers owned by big companies weren't encouraged to witness hundreds of people decrying rule changes that would benefit their owners.

Despite worries about consolidation, this city isn't ready to make newspapers obsolete. Hard-working media outlets have cropped up in neighborhoods from South Seattle (the *Star*) to North (the *Sun*). Real Change's own circulation continues to surge. This town supports not one but two alternative newsweeklies. It's a sign that citizens want news and are willing to cull it from a variety of sources. That kind of opportunity, regardless of the outcome of the legal battle, is inimitable. Seattle wants to stay informed, and it needs a media less influenced by advertisers and investors who often determine news content. We need to keep asking for better. The loss of the P-I would be the best motivation. ■

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6/12/03

YWCA workers win union

On May 30, 23 employees at the Angeline's Day Center for homeless women have voted 14-9 in favor of union representation with the American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees (AFSCME). Union organizer Mary Robinson said that the vote came in spite of management's efforts to sow anti-union sentiment.

Robinson notes a May 16 letter to Angeline's employees from Y executive director Rita Ryder and senior director Linda Weedman asserting that "our hourly rates of pay compare favorably with other local agencies" and that even with a union, "There is no requirement or assurance that wages and benefits will be either better or worse than they are now, and you will have the added expense of paying dues."

Attached to this memo was a list of "Myths and Facts" about how a union would affect the workplace. It noted that the mission and purpose of the day center can not be the subject of labor negotiations — only salary, benefits, and working conditions. It's an important point for staff, who began a union drive in part to voice their dismay at not being included in planning for Angeline's move to its new facility this winter. Issues such as who would be eligible for the new center's low-income apartments, says the memo, are "are not the type of thing any agency or company would negotiate."

—Adam Holdorf



Nickels' Neighborhood Revolt

"We have Tim Ceis to thank for the turnout today," said Lisa Merki as she scanned the South Lake Union Armory on a recent Saturday.

Close to 200 neighborhood activists from every community council in the city attended the daylong forum brought about by a perception that Mayor Greg Nickels and the City Council have abandoned the neighborhoods in favor of developers.

Ceis, the deputy mayor, has been a critic of neighborhood activists, saying that the mayor has to be concerned with all citizens. Critics say he's more concerned with Paul Allen's biotech plans in South Lake Union, Simon Properties expansion of Northgate, and the University of Washington lifting the lead on its U District leaseholdings.

"People are most frustrated that the mayor meets with developers behind close doors, comes up with plans and they're done deals," says Matt Fox, a community activist from the U District who helped put together the forum. "He doesn't care what the people think. A get together like (Saturday) puts the mayor on the defensive."

"The mayor and the City Council don't listen to the people," says Cheryl Jones, a resident from the Cascade section of the South Lake Union. "And Cascade (Neighborhood Council) has invited Paul Allen many times but he'll never come. His plans would totally change the face of the neighborhood."

Motivated by the frustration of not being listened to, a new citywide group called the Cross Town Coalition was formed. Currently, the group's biggest concern is that Mayor Nickels wants to do away with growth controls in several neighborhoods.

In 1994, when neighborhood groups helped craft the city's Comprehensive Plan, the city included a policy called L-52, which calls for the city to monitor individual neighborhood growth against the neighborhood's anticipated targets. South Lake Union has met 123 percent of its job goal, but only 22 percent of its housing goal. Under L-52, such uneven progress merits greater scrutiny from city officials.

"Cascade and South Lake Union went to great lengths to develop their neighborhood plans," says Christine Lea, a small business owner in South Lake Union. "These plans are being disregarded by the mayor's fast-track efforts to develop South Lake Union. The mayor is attempting to siphon off public tax dollars meant for all neighborhoods and concentrate them in one neighborhood for the benefit of one developer."

"The mayor doesn't want to work with neighborhood reps on L-52," says Merki, co-chair of the City Neighborhood Council (CNC) and a Pritchard Beach Resident. "Everyone talks about South Lake Union, Northgate, and the U District, but there are probably 14 neighborhoods that come under L-52." The Department of Neighborhoods recognizes 38 neighborhoods in Seattle.

General recommendations that came out of the summit have been sent to the mayor and the City Council.

How effective the summit was remains to be seen. The day before the summit, councilmember Jim Compton filed a resolution that said the council would support rapid growth of biotech in South Lake Union and the expansion of the Mercer Corridor (a.k.a. the Mercer Mess).

According to a pamphlet given out at the door, councilmember Richard Conlin appeared at the summit to deliver a talk on the history of neighbor-

hood planning. When the floor was open to questions, John Fox of the Displacement Coalition grilled Conlin on his support of the bill. Conlin, along with councilmember Nick Licata and Council President Peter Steinbrueck, has been a supporter of the L-52 process.

Conlin and Licata met with Compton the following Monday, June 2, to add language to the resolution addressing public involvement under the auspices of L-52. But when Compton moved in full council to amend his own resolution, adding language that would prevent the city from invoking L-52, the usually mild-mannered Conlin became irate. He switched over to the side supporting a delay, in effect taking the bill off the table.

When Compton introduced Resolution 30610 on June 9, it passed unanimously. The new resolution includes language by Licata that puts the Mercer Street expansion up for further review, and Conlin added language that supports the Comprehensive Plan for South Lake Union. But while a paragraph was added about public involvement, it won't take place until 2004, when the city's 10-year Comprehensive Plan review is scheduled.

"And nowhere in this resolution is the cost addressed," says John Fox. "This is just cheerleading for Paul Allen. It's something the mayor can take and run with. If this [resolution] is a barometer for what effect the Neighborhood Summit had, the answer is not very much. But there are still upcoming votes on Northgate and the U District."

—R. V. Murphy

Street Casualties

Thirteen homeless people have died outdoors since the beginning of the year, and the homeless women's organization WHEEL is calling for an in-depth study on the cause and manner of death.

Real Change has reported on the deaths of nine of those listed. Dying by violent means were Ronald Preston, 23, victim of a shooting at 25th Avenue and Cherry Street; and Randall Townsend, a Tacoma man who spent his last days at Harborview, comatose after a beating by White supremacists.

Dead of natural causes were Richard Macias, 52, who had a heart attack in the Greenwood neighborhood; Shirley Keith, 68, whose "primary cause of death" is listed as "arteriosclerotic cardiovascular disease with bronchopneumonia." Dead of acute intoxication was Raymond Ramirez.

"Natural causes" doesn't quite capture the circumstance of a person's death, especially when they may have been bereft of medical care through years of substance abuse or mental illness. The county Medical Examiner's office is discussing the prospect of conducting in-depth investigations into the death of homeless people to ask: What went wrong?

"Beyond the immediate cause and manner of death, there are many other contributing factors," says James Apa, county Public Health spokesperson. Other public officials delve into the circumstances of children's deaths in the state-funded Child Death Review, linking law enforcement agencies with social services and medical examiners to investigate a potentially suspicious death. Apa says the county may have money to pay for such investigations in the next year's budget, but "the resource challenges are daunting." Tell that to the state: the budget passed by Olympia's legislators in early June eliminates money for the children's death review.

—Adam Holdorf

Let them eat gooseflesh

As state and federal officials undertake the summertime extermination of Puget Sound's migrant goose population, animal rights activists have howled at another instance of cruelty. They may take comfort in one thing: the geese are spared the final indignity of being eaten.

The USDA Wildlife Services Division is charged with the task of destroying eggs and gassing geese on public lands throughout the state. Western Washington's verdant fields provide food and rest for thousands of geese. Each adult eats so much that it defecates up to three pounds of waste a day. Wildlife officials say the droppings contaminate parks, beaches and waterways. As in dozens of other states, the animals are killed. Elsewhere, the meat is then donated to food banks. A lawn-eating urban animal is a source of food? It seems that nothing's too good for the poor. Here, because state officials have not come up with guidelines for testing the meat to make sure it's safe for human consumption, the goose carcasses are simply disposed of. "We like to be able to donate meat to shelters when it's possible," says USDA Wildlife Services spokeswoman Hallie Pickhardt, "to conserve the resource."

Do you have any stories we should look into? Call Adam at 441-3247 ext. 207, and just maybe we will.

The Wills to Power

Challengers square off against big-money incumbent

By R.V. Murphy

Ed. Note: this article is the third in a series of profiles on challengers in this fall's City Council race. In our June 26 issue: Tom Rasmussen and Dick Falkenbury vs. councilmember Margaret Pageler.

People vaguely remember Christal Wood as a distantly popular candidate when Greg Nickels, Paul Schell, and Mark Sidran squared off in the 2001 mayoral race. Now Wood is setting her sights on Position 7 in the City Council race against two well-financed candidates, incumbent Heidi Wills and David Della.

So far in her campaign, Wood has only spent a couple hundred dollars of her own money. Thus, it's no surprise that Wood downplays the traditional modes of campaigning in favor of more discussion of the issues.

"I ended up losing my apartment (in the mayoral election) because I'm a lousy fundraiser," says Wood. "That's another reason I'm not going for the big bucks, and people would say 'that's an indication you don't have support.' But

I would contend it's only because I wasn't doing things the standard way. I wasn't already entrenched in, or networked into, organizations that are geared into political action."

Wood attended the University of Washington and has a degree in communications and law analysis. While attending UW she worked on Ralph Nader's 2000 presidential campaign. She calls Nader and her 10-year-old daughter Jasmine her heroes.

"Ralph Nader once said, 'you don't have a healthy conversation until you've had at least three exchanges.' During most forums you don't get that. You get two minutes to say something, maybe a minute to reflect."

Wood says the basis of her campaign is person-to-person contact but doesn't think cold-calling (going door-

to-door) is rewarding for the candidate or the citizen. While Wood seems to enjoy getting her populist message across, she seems somewhat leary of the campaign process. This probably stems from her last mayoral bid. Wood says she had a particularly bad experience with the Green Party.

"I had sought the Green Party of Seattle's endorsement and gained it from the larger membership," says Wood. "But because their steering committee was so gun-shy over the 2000 (presidential) election, two or three people actively dis-endorsed me. I didn't end up getting the support I had hoped for in 2001. And so I parted ways with the Green Party."

