

401 Main St, Vancouver V6A 2T7

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www.carnnews.org

604-665-2289 **ELECTION or SELECT** 

#### Being True to Ourselves - a review

Let's put aside all this talk of the upcoming election for a moment, shall we? I'm going to vote for Libby - she deserves to be re-elected;.I hope you will too. Nuff said. Fuhgedaboutit.

Actually, I do have one other thing to add about Libby Davies: she wrote the foreword to Sandy Cameron's new book *Being True to Ourselves: Downtown Eastside Poems of Resistance.* I have eagerly awaited another book of Sandy's poems since his *Sparks from the Fire*, a collection of his published in 2000.

Here's Libby again: "Sandy's direct and unequivocal writing portrays a complex and vibrant community, made up of some very determined characters, who never give up hope for social justice and dignity."

I don't know if I'm qualified to comment on Sandy's poems. I'm sort of like the guy who said, "I don't know art, but I know what I like." I have a favourite poet and writer: Margaret Atwood. Her voice is as cool as the north wind.

Sandy's voice is logical and precise. I like his poems for the same reason I like Atwood's: he pulls no punches and says exactly what he means. His is the voice of social conscience, and such a voice is very much needed when describing the circumstances, events, and history to do with the Downtown Eastside.

The title poem, Being True to Ourselves, is about another social justice activist, Bruce Eriksen, who, sadly and very much missed, passed on in 1997. Sandy's poem captures the essence of Eriksen's resistance, but if you want to read a much longer article on Bruce, obtain a copy of The Heart of the Community edited by Paul Taylor, containing selections from The Carnegie Newsletter, also edited by Paul Taylor, and read Sandy's He Will Be Remembered, a tribute to Bruce. Also in this book are a number of poems by Bud Osborn, an equally strong voice for poor and vulnerable people.

There's another reason to mention Bud: he has a good number of long poems in *The Heart of the Community*. I always thought that Sandy's long poem, *One Hundred Years of Struggle*, should have been included in that book. But take heart! It is

included in this latest collection of Sandy's, and when you read it, you get a sense of the events and history that shaped the Downtown Eastside and environs during the entire twentieth century. It happens to be one of my favourite poems of Sandy's, so I'm glad he put it in this collection.

If I had to pick a unifying theme for the poems in the book, I would say: the fight for human rights. All sorts of issues arise: labour struggles, racial equality, the fight against gentrification of the Downtown Eastside; the list is endless. Sandy's poems cover a wide range of human rights struggles.

The book is short: only 50 pages long. But he covers a lot in those pages. It's only \$5.00 and available from People's Co-op Bookstore, 1391 Commercial Drive, and from Granville Book Co, 850 Granville Street.

The book was laid out with the help of Sandy's partner, Jean Swanson, another long-time social justice activist. If you want to contact the publisher, the e-mail address is: <a href="mailto:swancam@vcn.bc.ca">swancam@vcn.bc.ca</a>. Or write to Box 2269 VMPO, Van, BC V6B 3W2.

By Rolf Auer



#### Greetings to the Carnegie Newsletter Folks,

I would like to express my gratitude for your June 1st publication honouring Willy Munro. Although it is now five years since I worked in the library at Carnegie, there are many wonderful people I met there who stay close to me in spirit. Willy is one

By chance I last met Willy in her capacity as an x-ray technician one year ago. We looked at each other and shouted, "Hey, I know you." All my 16 years at Carnegie I can say whenever I encountered Willy, I encountered a steady, warm, and loving individual. I can't thank you enough for that warm tribute to her and I was especially touched by her own article about Alouette Lake.

Thanks so much, Sincerely, Joan Mc Nair

#### **QUILTING BEE**

Come and join Marlene and Diane every Thursday in the Carnegie Theatre from 10 -11:30 am. We'll be making fabulous quilts. banners and fabric art. This group is a "hen party" for women only who are interested in learning the age-old art of quilting, appliqué and embroidery for display in October in a DTES Art Festival: "The Heart of the City". This series of lessons and workshops will run until October 14, 2004. Each piece of activist art will be original and one of a kind. Whatever your theme may be; powerful woman, memory of our lost sisters, First Nations art, anti-violence, women movers and shakers in the DTES, community events, places, buildings, people and themes, or whatever your imagination unleashes. Materials will be supplied, just bring yourself and your ideas. Chinese translation generously provided by Yin Mei Chan.

