

FREE - donations accepted.

Carnegie

NEWSLETTER

JUNE 15, 1998.

401 Main Street, Vancouver V6A 2T7 (604) 665-2220



The Oppenheimer Park Totem Pole

It seems to me
that when someone dies
it is the responsibility
of those of us
who are left
to offer caring
for that life
for that death
in the intensity
of the love that reaches out
from the unendurable loneliness
of our separation.

So did First Nations people,
with their friends and allies,
raise a totem pole
in Oppenheimer Park
on June 6, 1998,
to remember the community
of those who have died
in the Downtown Eastside,
and so did they rededicate themselves
to the struggle
for hope and for justice
from one generation to another.

Sandy Cameron



The Invitation

Oriah Mountain Dreamer - 1995

It doesn't interest me what you do for a living
I want to know what you ache for
and if you dare to dream of meeting your heart's longing

It doesn't interest me how old you are
I want to know if you will risk looking like a fool
for love
for your dream
for the adventure of being alive

It doesn't interest me what planets are squaring your moon...
I want to know if you have touched the centre of your sorrow
if you have been opened by life's betrayals
or have become shrivelled and closed
from fear of further pain.

I want to know if you can sit with pain
mine or your own
without moving to hide it
or fake it
or fix it.

I want to know if you can sit with joy
mine or your own
if you can dance with wildness
and let the ecstasy fill you to the tips of your
fingers and toes
without cautioning us to
be careful
be realistic
to remember the limitations of being human.



It doesn't interest me if the story you are telling me
is true.

I want to know if you can
disappoint another
to be true to yourself.
If you can bear the accusation of betrayal
and not betray your own soul.
If you can be faithless
and therefore trustworthy.

I want to know if you can see beauty
even when it is not pretty
every day

And if you can source your own life
from its presence.

I want to know if you can live with failure
yours and mine
and still stand on the edge of the lake
and shout to the silver moon
"Yes"



It doesn't interest me
to know where you live or how much money you have
I want to know if you can get up
after a night of grief and despair
weary and bruised to the bone
and do what needs to be done
to feed the children.

It doesn't interest me who you know
or how you came to be here.
I want to know if you will stand
in the centre of the fire
with me
and not shrink back.

It doesn't interest me where or what or with whom
you have studied.

I want to know what sustains you
from the inside
when all else falls away.

I want to know if you can be alone
with yourself
and if you truly like the company you keep
in the empty moments

The Law And Class War

Part 1

3.



Laws are the rules by which we live in society. They are made, for the most part, by federal, provincial or municipal governments, and they can build a caring society or a predatory one.

We tend to be cynical about the law these days. We see the golden rule in action - those who have the gold make the rules. We feel that those who have the power to make the laws by which the economy operates, have rigged the game in the interests of the wealthiest and most powerful citizens. We hear corporate lobby groups like the Business Council on National Issues or the Fraser Institute, criticize government, yet we see them influence government shamelessly to get what they want. As ordinary Canadians, we feel we are being stomped on by legislation that works against us. For example, think of the tax laws that have increased taxes for low and middle income Canadians, while providing myriad tax loopholes for corporations and the wealthiest people. Poverty is increasing in Canada. The gap between the rich and the poor is widening. The middle class is shrinking -and all this is happening because laws allow it to happen. The anti-poverty coalition, ELP, picked a good name when it called itself End Legislated Poverty. What does that mean.?

In 1980, a single person on income assistance in B.C. received \$191 in support payments, plus a rental allowance. Because of B.C. Benefits, which



is a law passed by the provincial government, a single person on welfare now receives \$175 in support payments, plus \$325 for rent. From 1980 to 1997 the cost of living in Vancouver went up 106 per cent. That means single people on income assistance would have to receive close to \$400 per month in support payments to have the same purchasing power they had in 1980. Instead, they receive only \$175. That's legislated poverty with a vengeance; one result has been more panhandling on the streets. Now municipal governments have passed laws restricting panhandling while refusing to address the laws that created it in the first place. Sir Thomas More said in his famous book "Utopia", published in the year 1519, "If you don't want thieves and beggars, stop making laws that create thieves and beggars."

But how can the B.C. government get away with such viciously low income assistance rates? Don't citizens have the right to income when in need, and don't they have the right to adequate income? Didn't Canadians fight for these rights in the Second World War, and weren't they expressed in the UN Universal Declaration of Human Rights of 1948? When the Canada Assistance Plan (CAP) was passed in 1966 it contained the right to income when in need, the right to adequate income, and the right not to have to work for welfare (the right to work freely chosen). That was the law. These important rights for ordinary Canadians were abolished by the federal government when the Canada Health and Social Transfer (CHST) replaced CAP as law on April 1, 1996. Provincial governments are now free to refuse welfare to people in need, and are not required to maintain adequate welfare rates. The way is open to Third World poverty in Canada. It's the law.

By SANDY CAMERON
to be continued

READINGS OF THE MILLENNIUM

for

POETIC UNITY

Join **Bud Osborn & Sheila Baxter** on *Tuesday, June 23*
as they host a night of poetry and prose.
Featuring writers from Carnegie & The Gathering Place

There will be: - open mike
- refreshments
-and musical accompaniment if so desired

to all participating readers: sign-up time will be **6:30pm**
and length of each time slot will be **10 minutes**

this unforgettable event will be in
Carnegie Community Centre Theatre
7pm to 10pm, Tuesday, June 23



Here, from the offices of Dick Wad, are the Top
Ten names for grasstown security guards

10. Humpty Dumpty
9. The Stoned Ranger
8. Secret Squirrel
7. Grasstown Posse
6. Jackass Pete
5. Sheriff of Grasstown County
4. Ricochet Rabbit
3. Touché Turtle
2. Danger Ranger
1. Grasstown Cowboys

As of 6pm, June 9, '98, the Regal Place has been closed by order of the City, citing many poor living conditions. We can put the blame on a lot of people and reasons, but the bottom line is that people have been forced out against their will. The plan is to close down the whole block and build condos for the rich. Shitty Hall is paving the way for greedy developers and don't care what happens to the poorer non taxpayers.

Carl MacDonald



Be careful of what you dream in life
For if thou dreamest of war & strife,
it shall happen.

If thou shall dream of happiness,
thou shall have it.