"They'll probably hold endorsement interviews again and it's just kind of strange," says Wood. "On one hand it's valuable to have the support of an organization like that. On the other hand, because of what happened in 2000 between the parties, the Green Party isn't a real popular entity outside of itself. On one hand, I'd love their support, but on the other, it's a liability. So I'm not going to try so hard for it."



Wood says the biggest problem facing Seattle is apathy. She says if people took back their powers (if they ever had them) they could fix a lot of problems. She also says the way government spends money is a problem.

"Homelessness is an example of that," says Wood. "We have gotten to a point where people are fined or punished for being poor. If we took half the money we spent on indigent jail services and invested it in the community, we wouldn't have so much of a problem anymore. Greg Nickels was saying that we can't solve our homeless problem because we weren't getting enough money from the federal government. Why would we look to the federal government to solve our political issues?"

David Della, who's running for Position 7 on the City Council, has probably come closer to any council candidate to being homeless.

"My family was on public assistance but we always had a roof on our head," says Della, who will take a leave of absence from his job as Community Affairs Director at the United Way of King County at the end of the month. "That's only because we all worked very hard."

Not surprisingly, Della points to the economy as the biggest problem facing the city right now. But his background

Continued to page 13



NORTH AMERICAN NEWSBRIEFS
 WWW.STREETNEWSERVICE.ORG

Palm chickee huts associated with tropical lounging could become the latest resting place for homeless people in Key West, FL. City officials floated the idea of building huts at approximately \$30,000 each as a relatively inexpensive, quick way to get homeless campers out of protected wetlands, according to the *Miami Herald* (www.miami.com). Four huts could be equipped with overhead fans and mosquito screens, and would have portable showers and toilets installed nearby. If they are built, the huts could temporarily house up to 100 people, about a quarter of the area's estimated homeless population. Key West currently has no emergency shelters for single men, hosting only smaller facilities for transitional housing and special-needs populations. Homeless advocates support the huts, saying they will give homeless people some place safe and secure to go at night. The proposal for the huts will be officially put before the city commissioners for a potential vote the middle of June.

Homeless veterans are now eligible for the same "traditional" funeral ceremony open to all other veterans — and if their estates or families can't pay a dime, the new Homeless Veterans Burial Program will foot the bill. The program — started by the nation's largest funeral provider, Service Corporation International — covers the costs of an honor guard from the Memorial Service Detachment, a chaplain, the traditional folding and presentation of the American flag, and the playing of taps, according to the *San Antonio Express-News* (news.mysanantonio.com). The funeral homes involved in the program also provide transportation, preparation, a casket, and clothing, all free of charge. Klon Kitchen, director of the Salvation Army's San Antonio emergency shelter, told the *Express-News*, "We're making clients aware as rapidly as we can that if they become ill and something happens, there is a way for them to have a dignified funeral."

As if it isn't hard enough trying to make ends meet on a welfare check, poor and homeless people in Canada can't even pool their checks to share a place to live. The law says two people living together constitute a couple, and therefore have to have their welfare checks revised to reflect that, usually a lower

amount than they would get if they were each considered individuals, according to online *Canadian Broadcasting Corporation* (www.nb.cbc.ca). Homeless advocates argue that pooling money to pay for rent is a common way for poor people to get by, such as students who share apartments to keep down costs at school; those on living assistance shouldn't be punished for trying to find ways to live on \$264 a month.

In an effort to get a handle on just how many poor Canadians there are, officials in Ottawa unveiled a new poverty measure that shows one in eight people live in poverty, a higher rate than previously thought. This new measure takes in to account not only income but also geography: people who live in more expensive cities, like Toronto, need to be earning more to stay above the poverty line than people living in cheaper, rural areas. The measure also rates people against a common — "market basket," basic services, such as food, rent, and clothing — that, if someone cannot afford to buy on a consistent basis, makes them "poor" in the eyes of the government. Under the new measure, 13.1 percent of Canada's population — almost four million people — are poor, according to the *Canada Globe and Mail* (www.globeandmail.com). To afford to live in Vancouver, the most expensive of Canada's cities, without being considered poor, a family of four would have to be making \$27,800 Canadian after taxes. ■

— Compiled by Molly Rhodes

REAL CHANGE
REAL RUMMAGE

Cleaning out your closets? Looking for quality wares?

Real Change will be holding rummage sales throughout the summer at the Pike Place Market Rummage Room (near the Creamery).

All proceeds from the rummage sales benefit Real Change Homeless Empowerment Project.

If you're interested in donating items, or if you have questions about the rummage sales, please contact us at: (206) 441-3247 ext 203

On these Saturdays:

June 14

July 26

August 16

poetry

a chain link fence

a chain link fence

surrounds us in the yard

the windows are open

though barred

no patients are screaming

out of them today

the guards stand watch a

diffident distance away

in the yard

a chain link fence

surrounds us

we can play checkers

we can play cards

we can even dream

dreams dreamed dreaming

suddenly

a high clear stillness

as we sit

in the shade

with the guards in the yard

and the windows barred

ominous portent of impending doom

or a pause to give hope to the promise

of futures yet undreamed (maybe both)

—R. UNGRICH

Wandering Youth

A boy a girl

Two young ones

Holding hands

Tightly

Her man

His woman

A hungry

Lost look

A strange city

She carries the bedroll

He carries the rest

Fled from somewhere

A strained look

In a big town

That devours

One moment

They are gone

Forever

—J. GLENN EVANS

Touched by the Sun

It's a wonder our eyes

don't explode, there's so much

light demanding entrance.

At times, just being alive is enough
to recognize the horizon for what it is,
the planet's curving smile,

and to notice the trees shaking down
brown leaves like lovers in bedroom
splendor, as you wait for the static

crackle of being embraced again,
as the sun stretches out
its long yellow finger

and touches you
in the center
of your mind.

—DAVID THORNBRUGH

Adventures in Poetry with ©Dr. Wes Browning



From time to time, as the terror alert level creeps closer to blood red, as Homeland Security threatens to review all my past reading material, and as strange acronymic law enforcement groups discuss good and bad protesters and what to do about them at secret meetings in my city, I fantasize about getting away from it all. Then, when I'm done doing that, I think about bagging it all and moving to New Zealand.

You all know about New Zealand. That's the country at the lower right-hand corner of the Mercator map of the world that looks closer to Australia than it is, is proud of its flightless birds, and is now the place everybody imagines when they think of Hobbits and Middle Earth, thanks to the movies. Why wouldn't I want to go there? That's the question I've been asking myself ever since Ronald Reagan got his way with the electorate and my ex won the house.

Well, now I am getting answers to that question, thanks to the internet.

First of all, they have non-exploding roosters there. That's right, they have roosters that run around and look as if they are exploding roosters, but they are only fooling you and they don't actually explode.

What happened was a rooster was seen in Christchurch near Sydenham, New Zealand, running around with canisters with protruding wires strapped to its legs. That, as we all know, is a clear and unmistakable indication that a rooster will probably explode. Then the police chased the rooster into an alley, killed it, and called in an army bomb disposal unit to deal with the canisters, which were determined by them to be non-exploding.

My point being that the whole terror alert thing has gone too far. It's gone so far it's reached the lower right-hand corner of the world. Think of it this way: if you have to spend three hours chasing down non-exploding roosters for fear that they will explode, EVEN IN CHRIST-for-God-saken-clear-off-the-map-CHURCH, NEW ZEALAND, you can't be safe anywhere.

But I discovered that story by accident. I wasn't looking for information

on non-exploding roosters, I was looking up SkunkShot gel.

I wanted to know what SkunkShot gel was and why it was being used by the police in Los Angeles to keep homeless people out of potential squats. My search led me to Victoria University of Wellington, New Zealand. Motto: Te Whare Wananga o te Upoko o te Ika a Maui (Translation: We Wish We Were on a Beach in Maui.) It turns out that SkunkShot gel began with the realization, by scientists at Victoria U, that North American skunks stink.

That is a more impressive discovery than it sounds, since, after all, North American skunks are not native to New Zealand. I imagine many trips back and forth between New Zealand and North America to get the exact stinkiness worked out in scientific detail.

**New Zealand.
Why wouldn't I want to go there? That's the question I've been asking myself ever since Ronald Reagan got his way with the electorate and my ex won the house.**

Really, that last paragraph was just me being abusive. What the scientists actually did was create a gel with skunk-smell ingredients, now available in the form of SkunkShot. You can use it to make anything you want smell like a skunk. The Los Angeles police have been using

SkunkShot to stink up potential squats. They are so creative. No doubt the subject came up at the LEIU conference.

My own thinking is that SkunkShot has a lot more potential than that. For example, Metro has been concerned for years that homeless people have gotten in out of the rain under bus shelters. So much so that they've torn them down. No more! Just apply SkunkShot to those shelters and those people will keep away for good!

Problems with panhandlers, Seattle? SkunkShot your sidewalks! They won't be back!

Yes, New Zealand is all right. They only make the stuff there. And the roosters don't really explode. ■



A Mother, Mind You

"You'll have to disassemble
that stroller while you're
on the bus."
"Ah. Come onÖ"
"Öor get out, here."
"OK!"
A few minutes later
Half mile from the stop
She unfolds the stroller
Driver stops the bus
reiterates to "disassemble"
the stroller or get out
or "I'll call the cops."
"Call 'em!"
It's 11:30 late night
Cops come
Bus leaves
Mother and 2 offspring
one a baby
one a young woman
All three, Red
No ID
Not necessary
Allowed to leave
Then
On second thought
Harassed
Arrest is imminent
All 3 flee
Daughter with sister
in arms
Mother captured
and detained
5 days without charge
Swollen babyless breasts
hog-tied, pepper sprayed
in jail
Her baby's "adopted grandfather"
peripatetically walks the streets
with a cane
permanently pained
by the same
police brutality.