The roots of quilting bees go back to preindustrial America in the early 19th Century. We were still an agricultural society; women and girls planted and grew flax and cotton, spun thread, wove cloth, knitted and sewed the clothing, quilts and household linens that were necessary for survival. Quilting bees provided a social circle and some respite from physical work, for slave women, as for free and white women. The most festive bees on large plantations accompanied corn shucking at harvest time, with music, dance and a big meal. When spinning and weaving became mechanized, and cloth produced in factories, profound changes occurred. Women worked, ran businesses, taught in schools and studied to be missionaries. As a backlash to our newly won freedom, the "cult of true womanhood" preached domesticity and femininity, defining us as intellectually inferior, more submissive, pious, pure and sensitive. This conservative ideology instructed women to marry and stay home, to confine ourselves to



our own separate and distinct "sphere". The public world of business and politics was for men. Sermons and advice literature told us sewing was the "truly feminine employment", and the Protestant work ethic encouraged us to put all spare moments to useful purpose. The cult of wifehood and motherhood labeled entire groups of women as deviant - unmarried, working, slave, immigrant and politically active women. On the other hand, in this environment, women developed deep ties of friendship and solidarity, and a sense of ourselves as a distinct group. This emerging group consciousness began to extend our boundaries; we wanted to improve not just the home but the world outside it as well.

Quilting bees became a way for women to actively participate in the abolition of slavery and public welfare work such as running homes and schools for orphans, widow and the poor. Women held fairs and church bazaars where they sold their needlework, baked goods and preserves to raise money. They could then choose, as a group, whether this money went to refurbish the church, or actively support the Underground

Railroad, safe houses that sheltered escaping slaves as they fled to Canada. Women established the first Female AntiSlavery Societies, including both black and white women's groups. It was women more so than men who contributed to the abolitionist movement with their fund-raising, petition campaigns and articles for newspapers and magazines. A big chunk of herstory that got left out of the history books I studied! I found most of this information in the book "Hearts and Hands, The Influence of Women and Ouilts on American Society". If you want to read it, you can get it from the library, call #746.46 F38h. Marlene Trick is the Seniors' Programmer. Diane Wood has exhibited her quilts and dolls in the Gallery Gachet in Vancouver, the Harbourfront Centre in Toronto, and most recently at the National Gallery in Ottawa. If you want to see her (my) work, got to www.cmha.ca and click on the "Mindscapes" show, then you can browse the on-line catalogue. By Lady Di

**DIANE WOOD** -artist, poet and of course more – has had her art included in a month-long show at the National Art Gallery in Ottawa.

Diane has been doing the cover of the *Newsletter* for almost four years now, and the layout for almost two years. I can get crotchety and tenacious in editing material, and have had a few clashes with those contributing over the years about clarity, rambling, grammar and the sanctity of each person's writing—be it an article or poetry. Diane is refreshing to work with and brings perspective on issues and events (and on the matters just mentioned) that has often been lacking.

Diane organized workshops last summer on the bashing people often get for being different. "Lazy & Stupid" was one, "Poor-Bashing" was another and a third dealt with the discrimination visited on non-readers and the issue of literacy in general.

Diane was also one of the artists in a recent show at the Gallery Gachet and teaches "special needs" kids. She isn't going to Ottawa for the opening but will give anyone the computer address to get a catalogue of the show that includes her art. Congratulations!!! School of Social Work and Family Studies 2080 West Mall, UBC

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Office of the Director

Paul Taylor, Editor Carnegie Newsletter

Dear Paul,

Some time ago you sent me a copy of a book 'The Heart of the Community' which I have reviewed with interest. You are to be highly commended for producing such an informed and stimulating record of developments of the Carnegie Centre and the community. It presents a compelling story and analysis as witnessed by the pens of the residents. I have also shared the book with Pilar Riano-Alcal who teaches community work in the School and, I think, is interested in using selections of it in her course. I will also share it with other faculty me

Many thanks for sending me your book.

bers who may be interested in its use.

Sincerely,

Graham Riches Director and Professor

[\*This is decent. Graham is the 2<sup>nd</sup> professor to write Copies went to eight professors and departments / schools at UBC. Names and possible courses – Social Work, English, Anthropology & Sociology, History, Creative Writing, Community Development... - were provided by Martha Stewart, President of UBC. She came to the Learning Exchange, UBC's outreach facility at 121 Main, last year and we conspired to make it truly an "exchange of interests". The Heart of the Community: The Best of the Carnegie Newsletter is as good a reflection of life and living as anything used as course material in school, and it was proposed that it go to UBC as our contribution to their education. PRT]

#### WOODWARD'S WINDOW DISPLAY PROJECT

Open House Friday, June 25, 12-4pm
Come and see the displays and artwork created by
your friends and neighbours. Celebrate the creativity
and activism of our community.

#### Scratch a Yuppie and Find a Reformer

Redneck boys are all the same drinkin' beer and complain

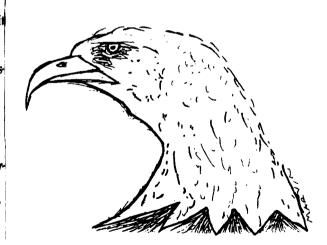
worried that someone is gettin' more than them saying the same old tired lines

Oh "you people" all you want is a handout "you people" expect everyone to take care of you me I gotta bust my balls just to get by paying taxes to support "you people"

Well cowboy I'll tell you what: what I owe you after your duly elected gov't takes jaunts to China retreats in Tofino, flights and conferences and endless talk paying all their mortgages What I owe you honky boy is one lousy quarter and anytime you want it back you come 'round to the back of the house and I'll pay you OK?