So let's all have happy dreams

Anne Larson

from D and I



It was a hot July morning, a free Sunday morning, with nothing at all to do, a day 'out of the blue,' D said, "for out of the blue things." D probably didn't use that phrase, however. We always think or say that people said or thought things they didn't think or say, but which we would think or say, we think, if we were them. We hear not other people but ourselves, our projections unto other people, and thus are forever misquoting other people, putting words into their mouths and into their minds that aren't there and never were there, but which make them sensible to us. We invent, to a large extent, everything we think people said, or thought, and treat them as if our projections unto them are them, when our projections unto them are precisely what is not them, are the opposite of them, are the destruction of them. Everything we think other people have said and are saying, or have thought and are thinking, is pure fiction, but we act always as if it were infallible truth, as if it were the actual, or whatever the term is, instead of the imaginary. That is why some people have said that the world outside of an individual and an individual's perceptions is the imaginary, can only be the imaginary, and that one's view of things and interpretation of things is the only reality. The problem is,

Humor is not a mood but a way of looking at the world. So if it is correct to say that humor was stamped out in Nazi Germany, that does not mean that people were not in good spirits, or anything of that sort, but something much deeper and more important.

Ludwig Wittgenstein (1889-1951)

no one wants to accept that the universe is imaginary, though it cannot be anything but imaginary, and no one wants to accept that thoughts, feelings etc. are the only reality, because they think it implies some kind of spiritualism or such, when, in fact, spiritualism says the opposite, says there is a reality called the world and that our perceptions of it, or whatever the term is, can be honed and improved, such spiritualisms as science and technology etc., the spiritualisms that, in their arrogance and the arrogance of their inane practitioners, invent more and more complicated things to achieve more and more ridiculous, destructive and pointless goals, claiming all the while to be moving us, that is, them and the wealthy and educated criminal corporate, academic, political class that pays them, forward, but doing nothing of the sort, moving us toward the next academic, corporate, political horror, in which they and their sponsors benefit and everyone else pays, as often as not with their lives, or parts of their lives, as they say, people paying forever with something from their lives for the criminal acts of the privileged classes, I thought.

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studies, or whatever the term is, just so they can see their theory "in action," so they can "test" their hypotheses fully, a concept as ridiculous and addle-brained as their theories. I need to see if D is home, I said to myself, probably aloud, and went down the back stairs quietly.

Dan Feeney

COMPUTER VOLUNTEERS MEETING

If you volunteer in the Computer Room or in the Learning Centre, please attend!

**TUESDAY, June 16th @ 10:30 a.m.
Classroom II**

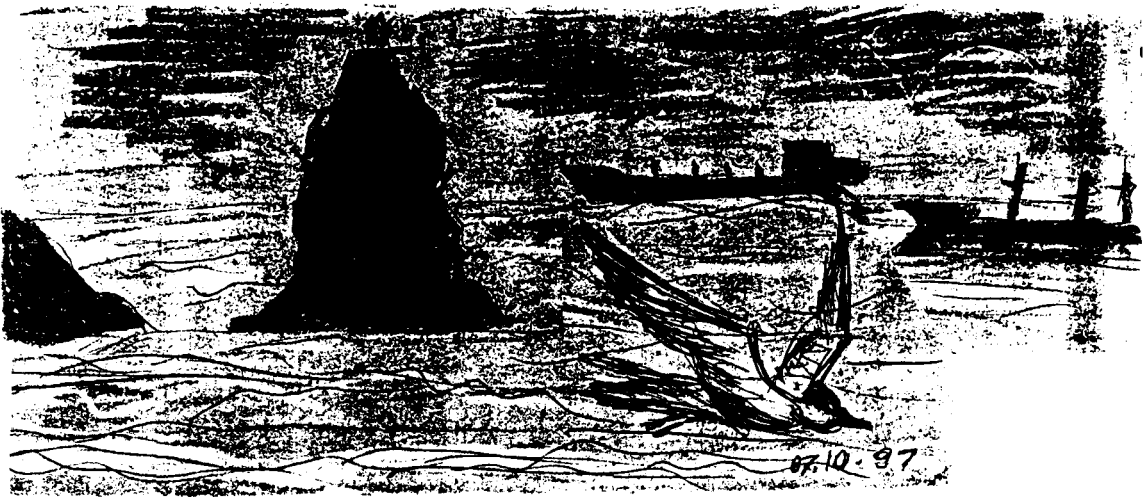
Mostly, the parties are fascistic, more and more these days, every passing day a new fascist law or practise and every day the sense of a greater need for laws and practises that are pro-corporate and anti-human, that are fascistic, but some of them are quite racist on top of this, which combination of abominations spells disaster for everyone, yet no one is willing to say that these criminal fascistic parties are criminally fascistic and no one is willing to say these racist criminals are racist criminals. All these educated criminals are fond of quoting, or misquoting, this or that authority or so-called authority or expert on progress, or whatever the term is, particularly authorities on social progress, paying lip service to this or that apparently progressive, but probably regressive ideal, while daily performing the dangerous, hateful and destructive things they do that benefit only themselves and their so-called friends, at the expense of everyone else. There never seems to be a shortage of academics and experts to supply the criminal, managerial, political, business class with addle-brained theories or speculations, which the criminal class will use to their own advantage and to the disadvantage of everyone else, never seems to be a shortage of highly over-paid pretenders and arrogant stooges, all of them incredibly costly drains on the economy, or whatever the term is, all of them incredibly costly in social terms, to all around them, near or far, with buckets full of ancient, recycled claptrap brainlessly sniffing out like dogs or rats any potential for their own advancement, regardless of how destructive and anti-human and hateful and spiteful their bozo theories are, in spite of the fact that they know their bozo theories will be used by the criminal class in dangerous, terrifying and terrible ways. In fact, it is the dream of the academic hooligans to see their pet theory or theories, their bozo theories, put into practise, though they know that every theory that has been put into practise has destroyed and killed people, just to satisfy their egos and the formal so-called demands of their

from September 1, 1939

All I have is a voice
To undo the folded lie,
The romantic lie in the brain
Of the sensual man-in-the-street
And the lie of Authority
Whose buildings grope the sky:
There is no such thing as the State
And no one exists alone;
Hunger allows no choice
To the citizen or the police;
We must love one another or die.

Defenceless under the night
Our world in stupour lies;
Yet, dotted everywhere,
Ironic points of light
Flash out wherever the Just
Exchange their messages:
May I, composed like them
Of Eros and of dust,
Beleaguered by the same
Negation and despair,
Show an affirming flame.

W. H. Auden



Sue Bennett, Gastown Homeowners Association
 Charles Lee, Chinatown Merchants Association
 Lee Yun Sung, Strathcona Residents Association
 Douglas Whorral, Gastown Homeowners Association
 Leonore Sali, Gastown Business Improvement Society
 Alvin Thompson, Gastown Community Safety Society
 Tong Yuet, Chinatown Merchants Association

It was disappointing to read your open letter to Vancouver City Council concerning drugs, crime, housing and services in the Downtown Eastside.

I appreciate there are varying points of view about the Downtown Eastside and certainly there are major issues that need discussion, consultation and understanding. Unfortunately, the tone of the letter and the rejection of the rights and needs of low income residents only increases the divide.