FOR ALEX AND HIS BRETHERN

ARTIS THE SPOONMAN

Splitting

I stepped outside
myself today
and saw myself
throw me away.
Upon a sidewalk,
by a crack,
I couldn't make
myself come back.
And now I imitate
the sham
of what I think
I should
I am.
Or was there ever
just an I,
a real me,
to live, then die?
And when I say
I like blue best,
the blue is true,
but not the rest.
And now I face
the reason why—
there never was
a solid I.

—LORAIN CAMPBELL

City Poem

Twinkle little
neon lights,
hiding stars
away from sight—
metallic orange
office night.
I don't wonder
where you are;
once upon
I saw a star.
And breezes too,
I used to know,
that rippled trees
so long ago.
Prozac, Paxil,
things like these,
calm me
when I
think of trees.
And affirmations,
"I'm OK,"
self help books
to read by day.
It's nights
I'm stuffed
inside this jar.
How I
tweak I
freak I
far.

—LORAIN CAMPBELL

earthbound

you with the arrow
you with the gun
you with the sister
with a vicious tongue
anthology of a diner
in a big city slum
or a wealthy neighborhood
neon signs harnessing
memories for revenge
i don't care if you are from michigan
or an indian reservation
or a mental institution
I don't care if you need a fix every hour
or money for your next dinner
or a new car every year
scapegoats are trapped
on high rocky mountains
and they steal from their own self
your revenge will destroy you
just as you destroy
earth-bound for lunch
earth-bound for winter
just a beginner
hell when you die it's back to earth again
you with the power
you with the bomb
you with the brains
to split the atom
your revenge will destroy you
just as you destroy.

—CAROL KOSCHE

Civil and Sane

Employers need to remember their manners and have some compassion with job seekers

By Lorien Elbert

I have been job hunting for more than four months, and have lost count of how many résumés I have sent via e-mail, handed out in person, and sent via regular mail. I know many other people who are job hunting, and some who are going through recruiters, but we are all wondering the same thing: Where have all the manners gone?

Once upon a time, after a job interview, a potential employee would send a thank-you card and wait to hear back. They would actually get a rejection letter, or a postcard, or a phone call. Employers at least sent something saying "Thank you for applying to our company." Now we have email as a fast and cheap way of acknowledging the receipt of someone's résumé or rejecting someone's application. Yet despite the numerous ways of reaching a human in any city, many employers are not exhibiting basic compassion, consideration, communication, and manners towards their fellow species.

Is it pomposity, snobbery, or elitism, or are these employers simply too busy to respond to all the calls and emails to tell someone that they are sorry, but the job has been filled? I don't want to name names, and I won't, but I have been doing a little research on my own, approaching companies as both a potential employee and a reporter. Examples of good employer conduct are out there. The owner of one small restaurant on Capitol Hill told me that he posted a help-wanted sign and within one hour had received eight applications. He took the sign down and chose one of those eight people, and he is very happy with his new employee. A CD store posted a help-wanted sign, and within four days had received more than 80 applications. The employers are

keeping the sign up a few more days before they begin interviews and make their decision. This is for a job for weekends and nights. Management is cheerful, handing any potential employee a fresh application from the store printer.

But poor examples are everywhere. Many employers run out of applications and simply tell potential employees to go to the library and print their application out. When a sign in a restaurant window says "Help Wanted," you go in to apply for a job waiting tables only to discover that a line cook is needed. That has happened to me twice. I would ask employers to save themselves and others time and disappointment by simply writing, "Line Cook Needed."

To all the employers who don't want any more people asking if they are hiring or will be hiring soon, please post a nice sign that says, "Sorry, we aren't hiring, don't inquire within." If you don't have that sign up and you are on a main street in this city, then you need to read the newspaper, watch TV, or talk to anyone who has been doing a job search for months. The last I heard, unemployment in

Washington State has reached 7.3 percent. If you don't like people, can't handle their questions, and don't know how to act compassionately, then you should not be working retail and dealing with customers.

Last week, I simply asked a man behind the counter of a local CD store if he was hiring. He replied harshly,

"Have you ever been in here before?" I said no. "I would never hire someone who wasn't a customer," he replied. He went on to tell me how obviously reprehensible it was to dare ask such a question. He was all self-righteous indignation, insensitive to the fact that he was causing suffering and pain to someone he knew absolutely nothing about. He didn't care that customers in the store heard his vicious response. If there

had been a sign that said, "Beware of Attack Employee," I could have at least been warned of the possibility of insult and verbal assault.

I have been working full-time as an office manager, but I was doing research for two different articles when I had the horrid luck of meeting this man while in a lovely, excited, cheerful mood. That arrogant guy may lose his job tomorrow. In this economy, it's vital to make someone feel welcome and appreciated. Worse yet, he may die tomorrow. Do you really want the last thing you did or said to cause someone you don't even know anguish?

Have employers forgotten their manners? Can they still recall that they didn't come out of the womb with a job? They are truly no different than anyone else, no matter how superior they think they are. We all die, none of us can take our possessions or money with us, and all we have is our minds when we are alone to tell us how we treated people today.

Please don't torture people who are already stressed out about rent and food and bills and transportation and daily survival. If you're an employer and have something to say to the job seek-

ers swarming you, write back to us. What I want to know is this: what's taking you so long to make a decision?

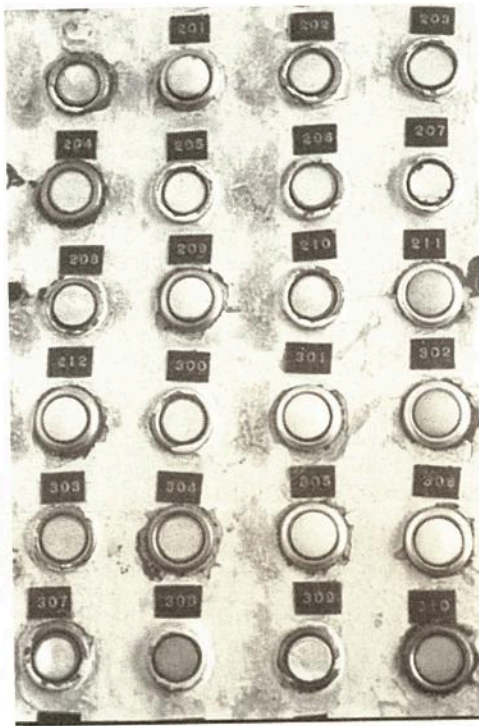
How many interviews do you really need to do for a minimum-wage job? Do you really need to call someone in three times for interviews, making them get dressed up and come down to your workplace, and then neglect to get back to them for weeks and months? What happened to manners? Should people really have to keep calling you week after week after week without a final answer? Are you just going to drag this process out for months because you think Superman and Superwoman are out there? If you can't recall what it's like to be on the other end of this hunting process, then I need you to turn around and let me check your back for batteries. You are not a robot; you're capable of just telling someone yes or no with compassion.

I have applied at one company for months over and over via e-mail and in person. I met someone who works there part-time and he told me their online employment ads are posted just to cover a legal obligation — in fact, all those positions are filled internally. So I've been wasting my time. How many employers are doing this?

According to *Time* magazine, it takes an average of five months to find a job right now. Meanwhile, what are the unemployed supposed to do? I am going to yoga a couple times a week, to the gym almost daily; taking a night class once a week, reading a lot, eating as healthily as possible, and spending time with friends who understand how hard it is to search for a job. Here's my advice:

- Encourage employers to be courteous by being courteous first. Send thank-you cards and words of praise to those who treat you with respect and kindness.
- Don't give up. Keep looking and networking with everyone you know about your needs. Call the Community Information Line if you need referrals for emergency help: (206)461-3200. Call the 24-hour Crisis Line if you're really ready to crack: (206)461-3222.
- Do whatever little things you can to treat yourself every day, so you can keep up the full-time, unpaid, and thankless job of looking for employment. If we could all just treat each other with some basic manners and respect, perhaps rage, frustration, and anger wouldn't so often permeate our freeways, sidewalks, buses, homes, and businesses.

Continued on Page 14



LOOKING FOR WORK DURING A "JOBLESS RECOVERY" CAN REALLY PUSH A PERSON'S BUTTONS. PHOTO BY LORIEN ELBERT.