And I will waive the bullshit charge for you so you can have your load of crap back for free you don't even have to pay me for my time listening to all the same ol' sappy crap tune "you people" play all the live-long day

Grasshopper



#### **Cultural Sharing thanks**

A spedat thank you to Barb Gray and Mel Hennan who so graciously came forward to donate Grandfather Eagle Feathers to the Cultural Sharing program. This act of generosity is greatly appreciated by the group.



Carnegie Community Centre Theatre presents

## Karaoke

with

GERALD

Hosted by Colleen

June 25, 7 – 10 pm

Hi! This is Jude, your local singer-songwriter and artist. I do abstract paintings in acrylics and oill and chalk pastels. I'm trying to write a book influenced by Mary Shelly's Frankenstein, and I also keep a journal. I have been writing gospel blues songs since 1979 on guitar and piano.

I hope that the work I do, the result of it, brings you hope and courage. Hope in my language is hatikvah. It is also the national anthem of Israel. Where there is hope there is happiness.

If anyone wants to hear me singing I play at Carnegie on Tuesdays and Wednesdays. If anyone wants to see my art it's displayed at The Studio of Brenda Carr (604)685-2185, M-F, 1-6pm.

As I end this article I would like to say a word of thanks to God. Amen.

PS: I need a manager if you are willing.

#### Red stiletto heels

Puffing insanely on her cigarette As if it were the last one she would ever have Running as fast as her feet might carry her Stops Comes to a complete bodily halt They are calling her back - These demons that surface from her skin on a daily basis Suffocating her Forcing her back So she might breathe once again I'm looking at her, telling her to avoid this pressure and walk away The mirror shatters, tiny glistening shards of glass Scattered on the floor Stiletto heels red with envy crushing the glass Pounding and stomping the demons that make her feel and look so fat But there is no escape Broken glass won't cure anger or eating disorders But it can shatter the image she sees of herself That disgusting image she cannot stand As she sits in the corner Starving herself for that look The look of desired beauty Forever Envious of the stiletto heel Because it's so tall and skinny

Violently kissing the cold asphalt beneath them

Jane Kersten

#### Kate

I am so upset over this case; once again a man gets away with abusing women. When he was on your TV News all I could see was him smiling.

The justice system did not give these young girls any justice. Once again our street women are being put out as "Nobodies" "Non-existent people." What is it going to take to have our Sex Workers look like human beings.

Look at the missing women's cases, really What is it going to take to see them as beautiful human beings who were either Sisters, Mothers, Aunts and Grandparents. DOES NO ONE HEAR the cries of our people.

Margaret Prevost

Going to go insane

Curl up in a ball, shiver and shake Rot and cold sweats They're driving me nuts Can't think, sleep, eat. Too tired, too fat, too ugly **lwanttoescape** Need to Escape I tan hear them talking About me Don't want to hear it Don't want to know Make them go away Curl up in a ball, shiver and shake Whispers and glares She's talking to herself again What's her problem anyways Going to loose it Let it all go free Scream and kick Flip the finger And tell God Fuck you Screw this place, this life It's shit Thanks a lot asshole Maybe next time you'll consider Working on that seventh day Going to let free No holding back Fuck this world



#### An election that matters!

Voter apathy is real. Fewer than two percent of Canadians belong to political parties. The percentage of people who vote is steadily declining

Federal elections have been boring. Since Pierre Trudeau took a walk in the snow and retired for good twenty years ago, there have been five federal elections. In every one the winner formed a majority government, and every time the outcome was decided on voting day long before the polls closed in British Columbia.

But as the third week of the current federal campaign unfolds, the result is certainly uncertain Here are ten reasons why the politics may be as exciting as the hockey was this year.

10) The big red federal Liberal machine is rusty. Nothing energizes a political party like working to defeat a government. The Liberals certainly had that energy in 1993 when they rode a tidal wave of dislike for Brian Mulroney to crush the Conservatives. But eleven years as government have sapped that energy and mired the party in bureaucracy.

9) The Conservatives have finally learned it's more fun to attack the Liberals than each other. Former Prime Minister Joe Clark walked away in a huff as operatives from the Reform/Alliance cabal dismantled his beloved Progressive Conservatives, but almost everyone else has decided to stop the internal warfare on the political right—at least while the election is on.

8) The New Democrats have become pragmatic and feisty. The NDP's deadly dull earnestness in the last few federal campaigns is gone. They've rediscovered that elections are about winning seats, not about being politically correct. They even look like they are having fun.