A few days prior to the open letter being sent, I met with the Gastown Homeowners Association, and listened carefully to the concerns that were expressed. There was agreement, I believe, that we needed to begin a process of discussion and understanding to seek common goals and directions, and I indicated my willingness to facilitate this.

Calling for the rejection of an anti-conversion by-law and a moratorium on low-income housing would have a severe impact on thousands of low income residents. To see people dispossessed from their community is unacceptable in any neighbourhood.

I was also very concerned to see that the letter targets people in the illicit drug trade. To strip these people of their voice and entitlement to help is harmful and anti-democratic, and will not improve their situation at all. I believe it is important that we understand the needs of users to ensure that the medical, social and treatment services are properly available.

I am still prepared to help bring about discussion and dialogue in the interest of seeking some shared goals and directions, but this can only be possible if there is a spirit of openness and willingness to work together, even where disagreements exist, to achieve understanding.

I look forward to hearing from you in the hopes that your respective organizations will agree that inclusive and meaningful dialogue are a critical step to arriving at this understanding.

Sincerely,

Libby Davies MP

Vancouver City Council
 Jenny Kwan, MLA, Vancouver Mt Pleasant
 Tim Stevenson, MLA, Vancouver Burrard
 Ian MacRae, President, DERA
 Muggs Sigurgeirson, President, Carnegie Association
 Bud Osborn, Vancouver/Richmond Health Board
 Judy McGuire, DEYAS
 Ann Livingston, Vancouver Area Network of Drug Users
 Tom Lavolette, Carnegie Community Action Project

(This letter was sent to the editor of Spare Change)
MAILBAG

To The Boss:

Once again, it may not be the most advisable thing to write letters to your own boss, but here I am.

May I point out what you did wrong in your last newspaper? Once and for all, would you kindly refrain from using the word "junkie"? And what you mean by the term "straight citizen" I can only guess.

May I remind you that everyone born in this country is a citizen, whether they are "junkies", "hookers", "alcoholics" or whatever. Is a junkie anyone who takes psychoactive drugs? I take coffee every day. Coffee contains caffeine, a drug. Once in awhile I take penicillin, also a drug. Once again, it may not be advisable to write letters to the boss, but what can you do? You can't fire me. Who would ever go to work for the amount of wages you pay me?

Robert R. Rich

To which the whitebread editor replied:

"You're being rather prolific these days Robert R. Keep it up and we may have to increase your wages. In fact, starting immediately, we are increasing your rate from \$0.00 per article to \$0.01 Letters, alas, we don't pay for."

Robert adds this now:

Do you know how the word fascist originated? It was a Latin word meaning a bundle of sticks, held together, like kindling. If you take out the sticks, one at a time, you can break them over your knee. Held together you can't break them, even over your knee.

So why don't we use their tactics against them? Work together, folks. Or would it be more correct to say, "Work together, citizens.?"

And always remember: once they take away the rights of some citizens, there is nothing to prevent them from taking away the rights of all citizens.

And that means you!

SEE...
council run for cover!

HEAR...
the crowds scream for justice!

Theatre that'll make you laugh...

Speeches that'll make you cry...

Chalk that may get you arrested...

Transportation Funds Provided

For info:
681-3676

Protest Against

Vancouver's Panhandling By-law

Gather at 12:30 pm Tuesday, June 16
Theatrics start at 1:00pm City Hall (12th & Cambie)

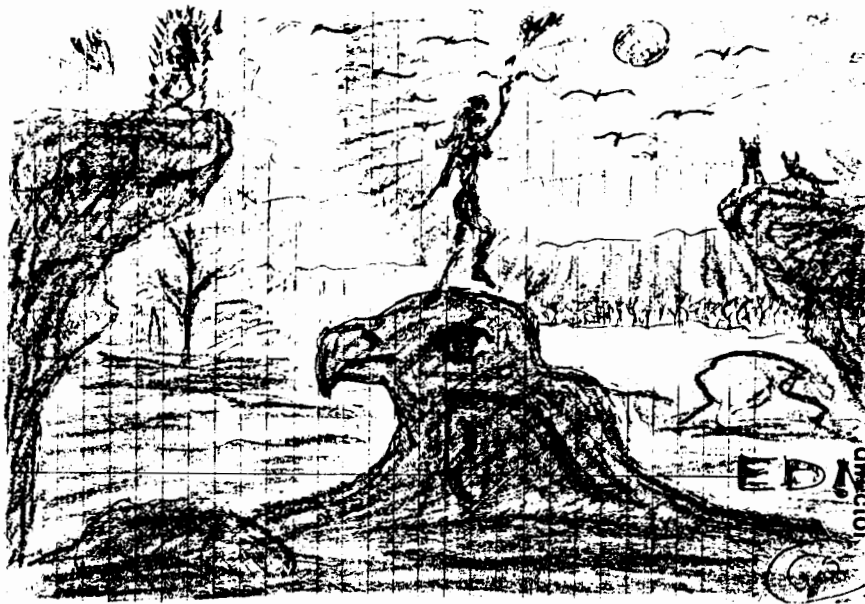
Fighting back

At Nottingham, England, in 1796, a scandalized merchant wrote to a friend, "A post was set up with a board tixed upon it, on which was written 'All Vagrants will be apprehended and punished as the Law directs.' Now over the word 'Vagrants' the word 'Tyrants' has been pasted, and no one stirs to take it down."

E.P. Thompson The Making Of
The English Working Class.

"None is mor honourable and worthy of immaculate, pure air than he who does not cut the cheese."

Downtown Eastside Guru



The DERA Voicemail Service

Many people on income assistance cannot afford to have a telephone. This makes accessing services and employment opportunities extremely difficult, if not impossible, for these people. There is, however, an effective low-cost alternative to paying for a private phone line. It's called voice mail, and each user has a phone mailbox where messages can be left or retrieved 24 hours a day.

The Downtown Eastside Residents' Association started a voice mail service in February. It's rate is \$3 a month, \$10 for 4 months or \$25 a year.

DERA also offers voice mail to organizations at the rate of \$20/year for a minimum of 10 boxes. You get direct access from any phone and you have complete control over who has access to it.

Introductory offer

For a limited time, DERA will be offering one month free with every new subscription.

If you have any questions about the Dera voice mail service, call **Terry Hanley at 682-0931** or **Cal Woodruff at 873-9314.**

On May 30, 1998, the Downtown Eastside celebrated the colourful murals that had been painted by different groups in the community. About eighty of us marched from Oppenheimer to Pigeon Park, a rainbow parade with a jazz band leading and Donald MacPherson bringing up the rear with bagpipe wailing and kilt swing-ing. "Scotland forever," the music cried, half ecstasy, half lament, the music of the dispossessed, of those scattered throughout the world because they could not live in their own country.