Two-for-One Lunch Coupon

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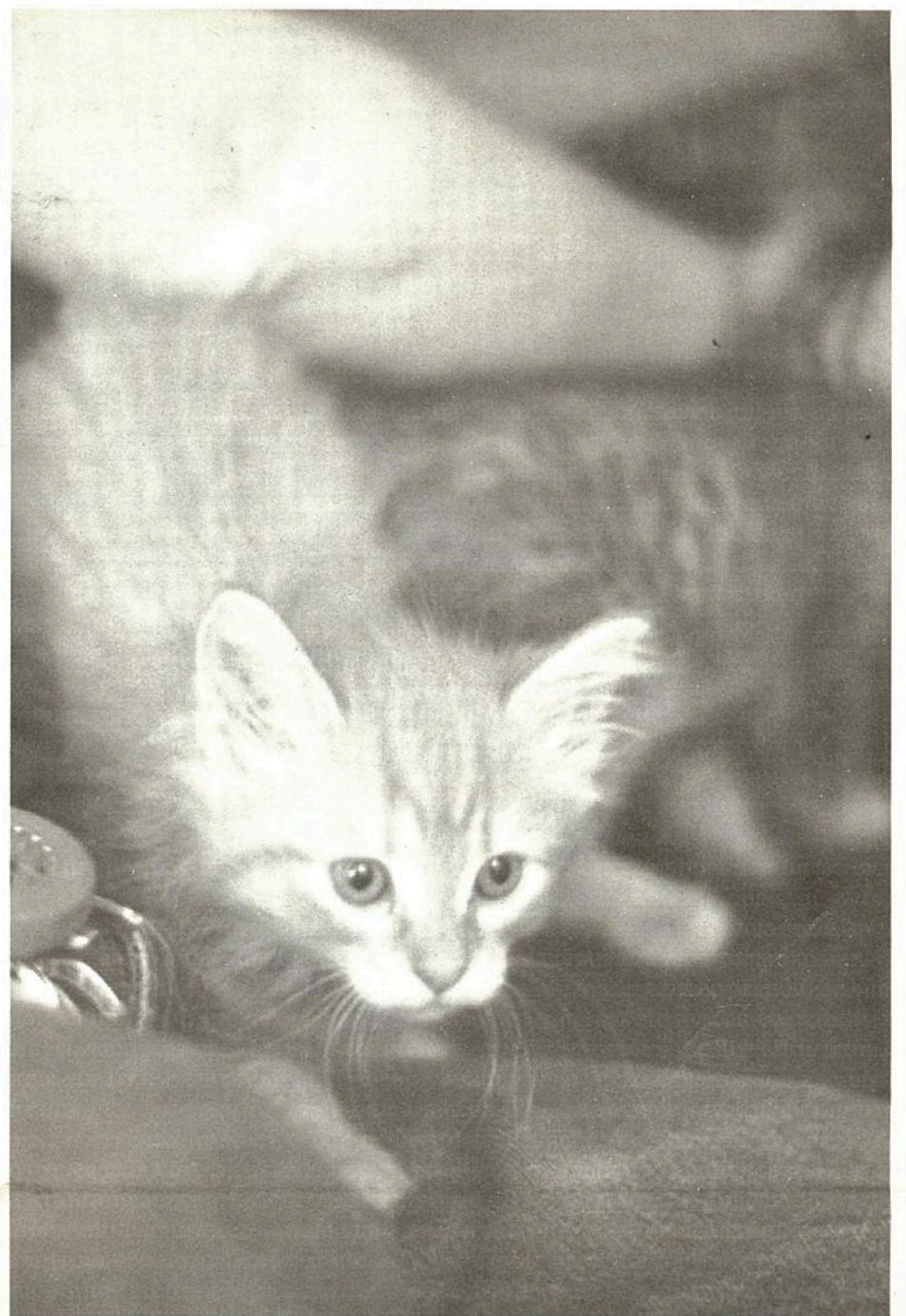
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ABOVE: DR. LIZ HELMER, LEFT, AND HER ASSISTANT ZOE KLUGE, MIDDLE, WORK ON TRIMMING THE NAILS OF AMIGA, WHO WAS UNSURE ABOUT HER FIRST TRIP TO THE CLINIC. ROBERT PIERCE, RIGHT, ACCOMPANIED AMIGA AND HELPED TO KEEP HER CALM DURING HER EXAMINATION. RIGHT: ANOTHER PET CLIENT AWAITS AN EXAMINATION. PHOTOS OF BROOKE KEMPNER.



LITTLE FRIENDS Cont. from Page 1

she was teaching at suggested it. She pays the bills, sends thank-you notes to donors, screens each pet, and helps keep everything organized. Nancy Doney had kept her coming back by telling her that the patients like seeing the same person.

The clinic does what they can for every animal they see, including cats, dogs, ferrets, pigs, rabbits and gerbils. Cats and dogs are the most common animals seen at the clinic.

The Doney Memorial Pet Clinic is open only 3-5 p.m. on the second and fourth Saturdays of every month at the Union Gospel Mission, 318 Second Ave. Extension South. It provides free services for spayed and neutered animals, a requirement for even purebreds. How does it stay in business? Donations and volunteers. The clinic has been at the Union Gospel Mission since opening in the mid-1980s, and has been housed in five rooms throughout the Mission. Its services are free to homeless people and those on Social Security or food stamps in the downtown Seattle area. It was first started by Charles "Bud" Doney in 1985.

After her husband's death, Nancy Doney felt she had to close the clinic because she was not a veterinarian. A newspaper article told the public about the closure, which caused a number of new volunteers to emerge. Garbe, Don Rolf, and Dr. Stanley Coe have now been with the clinic for 17 years.

Many volunteers come for their first day of work and continue coming back, for years. They provide a sense of humor and compassion for both the animals and their human companions. Some of the homeless would rather share a sleeping bag with their pet than go to a shelter where pets are not allowed.

Roxanne Kerani, who has worked at homeless shelters and the Humane Society, started volunteering at the

Clinic around Christmas, after seeing an article in *The Seattle Times*.

"This is a perfect volunteering opportunity for me," Kerani, an epidemiologist at Harborview Medical Center, says.

Carol Dougherty has been with the clinic for a while now too. She brings her 11-year-old daughter, Hannah, in. Hannah helps out by placing notices for the Doney Clinic in veterinarian offices around the area.

Stanley Coe is the veterinarian doctor who volunteers his time on as many Saturdays as he can. Coe had worked for the Elliot Bay Animal Hospital for many years. He has had two heart attacks, but is still excited to be working with animals and enjoys being with their companions, the people who bring their pets in to be treated. When the services provided by the Doney Clinic won't help, the Elliot Bay Animal Hospital Seattle Surgical Clinic, and the Seattle-King County Veterinary Association will offer their own services. The hospital and clinic provide emergency and surgical services, while a steering committee helps to keep volunteers coming to the clinic.

Though volunteers continue coming, donations have been down. Sometimes, after seeing 51 patients, only \$7.00 will be in the donation jar placed on the desk where Garbe and other volunteers check everyone in. Garbe says that the clinic is looking for a grant that would allow them to get their own place. It is difficult to load and unload the food and equipment, and they have no storage space at the mission. ■

The clinic accepts donations of lightly used carriers, leashes, toys, litter boxes, collars, and scratching posts. Food and monetary donations for medicines are also encouraged. For donation pick up, please contact Carol Dougherty at cdougherty48@yahoo.com. Monetary donations can be sent to Louise Garbe at 4351 - 29th Ave. W., Seattle, WA 98199.

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Hustler

Kurt Schulze, Vendor #167

Living in Mexico as an 11-year-old boy, Kurt Schulze started his first business enterprise. "I went to the dump and found a big load of coat hangers," he recalls. "I sold them in a few hours and had more money than most people down there make in a week."

It was a venture that foretold the future. "I would look at something nobody saw any value in, and know how to make money off of it."

"I have been a hustler all my life."

Before he was old enough to vote, Kurt sold drugs and dabbled in pimping. Now, the 35-year-old man has a job he is proud of: selling *Real Change* in Phinney Ridge, a north Seattle community that has grown to expect him standing outside the local grocery store, offering to help his customers with a heavy bag. Last month, he moved into a basement apartment a few blocks from his work place. It's been a long road.

Kurt moved around a lot, from Australia to California to Mexico to Hawaii, as he grew up. His father left the family in Los Angeles, and his mother's drinking left Kurt and his little brother with-

out much of a parent. Living in a rough neighborhood, the local gang became Kurt's guardian. The low-riders provided status and security — and there was little choice in the matter. "I was forced into that life," he recalls. "There's a rap song called 'Ride or Die' — and that was real, you know. If you didn't join, you'd die."

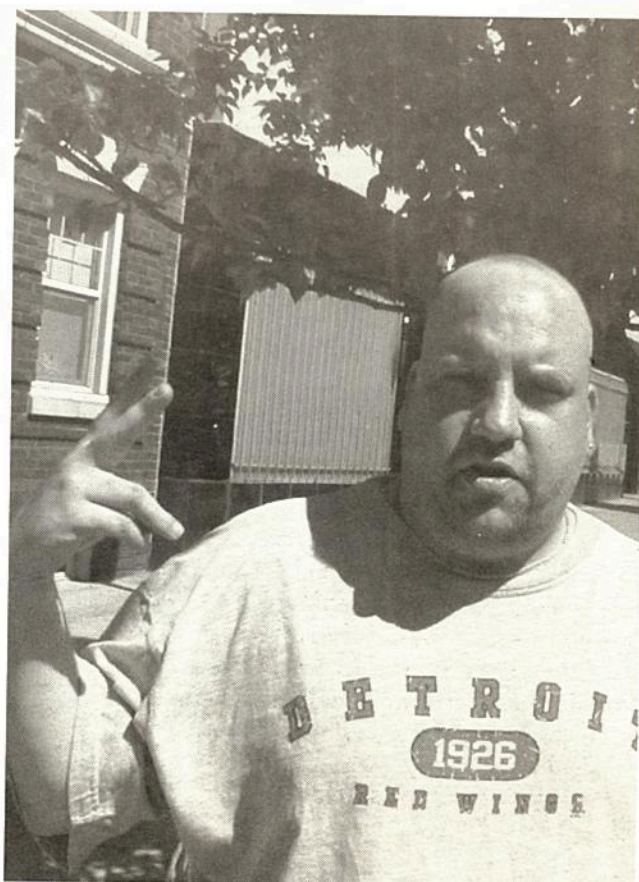
The gang lifestyle remained attractive even as Kurt dabbled in some straight-and-narrow work: as a clerk in a warehouse, a construction laborer, a mascot outside a Subway shop in downtown Seattle. He found some work at the Millionair Club, but the long early-morning wait meant that "you put in a full day before you even do a full day." Waiting outside the Belltown day-labor center in 1994, Kurt noticed a poster advertising the start of a newspaper for homeless and low-income people. He liked to write, he wrote his own raps, and so he went up and talked to founder Tim Harris.

Selling the paper in its early days was a hard row to hoe. Kurt recalls that "People didn't know what it was; it was like a big wall we had to break down."

"Communicating with the people has helped me grow in a lot of ways. It really feels good when people walk up and say 'You're the friendliest vendor I know.'"

When grocery store managers tried to chase him off, he held his ground. "I stood up for my First Amendment rights and told them, 'This is public property.'"

Even as he hustled the paper, Kurt kept running with the gangsters — he says that he enjoyed inspiring fear. It took being assaulted by a knife-wielding enemy to change his mind. He spent a week in Harborview, recovering, and then, "I turned my life around. I real-



KURT FLASHES A PEACE SIGN. PHOTO BY ADAM HOLDORF.

ized that I want to put something good in the world."