7) The parties are talking about health care. Their positions on how to revitalize Medicare may be confusing and contradictory, but at least they've recognized that no government program matters more to Canadians. The debates of past campaigns--deficits, tax policy, and trade agreements--were important, but health care touches voters' everyday lives.

6) The shadow of George Bush looms over the campaign. Steven Harper wants to snuggle up to the Americans and thinks Canada should have participated in the Iraq adventure. Jack Layton is glad we didn't. And Paul Martin just wants to be friends



with Mr. Bush—whatever that means. This election is, in part, about war, about deciding when and where Canadians will die in battle.

5) Paul Martin is not Jean Chretien. But can Martin convince the voters that their anger at out-of-control spending programs and authoritarian government attitudes shouldn't be taken out on him? He knows his way around Ottawa, but in the eyes of the voters is that good or bad?

4) Steven Harper is not Preston Manning (or Stockwell Day). A lot of the policies may be the same, but Harper's package is smoother. Harper doesn't have to overcome geeky glasses and a squeaky squeaky voice, and he's not TV-evangelist slick either. He looks like someone who could be a Prime Minister.

3) Jack Layton is not Alexa McDonough (or Audrey McLaughlin). Smaller parties like the NDP rely on the media to get their messages heard. While Layton's predecessors seemed slightly uncomfortable in front of the television cameras, he has never met a microphone he didn't want to speak into.

2) The chances of a minority government are high. A government with a comfortable majority often does what it pleases and ignores the mutterings of a discontented electorate. Minority governments must attend to what voters think all the time, not just during elections.

1) BC voters could determine who moves into 24 Sussex Drive. The election is too close to call. For the first time in over thirty years the rest of Canada could watch anxiously on election night as British Columbians decide who forms the next Canadian government.

Our votes will matter this time. Wake up and pay attention to the campaign!

---Paul Ramsey is a former MLA and Cabinet Minister.



#### **Folks**

Following are the features you'll hear for the remainder of this month at Music & More on Main, that fabulous open stage coffeehouse on Thursday evenings at Little Mountain Neighbourhood House, 3981 Main St.

#### JUNE 17th: KATHERINE WILCOX

Katherine is a lovely singer and nice player with some original songs as well as a background in some of the best of female contemporary folk (leaning a little toward bluegrass). Her sincerity and simplicity of delivery create an atmosphere of warmth and calm pleasure.

#### JUNE 24th: EARLE PEACH

Well-known in Vancouver as a choral conductor and activist, Earle is less well-known as a fine singer-songwriter and excellent guitarist. His songs touch many different styles, but are all surprisingly good (some are as good as you'd want a song to be). He can sing too!

#### NATIONAL ABORIGINAL DAY AT OPPENHEIMER PARK

Come and help us celebrate our heritage and culture!!

### on Sunday June 20, 2004 11 - 3PM

We wilt be having lots of events for children: fish pond, native arts 'n' crafts, games etc and Hotdogs and Juice! For adults we wilt be having singing, drumming, native arts 'n' crafts, medicine bag making, native crafts for sate, videos in the tipi, food and more!

#### \*The Mad Hatter\*

#### SOLSTICE

CROQUET RALLY presided over by:
THE KING AND QUEEN OF HEARTS
CAUCUS RACE led by THE DODO

SPECIAL APPEARANCES by
THE CATERPILLAR
THE JABBERWOCK
QUEEN VICTORIA
&
THE CARNIVAL BAND

#### THE FOOL'S SOCIETY

VANCOUVER, B.C. foolish@fools-society.com (604) 444 - MUSE

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#### Good Mourning, America Reagan, Radicals and Repetitive Reactions



When I heard Ronnie Raygun had finally kicked off, I said aloud: "One less war criminal in the world." When President (sic) Bush heard the same news, he declared Friday, June 11, a "day of national mourning" for the dead prez.

I see Dubya and raise him this: I declare Friday. June 11 a national day of mourning for Raygun's victims. As Bill Blum says, Ronnie's "biggest crimes were the bloody military actions to suppress social and political change in El Salvador, Nicaragua, Guatemala and Afghanistan." Raygun called the Nicaraguan contras "the moral equivalent of the Founding Fathers" and this noble group of "freedom fighters" regularly attacked civilians, cutting off women's breasts and men's testicles, gouging out eyes, beheading infants, using children for target practice, and slitting throats and pulling the victim's tongue out through the slit. Let us mourn then for the 14vear-old Nicaraguan girl who was gang-raped and decapitated by Raygun's moral heroes...her head placed on a stake as a warning to government supporters in her village. (The chairman of Americas Watch and Helsinki Watch concluded "the US cannot avoid responsibility for these atrocities.") Let's 9 mourn Sacco and Vanzetti, Julius and Ethel, Fred Hampton, Rachel Corrie, Ken Saro Wiwa, and the thousands gathered by Pinochet's thugs into Chilean soccer stadiums. Three million dead in Southeast Asia deserve a day of mourning, don't they? How about the 100+ executed by Dubya in Texas and the tens of thousands he's sentenced to death in Iraq and Afghanistan? Let's not omit the Vietnamese who suffered the "atrocities" John Kerry admits to participating in or the victims of NAFTA or the Welfare repeal bill Kerry supported.