On Hastings Street a young woman approached Donald, her body thin like paper and face pale as the morning moon. She had a cold sore at the corner of her mouth, and she walked unsteadily as many of us do on this uneven earth. Her hair was red like the sky at night, sailors' delight, and she followed Donald, swaying to the music, for an entire block. "I'm Scotch," she said, and, oh, the luminous shining pride in her eyes, and then, "Thank you," and she was gone.

Dear Scottish lass, what did you hear in the music that Donald played? What message in those plaintive songs for you, for the people of the Downtown Eastside, for all the world's peoples?

Sandy Cameron



In The Dumpster

binner@vcn.bc.ca

Fx: 684-8442 Voice: 682-3269

I would like to correct the new hours of United We Can. Monday to Friday: 9:30 - 5:00

Saturday: 9:30 - 12:00

Sunday: 9:30 - 2:00

Congrats to Ken for his environment award!

I would also like to welcome our newest neighbour and friend to the 'hood: El Nino serving "Mexican Cuisine" at 111 Alexander St. They are open from 11am-8pm, Mon-Saturday!

We have lost another brother in our DE - Reggie Daigle died. Apparently he went in his sleep. He was a sound artist and donated one of his paintings to the 2nd floor reception area in Carnegie; it is a superb work of Pender Harbour. Reggie was also a good carpenter and handyman. He was well-known for the work he did on houses around Pender and Bowen Islands and also in Deep Cove. Rest in peace, Reggie. We'll all miss you.

It seems the demon spirits of Ghengis Khan and Adolf Hitler are alive and living in Grasstown and Chinatown, trying to tyrannize our Downtown Eastside. We should overrun them the next time they have an event. Grasstown will host the Jazz Festival June 19-28; we should march up and down Water Street with signs calling them poor-bashers. Remember Trashhopper a few issues ago calling for a boycott of Chinatown? That gets two thumbs up from this binner. They won't get any of my trade.

Good luck to all those who got into Bruce Eriksen Place.

The computer lab is not going yet. We are still having complicated problems, but hope to be up and running soon.

Grace Edge! I would like to read more of your work and hope to meet you sometime. Keep up the good work. Also thanks to Maureen for her thoughts on Gastown and Chinatown. I hear you.

Joe Kuntz, my campaign manager-to-be in the next election, wants to do an advice column. He can be reached at joe.kuntz@mailcity.com Go for it Joe! Have a monumental month. Don't forget the sunscreen and liquids and Hey! Let's be careful out there.

By MR. McBINNER

TTY

**(phone for the hearing impaired)
available for call-outs**

Monday-Friday 9:00 am-5:00 pm

Program Office, Third Floor
Ask Teresa or Larry for assistance

To Bin or Not to Bin

That is the question.

Whether it is Nobler to sit on One's Ass
upon the Chairs of the Dugout
and Stare at the D.U.'s TV

OR to gasp the heady aroma at The 44
whom I Hate for their lack of Taste

OR do I get my Kicks

From the Dumpsters of Kits
(and other Parts of Town)

so I can come DownTown where City Hall

- don't care -

and watch Unfortunates like me and you

- Where Are You Now Jenny Q.?

call me dudette...

Carl MacDonald

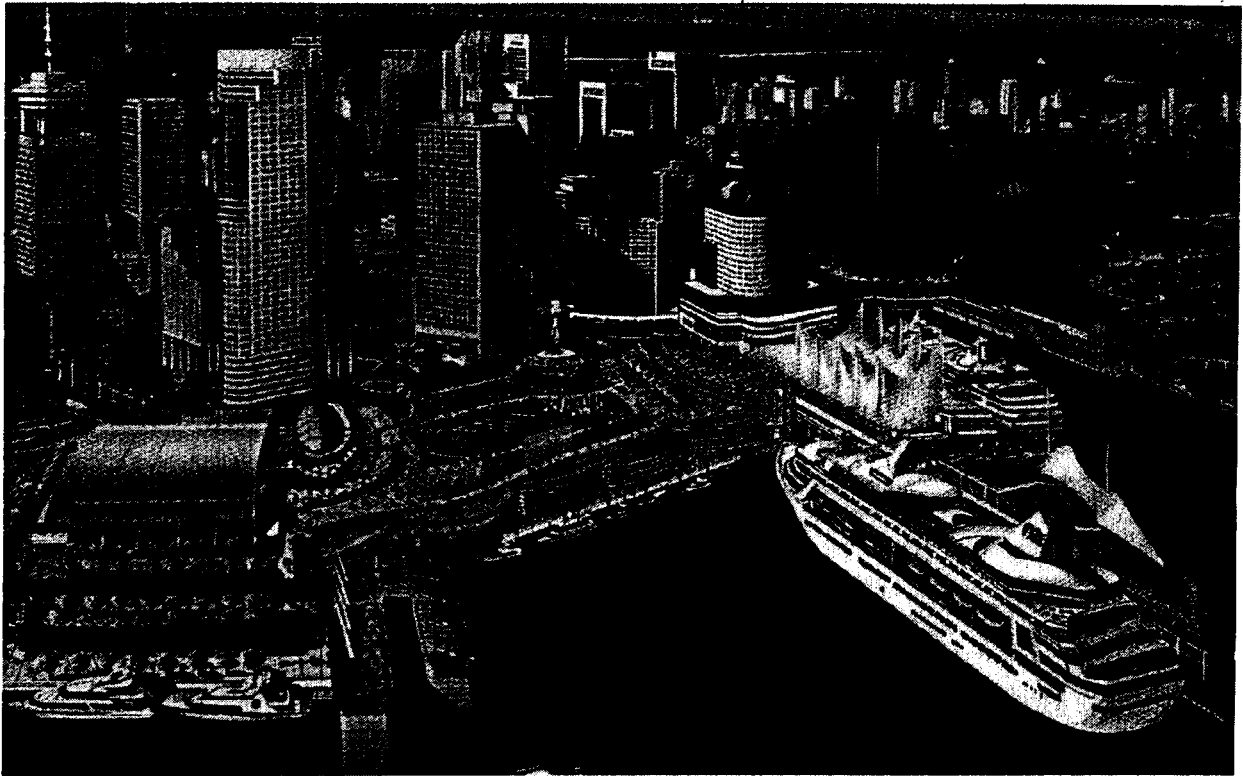


Newsletter of the Carnegie

Community Action Project

June 15, 1998

Want to get involved ! Call 689-0397 or come see us at Carnegie (2nd flr.)