And so the hustler applied his sales skills to more legitimate products. No matter if he makes a sale or not, Kurt

Continued on Page 14

Real Change Homeless Empowerment Project

SILENT Auction

Saturday
June 28th, 2003

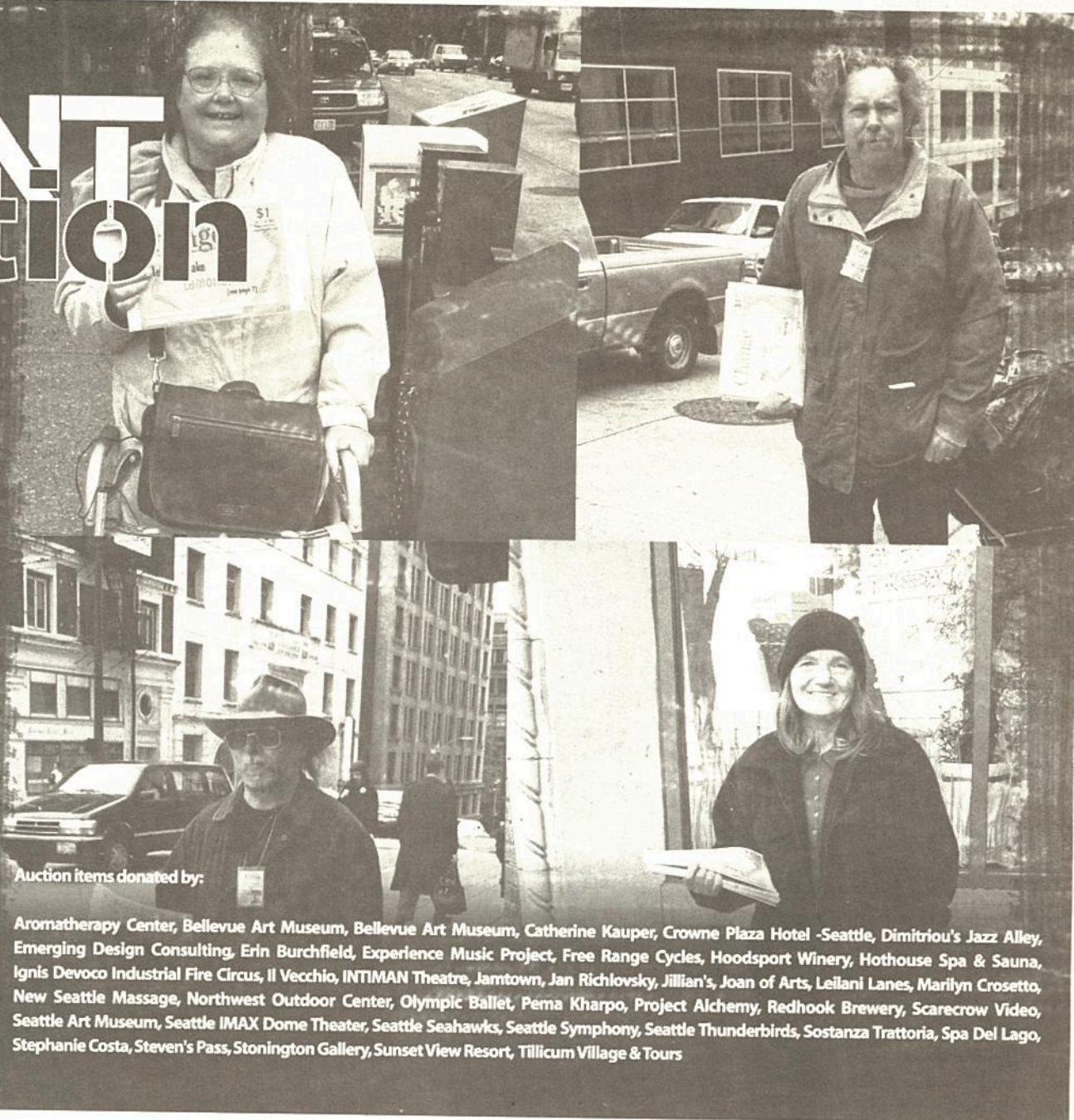
5:00 - 7:00 pm

Emergence Gallery
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Everyday Heroes

Reporting Civil Rights: American Journalism 1941-1973 (2 volumes)
Library of America (2003)
\$80 hardback

Review by Michele Marchand

"If people think that it was Martin Luther King's movement, then today they — young people — are more likely to say, 'Gosh, I wish we had a Martin Luther King here to lead us.' If they know how that movement started, then the question they would ask themselves is, 'What can I do?'"

— from an interview with Diane Nash, by David J. Garrow

The dream that inspired two hundred thousand people at the August 1963 March on Washington has been delayed, deferred and denied.

But to commemorate the 40th anniversary of that March, which itself was organized as a commemoration of the Emancipation Proclamation centennial, the Library of America has published a fascinating and powerfully moving, two-volume collection: *Reporting Civil Rights*.

In 188 pieces — essays, memoirs, but mostly firsthand reportage — these books span 42 years in nearly 2,000 pages, with comprehensive notes, writer biographies, and a chronology of the movement in each volume. The reportage was culled by anonymous editors from traditional dailies, Black newspapers (like the Pittsburgh *Courier* and New York's *Amsterdam News*), and many magazines (including *Harpers*, *The Nation*, and now-defunct mass market magazines like *Look*, *Life*, and *The Saturday Evening Post*).

Some of America's best-known writers are represented: Alice Walker, Joan Didion, Langston Hughes, Ralph Ellison, Howard Zinn, Hunter S. Thompson, John Steinbeck, James Baldwin.

Most perspectives are centrist, or sympathetic to the civil rights movement (with the exception of Tom Wolfe's painfully glib, hipper-than-thou, reductive, "Mau-mauing the Flak-Catchers"). Missing from these pages is writing by obvious, vicious racists, whose lips, in the words of Dr. King, "drip with the words of interposition and nullification." The collection might have been stronger if we were able to see our enemies through their own, extremist writings.

The myth of journalistic neutrality is apparent. As Nicholas Lemann points out in a *New Yorker* review, "The press was effectively part of the movement, and an indispensable part." A great, if inadvertent example of this occurred during the early days of the 1956 Montgomery bus boycott. Although leaflets

were posted after Rosa Parks's arrest for refusing to "move back" on the bus, only a fraction of black Montgomarians had heard of the call for a boycott. L.D. Reddick reports, "One of the notices got into the hands of the local paper, which put it on the front page. Negroes still laugh when they tell about this."

Until Northern papers and national magazines turned their attention to the plight of segregated Black Americans, the profound oppression, violence, fear and indignities of the South were unknown or seemed too unreal to believe. American terrorism was being practiced — lynchings, cross-burnings, bombings — and blacks had absolutely no recourse to the justice system.

Which is not to say the condition of Northern Blacks was good, as described powerfully and pointedly by James Baldwin in his "Letter from Harlem," 1960. But the South exemplified racism, which memoirist Lillian Smith describes as a haunted childhood that we must return to "like a hurt animal to its wound, a murderer to the scene of his sin."

In this collection, an array of the worst racist crimes of the 50s and 60s are reported: the brutal murder of young Emmet Till in Sumner, Mississippi. (His murderers were acquitted after a 67-minute jury deliberation, and later were paid to tell their story in *Look* magazine.) Birmingham Black church bombings. The murder of NAACP field secretary Medgar Evers. The murder of three civil rights workers in Philadelphia, Mississippi during the SNCC-organized 1964 voter registration drive. The assassinations of Malcolm X and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

These are the extreme end of a spectrum of violence and degradations, which are most stunning in their dullness. Acceptance of degradation as ordinary comes across painfully clearly in *Reporting Civil Rights*; it is one of the great gifts of these books, which absolutely captures the great motivating impetus behind the movement that profoundly changed American life.

But the other gift of these books is showing us the breadth and scope of direct action, and de-mythologizing the notion of the American civil rights movement as Dr. Martin Luther King's movement. *Reporting Civil Rights* begins with a "Call to Negro America," published in the *Black Worker*, announcing a "March on Washington for Jobs and Equal Participation in National Defense." Black soldiers, returning from fighting in WWII, started some of the grassroots organizing efforts.

For the most part, early organizing efforts were non-violent, and based on principles of loving your enemies. For instance, Bayard Rustin, who helped organize integrated Freedom rides (and later was Dr. King's most valued

advisor), said in 1942 (as he refused to move to the back of the bus): "If I sit in the back of the bus I am depriving that child" — pointing to a little white child of five or six — "of the knowledge that there is injustice here, which I believe it is his right to know. It is my sincere conviction that the power of love in the world is the greatest power existing. If you have a greater power, my friend, you may move me."

The scope of heroic action displayed here is inspiring; and perhaps typified in the long, excellent article by John Hersey, entitled "A Life for a Vote." In his article for *The Saturday Evening Post*, he documents a year in the life of a poor, Black Mississippi farmer, who goes to citizenship classes, takes (and repeatedly fails) trumped-up exams to qualify to vote, and houses two voter registration workers who've come down for the summer. "It's the best thing that's happened since there was a Mississippi," he says of the voter registration drive, nicknamed Freedom Summer. "I just love the students like I love to eat. Listen: They showed us they're willing to die for us..."

Both the courage of that Black farmer, who faced the possibility of being murdered as he prepared for his attempts to register to vote, and the courage of young college students, who came down to Mississippi by the hundreds, even after three of their colleagues were brutally murdered, help us see that the civil rights movement did not belong to or rest solely with its leaders (whose flaws and failed campaigns are also evident here, as is the profound infighting among the major organizing efforts — the SCLC, SNCC, CORE, and the NAACP).

It is a ridiculous truism that we still have far to go as a nation fighting its own racist impulses and all the terrible

sins that relate to and feed racism. Some would argue that Dr. King was assassinated just as — indeed, — because — he began broadening his organizing efforts to fight the interconnected issues of racism, poverty and war in the Poor People's Campaign, which birthed a major Tent City — Resurrection City — on the Capitol Mall. In a 1967 interview with David Halberstam Dr. King mentioned nationalization of certain industries, a guaranteed annual income, a vast review of foreign investments. These were — and are — seen to be dangerously radical solutions.