Screw Raygun. I want to set aside a global day of mourning for America's indigenous population and the victims of the African slave trade. The million in Indonesia in the 60s, the 300,000 in East Timor in the 70s, the half-million Iraqi children of the 90s. I could go on and on...but you get the picture, I'm sure. There has never been a shortage of U.S.-funded and supported atrocities and, consequently, there is no shortage of media propaganda to transform these atrocities in noble victories. A fundamental element of left media criticism involves exposing the predictable behavior of the corporate media in such situations. Raygun dies. Media canonizes him and ignores his crimes. America mourns.

But what about the reaction on the Left? Raygun croaks...and the standard blueprint applies:

- a) His actual record is documented and juxtaposed with media distortion.
- b) Historical examples are provided to demonstrate that such behavior by U.S. leaders is commonplace.
- c) A few motivated lefties immerse themselves in Raygun's record and end up with a book deal.

Fast-forward to Kissinger's death in, say, 2007. A similar pattern will emerge...and a few more books will get published. Sure, the Nation left may quibble with the Counterpunch left, but the corporate/military machine rolls on. Something's gotta give...

Ronnie Raygun was just a pus-filled symptom of a larger ailment. Even if he died disgraced in a prison cell (as he deserved), he was but one measly germ. We need to renounce the over-the-counter quick fixes and boost our longterm immunity to the systemic diseases that put men like him in power. After all, how many more Ronnie Rayguns can we survive?

By Mickey Z <a href="http://www.mickeyz.net">http://www.mickeyz.net</a>.

#### What Ronald Reagan did for El Salvador: The Massacre at El Mozote

A Report from the files of The ONUSAL and the United Nations: DESCRIPTION OF THE FACTS

On the Afternoon of 10 December 1981, units of the Reagan Government-trained "Rapid Deployment Infantry Battalion (BIRI)" arrived in the village of El Mozote, Department of Morazan, after a clash with the guerrillas in the vicinity.

The village consisted of about 20 houses situated on open ground around a square. Facing onto the square was a church and behind it a small building known as "the convent", used by the priest to change into his vestments when he came to the village to celebrate mass. Not far from the village was a school, the Grupo Escolar.

When the soldiers arrived in the village they found, in addition to the residents, other peasants who were refugees from the surrounding area. They ordered everyone out of the houses and into the square. They made them lie face down, searched them and asked them about the guerrillas. They then ordered them to lock themselves in their houses until the next day, warning that anyone coming out would be shot. The soldiers remained in the village during the night.

Early next morning, 11 December, the soldiers reassembled the entire population in the square. They separated the men from the women and children and locked everyone up in different groups in the church, the convent and various houses.

During the morning, they proceeded to interrogate, torture and execute the men in various locations. Around noon, they began taking the women in groups, separating them from their children and machinegunning them. Finally, they killed the children. A group of children who had been locked in the convent were machine-gunned through the windows. After exterminating the entire population, the soldiers set fire to the buildings.

The soldiers remained in El Mozote that night. The next day, they went through the village of Los Toriles, situated 2 kilometres away. Some of the inhabitants managed to escape. The others – men, women and children, were taken from their homes, lined up and machine-gunned.

The victims at El Mozote were left unburied. During the weeks that followed the bodies were seen by many people who passed by there.

#### The Dead: Victims at El Mozote and Nearby Villages

This list of names, initially compiled by Tutela Legal, a church-run human rights group in El Salvador, and updated by Mark Danner, author of The Massacre at El Mozote, records the ages and professions of 767 people who were murdered by the U.S.-trained Atlacatl Battalion in a 1981 counterinsurgency operation. Though the list offers only the most basic personal information on these victims of the Reagan administration's "war on communism," it conveys a deeply disturbing indication of the human costs of U.S. military aid to El Salvador, which continued for years following the massacre.