**Will we have any serious input
into this urban mega-project??**

**Vancouver's expanded
Trade and Convention Centre**

**Important Meeting
at Carnegie
(details inside)**



The debate is beginning again.

proposed plan

Now that summer is here things have begun to heat up over the development of the new Trade and Convention Centre. Revised plans are being drawn up and consultation with various "stakeholders" has begun.

Last November Premier Clarke announced that Greystone Properties Ltd. in partnership with Marriot International, Vancouver Port Corporation, and the provincial government would together be developing the \$200 million (at least) expansion to the existing facilities.

The expansion will total over 1.5 million sq.ft. of new hotel and convention centre facilities. This will likely include a 1000 room and a 500 room hotel (second phase), a third cruise ship berth and lots of fun space for convention goers.

In January, 1998, before Greystone was chosen as the developer, the City of Vancouver released its "Site and Community Context Evaluation" report. Using a point system to grade various aspects of the development, the report gave the proposed development

(next page)

a failing grade (2 out of 10) for its negative impact on the Downtown Eastside neighbourhood. One big effect, the report states, is rising property values adjacent the new facility. As you know, residential hotels begin to convert as property values rise and new uses become more profitable. In the words of the report:

Impacts from increasing land values would be conversion to backpackers or other tourist uses, demolition and redevelopment for higher return housing or commercial uses, and disinvestment of housing in favour of ground-level commercial uses.

How much of the Downtown Eastside could be effected by this development ? The report says that there are 3,247 residential hotel units (in 68 buildings) within a 15 minute walking distance of the new facility. That's close to half of all the residential hotel units in the Downtown Eastside.

\$5.4 Million is F--- All !!

So Greystone has committed \$5.4 million dollars as a public benefit for housing and recreation. If used to fund new housing, it equals to about 53 housing units. So 3,247 residential hotel units could be lost due to this development and replaced with 53 new housing units. This is not a good deal. Or, as Bob Smith of First United put it:

... the Greystone contribution is picayune, and those who negotiated it on behalf of the city and the province make the folk who sold Manhattan to the Dutch for beads and trinkets look astute !

It's especially picayune in light of the community concessions gained in the City of San Francisco when the city developed its convention centre (see box on San Francisco, next page). Much more was done to deal with the serious impacts an urban mega-project can have on a surrounding neighbourhood, especially if it's a low-income neighbourhood.

So, CCAP believes the Downtown Eastside must express its disappointment with the lack of mitigation being offered by Greystone. It is critical that we at least make the following demands before we agree with this new development.

- 1 That the City of Vancouver enact a hotel conversion control by-law as part of the mitigation effort. Furthermore, that Greystone join Downtown Eastside organizations in demanding this by-law from the city.
- 2 That Greystone and its partners commit more money for public benefits, \$5.4 million is not enough..
- 3 That the City and the Province allow a portion of the existing hotel tax be used to fund social. Just like what was done in San Francisco.

These are some of the issues that need to be raised at a City of Vancouver organized public meeting here in the

Carnegie theatre.

**Monday, June 22
3 to 5:30 pm**

Linkage fees in San Francisco

When an expanding trade and convention business threatened to displace the Tenderloin, a low-income neighbourhood, hoteliers agreed to support a variety of mitigation efforts including:

- Funding a variety of community activities such as a child care centre, a senior centre, a neighbourhood park and rezoning study.

Donating over \$1.5 million to a Tenderloin Community Fund.

- Creating a housing subsidy fund through a \$.50 a night occupied room charge, producing \$5.4 million.

One new hotel provided \$1.1 million loan and ongoing rent subsidy for SRO development

The Chelsea Inn now advertising for tourists

\$25 Single
\$35 Double

Brochures for the Chelsea (34W. Hastings) can be found at the bus/train station. Another hotel trying to cash in on the budget tourist.

Again, City Council has for a one-year now has had the ability to enact a hotel conversion control by-law. They have yet to act. We can now add the Chelsea tourist rooms to the running total of 771 hotel units that have been converted in the past two years.

**Pick up a copy of the
just completed:**

Community
Housing Plan:
Necessary
Measures

**Lots of good info on
what's needed to
improve and secure
low-income housing in
the Downtown Eastside**

**Drop by the CCAP office,
2nd Flr. Carnegie**



Woodwards' Update

Just in case you were wondering, CCAP has heard of no new plans or start dates for construction by the owners, FAMA Holdings.

Given the soft condo market (leaky condos and all) the Woodward building will be sitting like it is for some time. Fama lost its chance when it rejected the Woodward Co-op

Communities Against Racism March and Rally



Unite Against Hate
Join us in a march for Justice

Sun. June 28th, 1998

Start: 1:30 Surrey Central Stat
3pm rally at Bear Creek Park

Communities Against Racism & Extremism (tel) 545-RAC
<http://www.geocities.com/CapitolHill/Senate/6191/>

Editor,

In your June 1, 1998 issue, you had an article "I was Married to Rice Wine." This drew my attention, as I have lived this nightmare before. Perhaps this might help others to steer clear of getting involved, but right beside the article was another one, detailing how to cook the salt out of rice wine. At the very least, this is irresponsible journalism; worst yet it is promotion of a sad aspect of alcoholism. Please recant!!

Tim Potter

Dear Tim,

I can empathise with your nightmare experience. Part of life is to know what can be done. Abstain from alcohol and your drinking problem is easier to control; abstain from heroin or cocaine and the same result may happen. If total abstinence is not presently possible, then harm reduction is the next best thing. You can tell someone not to use needles, *but if you do*, use a clean one. Don't drink rice wine, *but if you do*, get the salt out of it.



Walls of Change has been written of and photographed and it is just beginning. The celebration day was on May 30 and work will go on all summer. Check out the AGM book at Carnegie for some information; to see this incredible art, just walk around!

GRAFFITICITY

spring house-cleaning, i hate it, it torments the soul of a woman
while all the while

the garden needs a waterin darlin

out in the spring sunshine chartreuse shadowed concrete wall of
the old ice-house down by

the railway track by the sea

the graphitiist looming in the green fog on the overpass

dont go on the hiway take the freight-train

and

suck this, dicks

with appropriate
pictures

and my christian relationship with the birds

i feed them seeds

they shit down my front windows

their food gets caught by floods and nastily decomposes into my
neighbour's roof already ridden with silver nettle vine and deadly
nightshade

and inhabited with civilized earth worms that ooze and mate

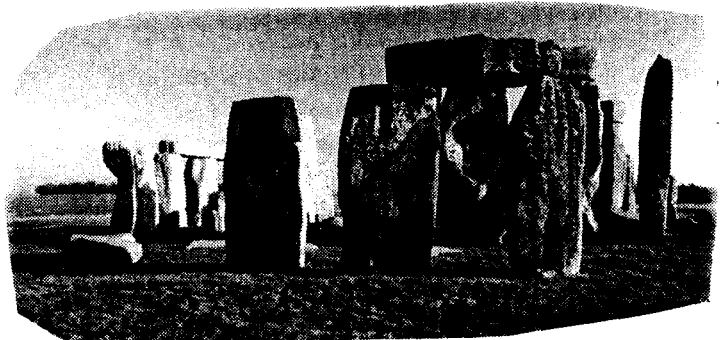
in perfect

squares

right now the birds are getting drunk on rotting rye right out on my
back balconey and creating a disturbance which will scandalize the
2000 or so neighbours including the gulls and crows
who will waylay them

as they stagger

home



after night-fall the authorities will come for them with laser-driven
electric hawks equipped with heat sensors and steel talons
ready to launch