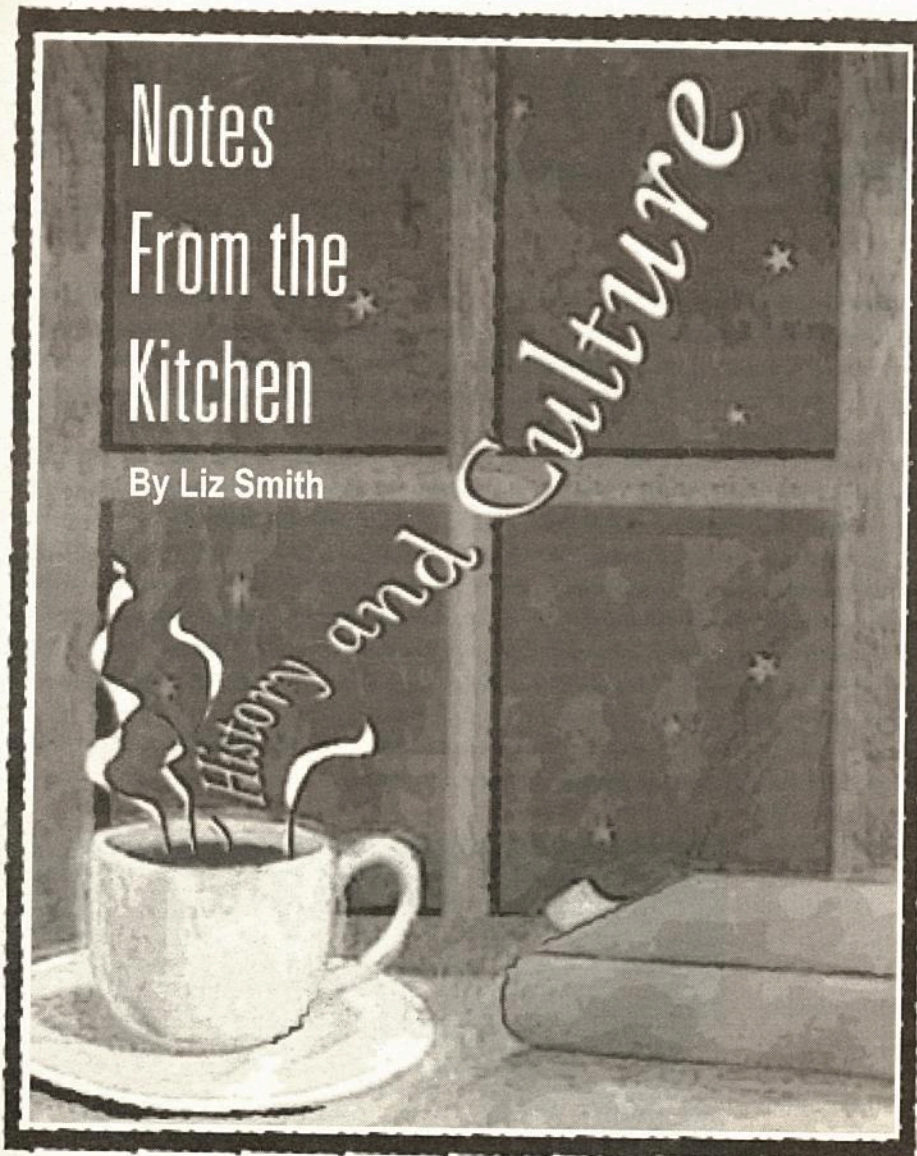
Reporting Civil Rights

Part One: American Journalism 1941-1963

But of course, without these solutions, the interconnected plagues of racism, poverty and war are as alive today as they were 40 years ago, if in different and perhaps more insidious forms.

Reporting Civil Rights shows us that the American civil rights movement was neither aberrant nor merely admirable. Either of these perspectives would make the movement too alien, too distant from actions we might choose to engage in right here and now.

Reading this book, late into the night and unable to sleep, I wondered what movement, born of my own generation, could spawn a collection like this? ■



Pretty Vacant

Readers, has this ever happened to you? You are called on to speak, all eyes are upon you, and you find you have absolutely nothing to say. That is me right now.

Because of my insomnia, I am suffering writer's block. What I want is sympathy and understanding — what I get is a deadline from my editor, a truly hardened case. So, I have no good stories for you today, but I have some good recipes, full of dash and verve. Insomniacs do not have dash and verve, but must struggle forward, victims of their misfiring biorhythms. Have a nice meal. Kill your alarm clock.

Hokkaido Pork Chops

This recipe needs to be started two days in advance. When you buy your pork chops, ask for center-cut loin chops, and have them cut at least an inch thick. Make sure they are not injected with any kind of sugar/salt solution, which doesn't improve the flavor, and means you're paying for chemicals, not meat. Pork today is a lot leaner than it used to be, and thin chops are too easy to overcook, thus becoming dry and tough.

- 3 tablespoons Japanese soy sauce
- 3 TB mirin (Japanese rice wine) or dry sherry
- 3 TB rice vinegar
- 2 teaspoons sesame oil
- 1 TB sugar
- 2 large garlic cloves, sliced thinly
- 1 1/2 inch square piece of fresh ginger, peeled and sliced thinly
- 3 green onions, cut into two-inch lengths
- 2 center-cut loin pork chops, one inch thick
- 2 cups cooked rice

1. Simmer first eight marinade ingredients for five minutes. This evaporates the bitter elements of the alcohol and blends the flavors. Chill completely in refrigerator.

Put the pork chops and marinade into a heavy plastic bag, and press out all the air. Lay flat on a plate and marinate one to two days in refrigerator, turning over a few times. In testing this recipe, the flavor after two days of marinating was better.

2. When you are ready to cook your chops, proceed as follows: simmer mari-

nade over high heat for five minutes. Lower heat to a bare simmer and put pork chops into marinade. Cook chops covered for 12 minutes, turn over, and cook 12 more minutes. The marinade must be at the lowest possible simmer, or you will end up with tough pork chops.

Serve on a bed of cooked rice, with chutney on the side, and a little of the hot marinade spooned over the pork chops.

Amindivi Mango Chutney

yield: 2 cups

I was happily surprised by how well this recipe turned out. It has a mildly fiery flavor, with a pleasant spiciness and a nicely balanced sweetness.

The garam masala is a blend of spices used throughout India. It is available at any store with a bulk spice section, including PCC, the Ballard Market, Madison market, Whole Foods, and the spice store next to Don and Joe's in Pike Place Market.

When cutting up the serrano pepper, either wear gloves or hold the pepper with a fork, as it is extremely hot. If you cut it into four long quarters, it will be very easy to remove the seeds. The pepper, along with the ginger, is simmered in the vinegar to contribute flavor. They are then removed, as fresh ginger doesn't have a good texture, and the pepper would give too much heat if left in.

This recipe calls for a lot of ingredients, but it is pretty simple to prepare. It is good with pork and also with chicken, and will keep for one week in the refrigerator.

- 1 bell pepper, any color but the purple, which has a dark unpleasant flavor
- 1 tablespoon peanut or vegetable oil
- 1 small white onion, peeled and cut in small dice
- 4 ounces white vinegar
- 4 ounces sugar
- 1 serrano pepper, cut in half lengthwise, seeds removed
- 1 1/2 inch square of fresh ginger, peeled and sliced
- 1 tsp garam masala
- 1 TB mustard seeds
- 2 tsp celery seeds
- 1/2 tsp chili powder
- 1 tsp salt
- 2 TB fresh lemon juice, from 1 small lemon
- 1 TB honey
- grated lemon zest from 1 small lemon
- 1 large mango

1. Cut bell pepper in half lengthwise and remove seeds. Press flat and broil in the oven until the skin is somewhat blackened. Seal in a plastic bag to let it steam for 20 minutes, then remove the skin. Cut into small pieces and put in a bowl on the counter.

2. Peel and chop onion. Dissect, seed and slice lengthwise the serrano pepper. Peel and slice fresh ginger. Grate the yellow part of the lemon, then cut in half and juice the pulp. Peel mango, cut it into thin slices, and free the slices from the pit as you go, then cut into small dice. Measure out the rest of your ingredients and put into small bowls or wax paper.

3. Now you are ready to cook. Heat oil in a pot on medium-low heat and add onions. Sweat the onions for 15 minutes, stirring several times. This develops the sweetness of the onion.

4. Add the vinegar, sugar, spices, lemon juice, serrano pepper, and ginger slices to the pot. Stir until the sugar is dissolved, and simmer on medium-low heat for 10 minutes. This extracts the flavors of the pepper and the ginger. Add the bell pepper and simmer five more minutes.

5. Fish out the serrano pepper and the ginger slices. Stir in the honey, lemon zest, and mango. Cooks one more minute, stirring well, then remove from heat. Let cool, then put in a bowl in the fridge.

Hunza Valley Apricot Soup

In this recipe I used sulphured apricots. You can use the other kind if you have allergies to sulphur, but you will end up with brown soup.

- 1 1/4 cups (10 ounces) apricot nectar
- 5 ounces sugar
- 1 TB lime juice
- 10 dried apricots — about 2 1/2 ounces
- 3 fresh apricots, pitted and sliced
- 4 ounces fresh strawberries
- 4 TB (2 ounces) plain yogurt
- 4 TB (2 ounces) heavy cream
- 1/2 cups (4 ounces) half-and-half
- 2 ounces apricot nectar

1. Simmer apricot nectar with sugar and limejuice, stirring until sugar is dissolved.

2. Add dried apricots and cook on low heat, covered, for 20 minutes.

3. Add fresh apricots and strawberries and continue cooking on low heat for 10 more minutes, stirring more frequently.

4. Remove pot from heat and chill in a cold-water bath. Puree in blender until perfectly smooth. Stir in dairy products. Chill in refrigerator for at least two hours. Serve in chilled bowls. Soup will thicken upon standing; thin with 2 ounces apricot nectar. ■

WILLS Cont from page 5

hasn't made him a populist. He supports the three controversial plans that neighborhood activists are fighting against — biotech in South Lake Union, the expansion of the Northgate Mall, and the lifting of the University of Washington lease lid in the U District.

"But I think [developers] have to work with the neighborhoods," says Della, who like just about every other challenger running for City Council attended the recent Neighborhood Summit in South Lake Union.