- 1. DOMINGO CLAROS, 29, wood cutter
- 2. CRISTINO AMAYA CLAROS, 9, son of Domingo Claros
- 3. MARIA DOLORES AMAYA CLAROS, 5, daughter of Domingo Claros
- 4. MARTA LILIAN CLAROS, 3, daughter of Domingo Claros
- 5. MARIA ISABEL AMAYA CLAROS, 8 months, daughter of Domingo Claros
- 6. ISIDRA CLAROS, 60, aunt of Domingo Claros
- 7. BONIFACIA RODRIGUEZ OR ANASTACIA ARGUETA, 65
- 8. LEONISIA RODRIGUEZ OR DIONISIA RODRIGUEZ, 27, seamstress daughter of Bonifacia Rodriguez
- 9. VILMA RODRIGUEZ, 2, daughter of Dionisia Rodriguez and Manuel Alvarenda
- 10. MARTINA RODRIGUEZ, 35, daughter of Bonifacia Rodriguez and sister of Dionisia and Vilma Rodriguez
- 11. RUPERTO CHICAS, 40, farmer, husband of Martina Rodriguez

..... and on for the 767 people

#### Hopefully.

For many Salvadorans who have made Canada their home, the years of Ronald Reagan as president of the USA were maybe the most difficult of their lives. Some of them are survivors; others are orphans, some others lost one or more relatives. The death squads, the clandestine jails, the missing. There was a systematic genocide against civilians. It was good enough that if one bad neighbour pointed to you (and for 30 coins ransom) as a communist they shot first and sometimes asked later. ..to kill more innocent people. Between 1981 and 1991 very horrendous massacres took place in El Salvador. Now it is known -officially- that Ronald Reagan sent to El Salvador more than \$4 billion just in military aid, and also trained (on US soil) the Salvadorean Special Forces that, according to UN documents, were responsible for the worst crimes during the civil war. And in the end, in spite of their military superiority, the Special Forces were not able to defeat the FMLN.

Eighty two thousand people are not here in body (some of them my friends and former classmates), but they live in our hearts. The great Argentinean writer Jorge Luis Borges said once: "there are always some fellows (esbirros he called them) that are always trying to avoid it, but sooner or later, history makes a powerful come back because there is always a survivor who is here, to speak out". Among those murdered by the death squads are prominent names: Monsignor Romero; Marianella Garcia; Dorothy Kazel, Ita Ford, Maura Clark, Jean Donovan (the four nuns raped and murdered); Febe Elizabeth Ramirez; Segundo Montes; Ignacio Ellacuria; Mario Zamora; Enrique Alvarez; Michael Hammer and Mark David; Five Thousand school teachers of ANDES 21 de junio murdered; and 80,000 more who were farmers. We will remember our real heroes Mr. Reagan. We will not miss you; we will not thank you for all the weapons you sent to El Salvador.

To my fellow friends killed by those weapons I say: Hasta la Victoria Siempre! (Until the victory onwards)

During those terrible years there was a sort of clandestine song named "Ojala" (Hopefully) composed and performed by the great Cuban poet Silvio Rodriguez. It was probably not originally composed for that, but everybody did associate that song with Ronald Reagan, Batista and Pinochet. Here is the translation:

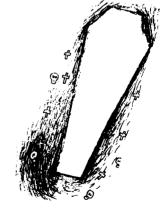
#### "Hopefully"

By Silvio Rodriguez (Cuban poet and musician)

Hopefully the leaves won't touch your body in the autumn So you won't be able to turn them in crystal Hopefully the rain will stop being a miracle near your body Hopefully the moon will be shining without you Hopefully the earth won't kiss your nasty footsteps

Hopefully you will run out of your Hollywood look,
Your precise words, your faked smile...
Hopefully something will happen that will erase your entire figure
A blinding light, a bullet made of snow
Hopefully at least I will die, so I won't see you any more,
In all the seconds, in all the visions;
Hopefully I won't even be able to sing about you, not even bad songs...

Hopefully the breakdown will not hear crying that could hit on my back, Hopefully your name will be forgotten by that voice, Hopefully the walls won't keep your noise of trilled road, Hopefully the greediness will follow you To your ancient government of deceased and flowers



#### Farabundo Riel

("I never saw a miracle of science that didn't go from a blessing to a curse. I never saw a military solution that didn't always end up as something worse." Sting 1994)

## Statements of Significance: the reminiscence of a community. by Jorge Escolan-Suay

"Cities, like dreams, are made of hopes and fears", said Italo Calvino, a Cuban-born writer. Every city in the world is coping with the need to balance its resources for local economic development, the well-being of the people and the neighbourhoods, and the preservation of every city's memories - its heritage. Heritage is not complete without reminiscence of a community. As Sandy Cameron, a Vancouver's poet has written "memory is the mother of community", and that perspective is daily becoming more popular.

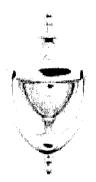
After the 1886 fire, Vancouver has been a very lucky city, with amazing reminiscences on the edge of everything. Let's imagine that on any given day, you decide to take a walk right where the downtown of Vancouver started. At the waterfront, southeast bound, you step where hardworking adventurers, dreamers and ordinary people worked, had fun and suffered.. On such a journey amazing flashbacks occur among an incredible blend of cultures; from Aboriginal Traditions, Old European, Asian and 'new' Canadian Architectures. Though we still have landmarks of what used to be Japantown, some records have vanished with the only explanation being "World War II. Japanese traditions and richness are linked through the Japanese Language Hall and luckily we have a strong Community Centre. Our Carnegie is a living legend of the historical fight for survival of a neighbourhood. It's besieged by budget cuts; faces "social class discrimination", and almost everyone lives under very difficult and adverse circumstances...but Carnegie is still here after more than 100 years of battle. No doubt it would be an interesting walk, through streets and alleys, in the middle of buildings and places, which have been silent witnesses of our City's historical drama. It is a Statement of Significance where architectural style and memories or reminiscence are systematically collected and presented.