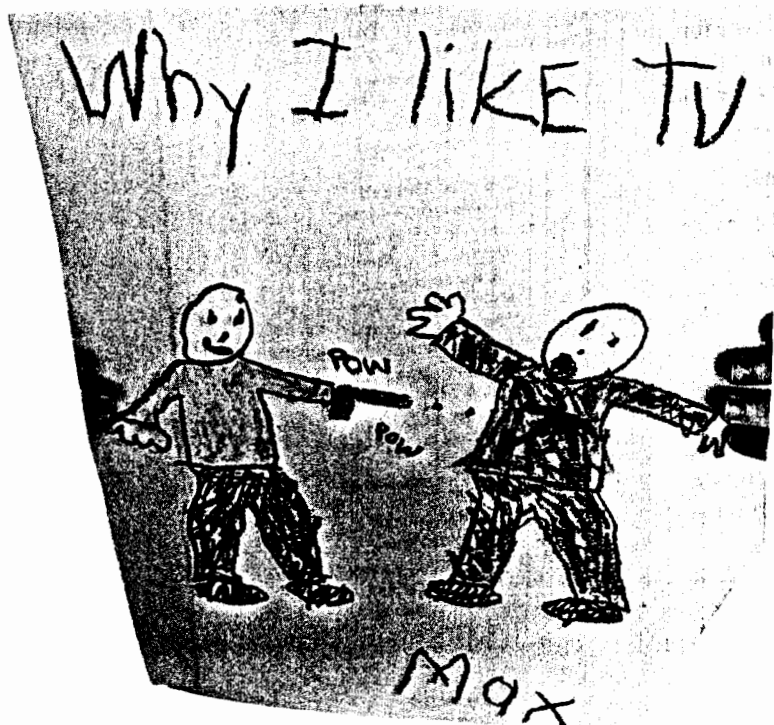
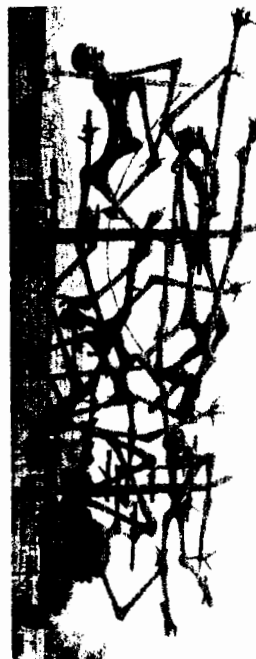
who knows, maybe one of these nights i might wake up again to
those BRILLIANT MOVIE ARCLIGHTS AND AMBULANCE
LIGHTS AND LIGHTS OF BLACK MARIAS, FLASHING RED
AND BLUE AND **WHITE**,
hearing

A PARTY OF POLICEMEN AND FIREMEN AND
AMBULANCEMEN BELOW

LAUGHING IN THE ALLEY

laughing over my upstairs neighbour
Atiba
on the tarmac
who
after falling
six
stories
still
lives

maxine gadd 1997



He was delivered from the womb on October 16, 1980, in a darkened room, by three doctors wearing night vision goggles.

He was named Garth Wafmun. His purpose was to live in isolation until the age of twenty, and then take his destined seat as the head of the New World Order.

Moments after the birth he was taken to another dark room and placed on a crib within a teflon bubble with inward arm sleeves that would allow a matron to pick him up and breast feed him through a small nipple opening.

After seven days of complete darkness, Garth was gradually exposed to light from a dull green screen on the ceiling above his crib.

At the age of one month, impossibly beautiful woman's face appeared on the green screen. The woman sang lullabies and cooed softly spoken words.

Her face was ever passive; never showing expressions that might possibly trigger any undesired emotional development.

Garth was constantly monitored. When he showed signs of coming out of sleep, the appeared in the darkness for feeding before he could react to his hunger.

In his short life of six months, Garth had not once cried since his birth scream. His needs were electronically anticipated and dealt with at the exact moment of expectation.

His active world consisted of the unseen matron's nipple and the teflon arms that changed the diapers and put him through range of motion exercises.

As expected, he transferred the matron's actions to the woman's face on the screen who always appeared when the matron was finished.

...

At nine months, two men entered Garth's room as he slept. They removed the teflon bubble, and placed the green ceiling screen next to a new blue screen at crib level on the east wall.



That being done, the two men left. Then through the door a tall object of silvery metal rolled into the room. It had long expandable arms with human-like hands being highly sensitized fingers. Its head had no face.

No more would the matron come. The robot would wean Garth through infancy with golden spoons and marble toilets and, if need be, with rational, ironclad discipline.

Garth would now awake to this new source of movement in his world. He showed no alarm the first time his eyes opened upon the two screens. The woman welcomed him in reassuring tones as the blue screen slowly illuminated until a man's face appeared.

Garth heard a whirling noise and turned to see the robot approaching with a bowl of strongly aromatic pureed eggs.

From somewhere within the robot came a strange new sound that vibrated sweetly in Garth's ears.

"That is the music of Mozart," said the man in the blue screen.

Garth opened his mouth as the robot gently nudged a spoon to his lips.

The combined light from the blue and green screens grew brighter and bathed the room with a glow that reflected off the robot's silver body.

Garth gunned his food and surveyed this new environment. His blank face belied the joy and comfort he sensed deep within. Deeper than could be detected by the electronic monitors that would have alerted the doctors of the flaw.

Soon Garth would have names to identify these beings who would be his only companions for the next 19 years.

Servant. Mother. Teacher.



DOWNTOWN EASTSIDE WOMEN Break the Silence Against Violence!!

* **“Women Break the Silence By Speaking Out”** is a project for women who live or work in the Downtown Eastside to build community, to speak out and to develop strategies against the many aspects of violence that we experience.