Along with the economy, Della's biggest concern is City Light, which he notes isn't a separate issue. "Businesses won't come here because they can't get a cheap energy rate. People with a fixed income: more-and-more of their money is going towards their utility bill rather than towards food or rent."

Della says he had high hopes for councilmember Heidi Willis when she took over as the council's head of Energy and Environmental Policy. But during her tenure, Della says that she has been inconsistent, often changing her mind on important issues such as the Monorail, and has shown a narrow agenda — banning circus animals from the city and keeping Trident submarines out of the Seafair Parade — which he says aren't core issues with the citi-



zens of Seattle.

Della feels that Wills has shown a lack of leadership as Energy Chair, that she should have had more communication with former City Light Superintendent Gary Zarker, and the Council needs to be better informed so that they can make wiser decisions regarding energy.

The most high-profile situation concerning City Light was the Council's decision not to reconfirm Superintendent Gary Zarker, leading to Zarker's resignation. Wills (along with Mayor Greg Nickels) were heavily criticized as Zarker supporters.

"If she was really concerned about the ratepayers in the city, she wouldn't have voted to reconfirm Zarker," says Della. "But Zarker's not the issue, Heidi's really the issue. There should be a new hiring [of a superintendent] soon. The mayor put together a

group that's taking applications and doing interviews. And no one on the City Council is on that review team. A lot of that has to do with the relationship that the Mayor and Council have, but I think it's important for at least the Energy Chair to be involved in the future." Wills' absence from the commission "shows that Heidi fell down on the job."

Della says he has a five-point plan for how to restructure City Light. However, if Della's elected to City Council, the new superintendent could be ensconced by the time he takes office. Nevertheless,

Della feels that the Council should closer monitor the new superintendent.

One area where no one would accuse Wills of falling down on the job is in campaign fundraising. At the most

recent filings, Wills has already raised over \$151,000 while Della has raised over \$68,000, including pledges. He says he plans to finish the campaign having raised \$150,000. And he feels that will be enough to get his word out. ■

Susan Harmon

Ed. Note: Harmon is running against councilmember Jim Compton, alongside John Manning and Angel Bolanos. We couldn't fit her in with the boys last issue ("What Comes Around," RC May 29-June 11).

Susan Harmon calls herself a "penny pincher." The 60-year old West Seattle resident might be labeled a typical Seattle leftist but she says, "I don't think the terms liberal or conservative really mean anything anymore. Fiscally I'm very conservative. I really like to save money."

Harmon is a long shot in the race for Position 9 against incumbent Jim Compton and two challengers ironically because she doesn't appear to have a lot of money. She's the only repeater from the

2001 election, but only a real political junkie might remember that she challenged Jan Drago then, only to lose out to Green Party-backed Curt Firestone in the primaries.

She feels that domestic violence is a major issue and is concerned with low-income citizens losing their voting rights. She's a little

vague on how the City Council could address those issues. But if anyone thinks that Harmon's the stereotypical soccer mom, she boasts plenty of "real world" experience. "I'm all over the map. I run my own small business. I opened a shop in Albuquerque with one rack of clothes and the phone not turned on, and I ended up with two stores. I understand how to build a business and work with people."

Harmon doesn't have any specific reasons for running against Compton, although she has a lot of the same complaints that she had with Drago. "He's pretty downtown, big business, same as Jan. He doesn't seem to get it — what it's like to sit down and have to decide how much you're going to pay for this bill and how much you're going to put towards that bill."

Harmon says if she's elected to city council she will donate 10 percent of her gross salaries to youth programs. "I'm tired of people making tough decisions on the backs of the poor. I say, put your money where your mouth is. And I'm willing to do that." ■

—R.V. Murphy



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CIVIL Continued from Page 8

And if you're an employer:

- Can you please acknowledge if you've received an application or résumé? And not lose it, if at all possible?
- When applicants call to follow up, can you please just tell them if they got the job or not — yes or no? Don't leave them hanging, wondering every time they check the mailbox or answering machine if they are going to be interviewed yet a third time — especially if you brag about how your company is famous for customer service.
- Don't leave signs up for months listing three job openings if you're not really hiring.
- If you have to apply online, then put that on your sign, so your current employees aren't constantly harried by people going in to ask for an application.
- Don't put out job ads that neglect to mention it's only a two-day-a-week job, or that it pays \$7.50 an hour and starts at 4 a.m.
- I went to many open interviews, and I was stunned at how often employers told people that they couldn't find their application, then asked: Could you just fill out a new one while you're waiting?

Some of these job applications are several pages long and very detailed. How insensitive and callous to expect the person to start all over. It's not like asking someone to just sign their name again.

- Please treat people with some dignity; don't be pompous just because you are in a fortunate position. Don't snap at someone who asks if you might be hiring now or in the future; they don't know that they are the hundredth person to ask you that.
- Many people get jobs at businesses that they have never eaten at, been to, shopped at, or had experience with. Your way isn't the way every business wants things done. If you believe there are rules that potential employees need to follow, then post them on your website, on signs or flyers. Tell people, kindly.
- If you have suggestions for how to be the ultimate potential employee, please email me at widemediumclose@yahoo.com. I know numerous people who would like to know what it is they are supposed to do to get a job these days and be the best employee possible.

This is about manners and common sense, and for everyone's sake please behave with the compassion that we're all capable of when we think about how we wish to be treated. ■

HUSTLER Continued from Page 10

stands ready as the unofficial doorman outside Ken's Market on Greenwood Avenue. Reaching out to hundreds of people a day, he's putting something good in the world.

"Communicating with the people has helped me grow in a lot of ways. It really feels good when people walk up and say, 'You're the friendliest vendor I know.'"

Still, selling *Real Change* isn't easy. "I've got the gift of gab. You've got to talk to people, and that's not for everybody. Sales is a hard line of life — some people got it and some people don't." His tips for vendors? "You've got to talk to people, be polite, dressing nice helps. There's something about being well-dressed — unfortunately, people judge a book by its cover."

And keep smiling, no matter what. Kurt says that even people who snubbed him for years outside Ken's have warmed up eventually. "I've broken ice barriers by smiling at them. It's not easy to break ice; I know people who stand their ground for 10 years and then suddenly — boom!"

The steady sales at Ken's have provided enough money for a mother-in-

law apartment just a few blocks away. Kurt loves living alone — his roommate in a Loyal Heights apartment building would drink and then "freak out," he says, calling the police.

While he's satisfied with this work, he sees *Real Change* as "a step to something bigger." This year he plans to improve his life; he wants to get a car and a job that allows him to save money. "I want to settle down and one day get married and have kids; but I don't want to bring them into poverty. I also plan to continue my writing and continue

working with *Real Change*; it's a part of me." He's working on an article for a future issue, a profile of a Phinney Ridge

benchmarker.

What would he like *Real Change* readers to know? "You can do it — keep going. It's a hard road, but don't give up your dreams. It's not about money; you want to do something good and do it. People hate to see you come up; it's human nature that misery loves company. Don't become a party to what other people say."

And, "Live by what we need and work together. If we all help each other, together maybe we can help everyone get along." ■

—Adam Holdorf

CLASSICS CORNER



by Perfess'r Harris

We at Classics Corner pretty much expect governments to lie. We came of age during the Nixon administration, so for us the bar was always pretty low. Ford was too brain-damaged to lie and Carter, well, he didn't even count. Reagan confused truth and the movies, and Bush Senior always had others to do his lying for him. The lawyerly Clinton, who thus lied whenever his lips moved, entertained the nation by redefining the word "sex" to exclude certain acts involving green dresses and cigars. But George Junior, by far, is the biggest, fattest liar we've ever seen, including Pisistratus, the Athenian tyrant of the sixth century BC.

Now, we know what you're thinking. "Whoa, Perfess'r, don't you go comparing the Commander in Chief to that bastard Pisistratus. We're at war here. Permanent, unending, war. Just like in 1984, and you know how that book ends. So why don't you take your subversive little "column" over to France or Canada or some other healthcare-loving country where maybe someone cares?"

But lately, we feel a bit overwhelmed by the sheer volume of official mendacity. It's as if the President reviewed Lincoln's dictum about not

"... so long as you can fool the folks in fly-over country, that's good enough."

being able to fool all the people all the time and decided that so long as you can fool the folks in fly-over country, that's good enough.

In just the past few weeks, official sources have said there never really were any weapons of mass destruction, and the terror links between Saddam and Osama are non-existent. Of course, we already knew that, but now it's official. Then, there's the MILLION JOBS that Bush's tax breaks for the rich are going to create, which raises the important question, "At what point, if ever, does mere assertion become

fact?" Perhaps worst of all, there's the government study that says if we continue current policies, America will wind up \$44 trillion in debt and all obligations to future generations are off the table. Bush made sure this information never saw the light of day until after the tax cut vote. Fellow ex-Catholics will recognize this as a lie of omission.

Which brings us to Pisistratus, an early Athenian politician who had similar faith in the intelligence of the people. Significantly, he also first came to power by political coup. He would be deposed twice, but always found some way to return. By the third time around, he was looking for a little divine backing. It seems like all our truly great leaders have God on their side.

And so, he found an unusually tall and beautiful woman from the neighboring town of Paeania named Phya, "fitted her with full armor, put her on a chariot, arranged her pose so she would appear at her most striking, and drove her into the city." Heralds, the media lapdogs of the day, were sent ahead to proclaim that Athena herself supported his return from exile, and the Athenians offered Phya their prayers and welcomed Pisistratus home.

Herodotus calls this "by far the most simple-minded thing that has ever been." We've seen worse. ■

Learn about homelessness through the Real Change Speaker's Bureau

Are you involved with a church, school, or community group that would benefit from learning about homelessness from those who understand it best — homeless and formerly homeless individuals?



Our Speaker's Bureau is available for small or large group presentations about the homeless experience. Sponsoring organizations pay speakers a \$35 honorarium.



To schedule a speaker or a performance, call 441-3247 ext. 201 and speak to Rachael, or e-mail organizer@realchangenews.org.