- a <u>Statement of Significance</u> is "a brief description of an historical area or heritage building, which explains its heritage value and provides guidance about its functional use (historical, current or future)". Generally, architects, historians and people committed to heritage preservation contribute to prepare and to update the statement of significance. While architects and planners, will concentrate their attention in the technical details (among them style and character defining elements), historians will be focused mainly in the use of the buildings and the demographical elements associated with its evolution. But for the community, the value of buildings and places lies in the people that have been there. The people that have fought the daily battle for life...the ones who transformed the Landscape and wrote history, often with their sacrifices and suffering.

The beauty of a city lies in its collective memory, not only in its skyscrapers and monuments but with that person pulling a shopping cart on the street, the elder, the immigrant, the people battling illness, the ones that do not know where are going to sleep tonight, the ones on strict diet (not exactly by choice)...we are all neighbours, and any neighbour can tell us the most beautiful, funny or sad tales and histories of our City. If those tales are preserved and attached to buildings and places, they will become our legends. Donald Luxton, passionate scholar and friend of Heritage Vancouver and its neighbourhoods, recently expressed an insightful view on the urgency to save our heritage. "The older parts of the city are being swallowed by the new growth. It's short sighted to not care; if we lose our heritage buildings we'll face the social costs of letting the past disappear

We need to take care of our People and our Heritage. It is the least we owe to all of those who invested their lives for the reminiscence we have up to now. There are no statements of significance without the people. Residents and neighbours are the ones who write and/or know every tale of our buildings. They keep the City's memory: its reminiscence. I think the City of Vancouver should open a specific office and website where every neighbour could post the history/fact/legend they like or recall. In binding this together, it brings us back to Sandy's words: "Memory is the mother of community."

# Knock,



knock.

Are you 19 or older and looking for work? Opportunity awaits at The Job Shop.

If you're out of work, and need help finding a job, then here's your opportunity. The job Shop is a free program that will support you in a quick return to work. With the support of one-on-one coaching, you'll get connected, gain confidence, and learn from others – all with a view to finding meaningful employment. It really does work. Call **506-253-9355** now like attend the next job Shop info session. The Job Shop is brought to you by tradeworks fraining Society.



BAR BONNING BOUNTAINS

#### **News From The Library**

Congratulations from all of us at the Library to Lady Di, our "Poetry Queen", for being chosen as an e hibitor at the National Gallery of Canada.

Bloomsday is almost here and you will have seen the posters ...all a fund raiser for the Learning Centre. Please drop into <u>Granville Book Company</u> or *The Irish Heather* later to support the marathon reader. Readers from Carnegie will participate at the Granville Book Company at about 3pm on June 16<sup>th</sup>. For those who want to read Joyce the library has reordered some of his titles and they'll be available next week.

National Aboriginal Day is June 21<sup>st</sup>. Our Library could not get a speaker for that day but we are delighted to be able to present Philip Kevin Paul, a compelling new voice in Canadian First Nations Writing. He will be reading from his book of poetry which won the B.C. Book Award this year "Taking the Names Down From the Hill"

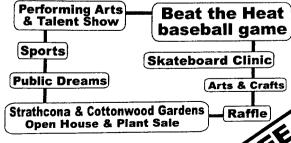
He is a WSA, NEC Indian from Saanich, the son of late Chief Philip Paul. He is also an amateur light weight boxer and, before a hand injury, was ranked 5<sup>th</sup> in BC and 13th in Canada. He will be reading in the *Gallery June 29<sup>th</sup> at 2.00pm*. Event's Free and refreshments will be served