* This project, which is co-sponsored by Carnegie Centre, the Senior's Centre, and the Downtown Eastside Women's Centre, will produce a **series of workshops** by and for the women of this community, throughout the summer and fall of 1998. Workshop topics being developed include:

- * **Violence Against First Nations Women** * **Violence Against Seniors**
- * **Violence Against Lesbians** * **Violence Against Sex Trade Workers**
- * **Racism as a Form of Violence** * **Poverty as a Form of Violence**
- * **Violence Against Women With Disabilities**
- * **Violence Against Women who Experience Substance Misuse**
- * **Violence Against Young Women**

* **“Women Break the Silence by Speaking Out”** will culminate in a **three-day retreat** for participants. (Hopefully,) this will be a space where women can take some time out, and also do some long term strategizing about fighting violence against women in the Downtown Eastside.

* We are looking for **women living in the area, organizers and activists** who are interested in participating in this project. We need:

- * **Volunteers**
- * **Women to work on Advisory Committees** for each workshop
- * **Experienced Facilitators**

We are also interested in other workshop topics relating to violence against women in this area that you would like to see or develop.

Do you want to be involved?

Please call 682-3269 Mailbox #8319

Why? because community saves lives Who?

Kids tags dykes queers bisexuals
 boys street workers girls You

trans allies

TRANNY MARCH

@ THE VANCOUVER PUBLIC LIBRARY
 JUNE 20, 1pm

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 family third sex lovers

trans against silence / trannies moms
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FOR DETAILS OR TO GET INVOLVED CALL KERRI @ 681-3676

Gov't policies cause panhandling

To the editor:

When city council passed its mean-spirited bylaw on panhandling, it also acknowledged that the root causes of panhandling had to be addressed ("Bylaw restricts panhandlers from sitting on sidewalks," May 3). Here are three important causes for the increase in panhandling in Canada.

- On April 1, 1996, the Canada Health and Social Transfer (CHST) replaced the Canada Assistance Plan (CAP). The CHST abolished four of the five human rights in CAP, including the right to income when a person is in need and the right to adequate income. It also cut \$7 billion in federal transfer payments for health, post-secondary education and social as-

letters

sistance over three years. Critics of the CHST knew that a bitterly hard time was coming for poor and unemployed Canadians.

- Provincial governments are now free to refuse welfare to people in need, and are not required to maintain adequate welfare rates. For example, in 1980 single people on income assistance in B.C. received \$191 for support (rent is a separate category). Today they receive \$175 for support (plus \$325 for rent). The cost of living from 1980 to 1997 has increased by 106 per cent in Vancouver (Stats Canada). This means that single people

on welfare would have to receive nearly \$400 a month for support payments to have the same purchasing power they had in 1980. No wonder there's begging in the streets.

- Official unemployment has been close to 10 per cent for years, and youth unemployment is about twice the adult rate. Only 47 per cent of B.C. workers have full-time jobs.

An increase in panhandling is a direct result of the economic policies that have been pursued by the federal and provincial governments, at the urging of business lobby groups, since the early 1980s.

SANDY CAMERON,
 VANCOUVER



"There's something not right..."

The Regal Hotel is shut down. City of Vancouver building inspectors issued a "Fix it or Die" order and the owner refused so it got closed as "unsafe to occupy."

So what's the problem?

First of all, check the profound insight in Mr. McBinner's column. He thinks this is all a fraud. Not too strangely, so do a lot of people.

- about a week before the end of May an inspection report was used to issue an order by the City to John Binkley, the Texan owner. It cited things like a broken light bulb, cracked glass over a fire extinguisher, unswept stairs... all told, things that any maintenance person could fix in 4 hours

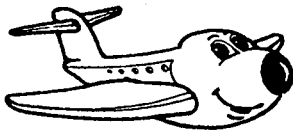
- Binkley had a week to do all repairs. He refused and said he'd close down and let the City take the blame for putting all the tenants out

- the City relocater was asked by DERA to assist in getting the people new places. This was refused. The reason? "They aren't being evicted so we don't have to relocate them."

- DERA tried to get even one tenant to file a complaint, but no one wanted to for fear of retaliation. DERA workers couldn't get in because the manager wouldn't allow it. It took almost 2 hours on the phone to various bureaucrats at Shitty Hall to get the City Relocator to go into the hotel and talk to tenants. This request met with a commitment to assist one deaf woman. Everyone else was on their own.

- People at shitty hall indicated they didn't know what to do, or if they did it wasn't up to them to do it. One distraught tenant came to DERA a day before the scheduled closure with a 24-hour eviction notice - all the people still there had gotten 24-hour eviction notices - and they were all identical: "Threatening the safety of management." DERA called the cops.

- Frank Gilbert and one policeman cornered the manager and the cop was real clear: "If you evict anyone you will be arrested. Get your boss, the owner, here. If he wants to evict anyone, we'll arrest him." The next night, at 8pm, over thirty residents gathered outside the Regal and chanted,



yelled, laughed and waited with the cops & media. The owner, with two bodyguards (goons) in tow, folded. It was going over to Monday (this was a Thursday).

- the media (radio & TV) got one right. They looked at the bogus Inspection scenario, the City ordering the closure on one hand and refusing to help any tenants (with the exception of one deaf woman) on the other hand, and the owner trying like hell to shut down as soon as possible.

What was going on?

Remember the Open Letter to the world from various holier-than-thou misfits in Gastown and Chinatown? "Drug users are not stakeholders..." and of course it's up to them to determine if you look unsavory enough to be a drug user (or just poor). Lo and behold the street scene on the 100 block West Hastings goes on right across from Woodwards. The presence of local people on the street and living (gasp) in such an innocent place as the Regal hurts the possibilities of selling property. Simply put, the tenants of the Regal were all identified as drug users (!) and even drug dealers (!!)

and the only way to get to them without a shred of evidence or criminal charges was to engineer the closure of the Regal.

When the Roosevelt was put through the same kind of thing about 6 months ago, it was banded about that DERA was at fault for the conditions in that hotel. Staff people at DERA, doing real relocation work and monitoring conditions in as many hotels and rooming houses as possible, lost their funding when the provincial government cut back the Community Housing Initiatives program. This put 2 full-time people out of work. A tenant in the Roosevelt came to DERA 5 days before the end of the month, saying that the Health Dept. had issued a closure notice. All at once people from Carnegie and Main&Hastings and Tenants' Rights and even the City of Vancouver had known of the deplorable conditions in the Roosevelt for weeks,

if not months, but somehow assumed that not saying anything -to each other?.. to DERA?? still made it DERA's fault. The City Relocator heard a suggestion that the process followed at the Columbia Hotel be used at the Roosevelt. The Columbia had to do renovations by order of the City and owners there also wanted to evict everybody. DERA fought back and secured the housing for the tenants; the repairs had to be done without mass evictions. Doing this at the Roosevelt was ridiculed. The first two floors were okay and the top four floors could have been emptied, allowing the tenants on the lower floors to keep their places, but no. The suggestion, to stop another landlord from avoiding any responsibility for the sources of his income, had come from DERA, and DERA was being blamed. This was carried to a ludicrous extreme when a meeting was held with all the people who had known-but-not-said, after the closure of the Roosevelt, to see why it had gotten into the condition it had. It was irrelevant that people living there had trashed whole floors, or that people thrown out by management for trashing things had broken back in through the alley to continue using rooms for shooting galleries. At the meeting the coordinator of Tenants' Rights, Mike Walker, saw an opening to vent at DERA, saying that DERA had lost sight of its mandate and that he, whiteknight, would do what he could.. on the phone.. No one from Carnegie or Main&Hastings or TRAC or the City would take any responsibility but they didn't have to - it was DERA's fault.