Summertime Notables

Thursday 6/12

City of Seattle Human Services sponsors "Street Culture and the Sociological World of Sexual Exploitation." Topics will include: Is there a culture of the streets? What is the street code of conduct? How do street values and norms impact service delivery? Free, breakfast provided, registration required at 206-386-1146 or margery.muench@seattle.gov. 9 a.m. - Noon, at Lifelong AIDS Alliance, Community Conference Room, 1002 E. Seneca St.

Saturday 6/14

Fundraiser for WaterPartners International's Water Purification Project in Iraq. The breakfast features guest speaker, Congressman Jim McDermott. Sponsors include Washington Physicians for Social Responsibility, Church Council of Greater Seattle, St. Mark's Episcopal Cathedral and many others. Suggested donation \$50 per person. 9:30 - 11:30 a.m., at Plymouth Congregational Church, Hildebrand Hall, 1217 6th at University, downtown. RSVP to seattle@water.org or 206-297-3024 or http://www.water.org/wfl/seattle_iraq/rsvp.htm.

Labor and Employment Law Office (LELO) Annual Domingo, Viernes, Jefferson Awards Dinner. The invited speaker is Stephen Funk, a 20-year-old Filipino American reservist who was activated during the war and refused to go to Iraq. This year LELO will honor Cathy Lowenberg, Co-chair of the Asian Pacific Labor Alliance and Marjorie Prince. 6 p.m., at Blaine Memorial United Methodist Church, 3001 24th Ave. S., on Beacon Hill. Tickets \$35, \$15 low income/students. Reservations or info LELO 206-860-1400 ext. 5.

Sunday 6/15

Seattle Chapter Fellowship of Recon-

ciliation program. Potluck dinner 5 p.m., program 6:30 p.m., at Woodland Park Presbyterian Church, 225 N. 70th. Info 206-789-5565.

Monday 6/16

Benefit honoring Nobel Peace Prize winner, Judge Romeo T. Capulong, the Philippines' leading human rights lawyer and Founder and President of the Public Interest Law Center Ad litem Judge - United Nations International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia. Judge Capulong will speak on "The Global War on Terrorism and its impact on the Philippines." Sponsored by Philippine-US Solidarity Organization and Filipino Workers Action Center. Tickets \$15 includes dinner and keynote address (no one turned away). 6 p.m., at Mount Baker Community Club, 2811 Mount Rainier Dr. S. Info 206-763-9611 or fwac9@yahoo.com.

World Affairs Council presents "At War with Ourselves: Why America is Squandering its Chance to Build a Better World." Newsweek Journalist, Michael Hirsch, will give an enlightening lecture on his new book, *At War With Ourselves*. Hirsch uses colorful vignettes and up-close reporting from his coverage of the Bill Clinton and George W. Bush administrations. Registration 6:30 p.m., lecture 7 p.m., at University of Washington, Kane Hall, Room 130, \$7 for general public, \$5 for students. Info <http://www.world-affairs.org>.

Wednesday 6/18

8518.

Interfaith Vigil for Peace in the Middle East, this and subsequent 18th of each month. At St. Mark's Episcopal Cathedral, 1245 10th Ave. E., 8 a.m. - 8 p.m. in the McCaw Chapel, 8 p.m. - 8 a.m. in Thomsen Chapel. Info 206-270-9170.

Thursday 6/19

Seattle Radical Women present author, Gary Atkins, discussing his new book, *Gay Seattle: Stories of Exile and Belonging*. This work traces the evolution of the Puget Sound's queer community over 100 years. Dinner with vegetarian option available at 6:30 p.m. for a \$6.50 donation. Program at 7:30 p.m., at New Freeway Hall, 5018 Rainier Ave. S. Info 206-722-6057 or 206-722-2453.

Saturday 6/21

Community Action Zone at the Fremont Fair, an area with a stage for music and brief speeches, activist's tables and opportunities for interaction with fair-goers. The Seattle International Human Rights Coalition is coordinating and would like to have as much participation from activists as possible. June 21 & 22, at the Fremont Fair. Info Frank Zucker 206-547-7735.

Sunday 6/22

Humanists of Washington annual Summer Solstice Picnic. Bring a picnic dish or dessert to share. 1 - 4 p.m., at Woodland Park Shelter #2. Info 206-527-

Wednesday 6/25

Successfully Housing People, Non-profit housing and service providers are faced with the challenges of adequately housing people with multiple issues such as mental illness, chemical dependency, AIDS, or criminal histories. This workshop will explore the key issues for assisting their clients. Workshop is free, breakfast and snacks provided. RSVP at margery.muench@seattle.gov or 206-386-1146. Registration 8:30 a.m., workshop 9 a.m. - 1 p.m., at Lifelong AIDS Alliance Community Conference Room, 1002 E. Seneca St.

Saturday 6/28

Rainbow Women's Health Fair, an annual event bringing health education, resources and free screenings to over 300 women each year. 10 a.m. - 3 p.m., at Broadway and Republican on Capitol Hill. Info Ling Li lli@fhrc.org or to schedule an appointment for a free Pap smear or mammogram 1-888-651-8931.

Ongoing

Exhibition of Painted Visions from India and Pakistan, including both traditional miniature paintings and contemporary works by South Asian artists, Shahzia Sikander and Nilima Sheikh. Sikander's work examines gender issues, and Sheikh explores the issue of violence against women. June 12 to Sept. 7, at the Seattle Art Museum.

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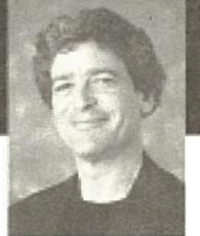
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Get that job you want.
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Desktop Publishing:

Learn Photoshop and Pagemaker.
Thursdays 1 p.m.

Microsoft Office:

Hone skills in Word, Excel, and Powerpoint.
Tuesdays 1 p.m.

Web Design:

An advanced class to build your own website using
JAVA, HTML, and other web scripting languages.
Saturdays 10 a.m.

All classes will be on Macintosh computers and will be held at 2129 Second Avenue, Seattle. No sign up; classes fill up on a first come, first serve basis.

citizens participation project



Tell the Mayor to make hungry people a priority

Issue: Seattle's outdoor meal program feeds thousands of hungry people each month. In July, it must make way for the construction of the new City Hall. Mayor Greg Nickels hasn't yet found a place for meal providers to relocate to. Time is running out.

Background: Just across Fourth Avenue from the Seattle Municipal Building is the Public Safety Plaza, where hundreds of hungry people go to get free food every day. The Plaza is equipped with a white canvas canopy and a sink with hot and cold running water. Twelve meals a week are served there, by volunteers from nine local organizations. The city pays for security and clean-up. Since 1992, it's been the city's designated outdoor feeding site.

Cranes are scheduled to displace food service in July, when the old Municipal Building is scheduled for demolition. Where will the free feeds move to? Six weeks from the deadline, Mayor Greg Nickels has delayed the process.

The best, most logical place for the outdoor feeds is City Hall Park, just south of the King County Courthouse at Third Avenue and Jefferson Street. It's only one block from the current site, lessening confusion among volunteer food servers and diners alike. When a coalition of meal providers stated their preference for the site, the city Human Services Department responded that the park was beyond their purview because it was King County's property. It was only later, during talks with City Councilmember Jan Drago, that Danette Allen, head of the Meals Partnership Coalition, learned that the park is city property.

Still, there's an added barrier to using City Hall Park: the mayor's wish to move the meals indoors. Calling the outdoor feeds "undignified," Nickels has asked the city's Human Services Department to pursue an indoor facility.

The mayor's sentiment is noble and good; people lining up for charity out in the open are laying down their dignity. However, people unable to get food are jeopardizing their lives.

Each month, thousands of people — most, but not all, of them homeless — line up at the Public Safety Plaza to get food. Last year, volunteers handed out more than 226,000 meals at the plaza. Allen, who coordinates the groups' activities, says an outdoor site allows people waiting in line to see how much food is left and when they'll get fed.

An indoor site, at this late date, is improbable on several grounds. Even with a recessionary surge in vacant commercial and office space, there are few places that will accommodate 300-900 poor, hungry people. What retail landlord will invite the feeds into their building for nothing, which is what the meal providers pay to use the outdoor plaza? Where would money to staff the building come from? How does a volunteer-run provider get a van full of hot food indoors?

Then there are a small number of mentally ill users of the outdoor facility who simply wouldn't come inside. They are distrustful of enclosed spaces and resistant to authority. A sort of "drive up window" would meet their needs, says Allen. Another great idea is an in-house kitchen where every group could prepare meals. But these are unrealistic goals at this late date; the city does not have the time to find the ideal indoor facility. "It's getting down to the wire," says Allen. "What's your choice? You can find the perfect place, or you can make sure that people get fed."

Action: Call the mayor's office and leave the following message:

"The city needs to act quickly to relocate the outdoor meals served at the Public Safety Building. Please don't dither with a fruitless search for indoor space that would most certainly be unfeasible. The best spot to relocate the meals is City Hall Park, on the south side of the King County Courthouse. The new location should include the same amenities required by the Health Department: running water, an overhead awning to protect the food, security, and sanitation. The mayor needs to be less concerned with hungry peoples' dignity and more with their need."

Or email it to mayors.office@seattle.gov, with a CC to City Councilmember Richard McIver (richard.mciver@seattle.gov), who's expressed support for the relocation.

WANTED:

writers, photographers
illustrators

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Of Windermere Agents

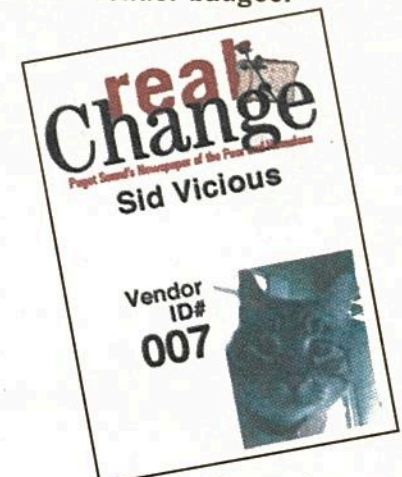
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