This last is just to indicate where some of the bickering amongst local groups comes from. To protect ourselves and our community, we need to look at what is happening that is not obvious. The closure of the Regal Hotel to disperse the tenants who made up part of the street scene on Hastings, at the behind-closed-doors insistence of Police, City officials, the owner and development interests is a soon-to-be-repeated scenario if the Gastown/Chinatown/political development-at-any-cost grunts keep churning.

All comments are welcome.

By PAULR TAYLOR

**DOWNTOWN
EASTSIDE
YOUTH
ACTIVITIES
SOCIETY**

**STD CLINIC - 219 Main; Monday-Friday, 10a.m. - 6p.m.
NEEDLE EXCHANGE - 221 Main; 8:30a.m. - 8p.m. every
NEEDLE EXCHANGE VAN 3 Routes day**

**City - 5:45p.m. - 11:45 p.m.
Overnight - 12:30a.m. - 8:30a.m.
Downtown Eastside - 5:30p.m - 1:30a**

Carnegie 
NEWSLETTER

THE NEWSLETTER IS A PUBLICATION OF THE
CARNEGIE COMMUNITY CENTRE ASSOCIATION

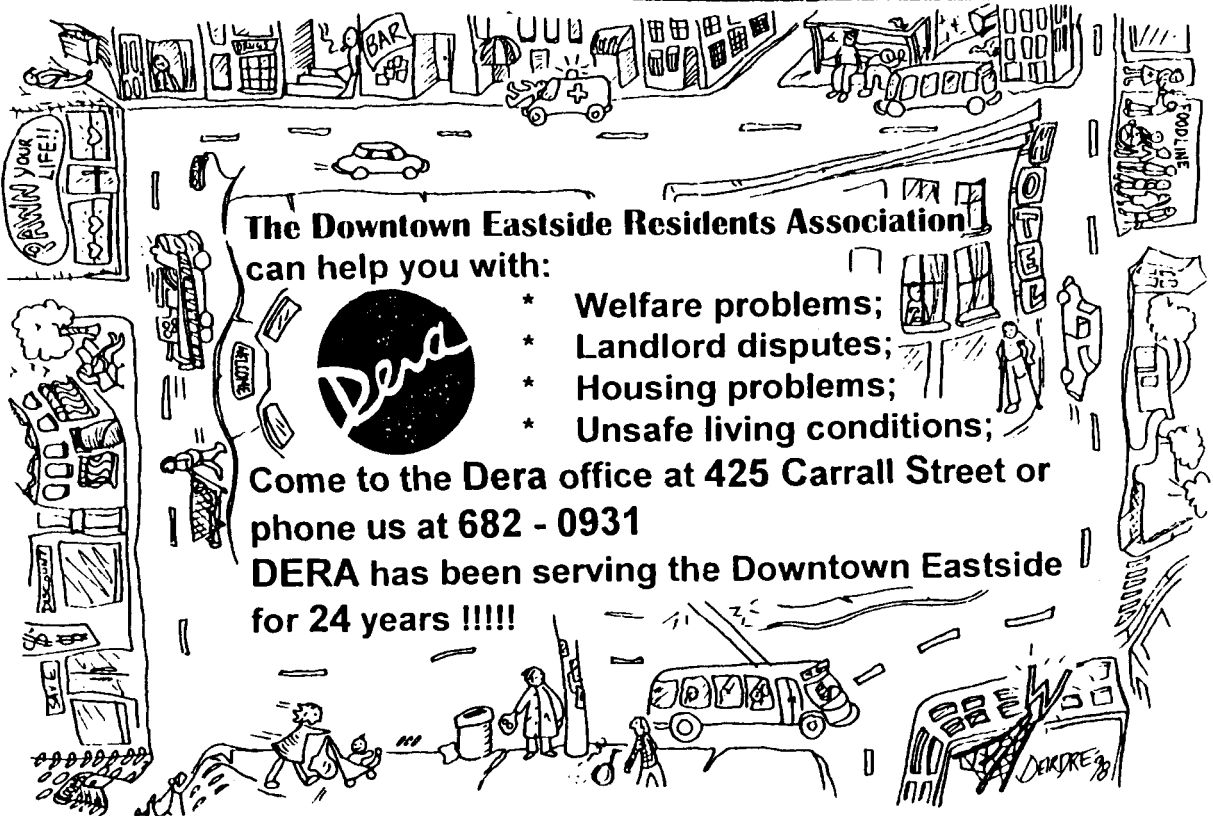
Articles represent the views of individual
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**Submission Deadline
for the next issue:**

Monday, June 29

- 1998 DONATIONS
- Kettle - \$18
 - Wisconsin Historical Society - \$30
 - Paula R. - \$10
 - Wm. B. - \$12
 - Joy T. - \$18
 - Charley B. - \$15
 - Libby D. - \$50
 - Sam R. - \$40
 - Rick Y. - \$45
 - Sharon J. - \$30
 - BCCW - \$25
 - Ray-Cam - \$10
 - Harold D. - \$20
 - Sonya S. - \$80
 - Vancy H. - \$35
 - Jennifer M. - \$15
 - Brenda P. \$10

- Val A. - \$50
- Neil N. - \$20
- Helene S. - \$18
- Jenny K. - \$18
- Tim S. - \$18
- Thomas B. - \$14
- Beth L. - \$18
- Bill G. - \$100
- Rolf A. - \$25
- Bruce J. - \$14
- BCTF - \$12
- Sabitra - \$15
- Susan S. - \$7
- Margaret D. - \$20
- DEYAS - \$150
- PRIDE - \$50
- Pam B. - \$20
- CEEDS - \$50



**The Downtown Eastside Residents Association
can help you with:**



- * Welfare problems;
- * Landlord disputes;
- * Housing problems;
- * Unsafe living conditions;

**Come to the Dera office at 425 Carrall Street or
phone us at 682 - 0931**

**DERA has been serving the Downtown Eastside
for 24 years !!!!!**