## STRATHCONA PARK

800 Prior Street (Prior & Hawks)

July 11 2004

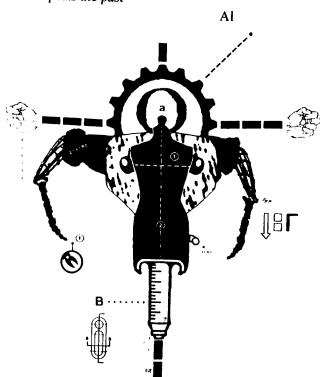


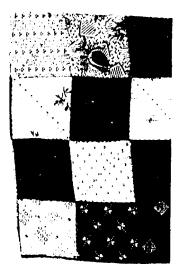
FAMILY FUN

FREE

#### Iraq, Vietnam, Afghanistan, Vancouver

Soon the streets will be swimming, people sleeping in doorways and loading docks, half-naked savage beggin fr change, tweakin fr rocks fr blocks n blocks come for the summer and the heroin can't yu feel the wave just now rollin in it's just like the '60s.. yu remember back then the U.S. is killin off its kids again just like Vietnam coincidentally, right next door to the war is where all the dope is; just like 'Nam only t'was the Golden Triangle, Cambodia Laos Nam there's an awful lot of dope in Afghanistan now they're back at it again again, those who don't die come home as junkies and guess where they'll come? why, right here the capital, the Big Dope Show, better'n New York so the mayhem starts about now and revs up hits maximum overload around August 28th when they tally the body count in both wars the war in Iraq, the war in America, the war right here and the walking wounded won't last as the world never learned nothing and repeats the past





#### In the Crucible: Go See It

Until June 26 you can catch a remarkable reflection of the DTES at the InterUrban Gallery across from Pigeon Park. It's a show of photographs and "In the Crucible" by Duane Prentice will knock you out.

As photo-journalism, the work is top notch; as art it's as gut-wrenching as it is darkly hopeful.

The images Prentice chooses grab you and shake you out of your everyday complacency and leave you with the whole gritty truth whether you can handle it or not. Seeing photos that reek of reality too painful to ingest in one glance, you feel yourself doing double-takes and then third-takes.

'Hey! I know that guy." While being oddly familiar yet strange, the characters in these photos are people you see everyday.. real people living real lives.

One photo in particular took my breath away. It shows a hooker hitting up in an alley at night. All the pain and loneliness of "the life" are caught in that stark image. It's seared into my brain and I suspect will become symbolic of this time and this place.

Prentice has caught the essence of "the street" and packages the whole DTES into his work. Everyone in Canada ought to see Prentice's work and know what it is to live and die on the mean streets of the Downtown Eastside.

Go have a look at yourself – you'll be amazed at what you see. Prentice's work has what we call "legs"

R.Loewen

## Public Meeting

## Columbia Street Pump Station Replacement

#### Tuesday, June 29, 2004

7 p.m. Registration

n

7:30 - 9:30 p.m. Presentations & questions

Vancouver Japanese Language School 487 Alexander Street, Vancouver

(Corner of Jackson Ave. and Alexander St.)

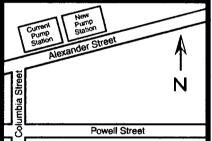
The Columbia Street Pump Station pumps sanitary and stormwater flows from the north-east section of downtown Vancouver to the Iona Island Wastewater Treatment Plant. Replacing the station will increase capacity and reduce combined sewer overflows into Burrard Inlet.

The City of Vancouver approved this replacement subject to several conditions including public consultation on construction and operations management plans. Through workshops held over the past six weeks, the GVRD has worked with residents and businesses in the area to ensure that public concerns are addressed and impacts reduced.

At this meeting, the GVRD will provide a summary of all public input from the workshops which was used to prepare the two draft management plans and finalize design issues.

Please visit www.gvrd.bc.ca to see the workshop agendas, summaries of public input, and other additional information presented at workshops.

If you are unable to attend, or for more information, please call the GVRD Information Centre at 604-432-6200, fax 604-432-6399, visit www.gvrd.bc.ca, or e-mail gvrd.communications @gvrd.bc.ca.





wait'n for daddy to get a fix from the dr. wait'n for daddy to get a fix from the CEO wait'n for daddy to get a fix from the preacher wait'n for daddy to make someone he's on the make for, waith for daddy to get home from a business trip or extended holiday in some beautiful sunset ravaged community somewhere down south in penny wage land is no different at all no worse than waitn for daddy on the sidewalk to get a fix at main 'n' hastings wait'n for mom to put on her next mask wait'n for ma to pour out hollow controlling love by the next and next and next ladle wait'n for dad to skillfully prepare and apply and buy ego armour for his skull wait'n as he works his ass off uses up his time my time, to sell his ass and soul to dump a mercedes in his empty hull empty hole is no different no worse than wait'n for ma ta score on hastings

sparrow

DOWNTOWN EASTSIDE YOUTH ACTIVITIES SOCIETY 49 W.Cordova 604-251-3310

NEEDLE EXCHANGE – 221 Main; 9:00am – 7pm every day NEEDLE EXCHANGE VAN – 3 Routes:

604-685-6561

<u>City</u> - 5:45pm - 11:45pm <u>Overnight</u> - 12:30am - 8:30am

## MISERY or maybe just MELANCHOLY BABY It's 2 A M, and the buses have gone to the barn

It's 2 A.M. and the buses have gone to the barn Been a long time since I slept all night Night is the best time to work To think To walk through the cool and empty streets Air fresh and fragrant this late summer

Cabin fever forces me out to the café
Almost deserted
The same few regulars sharing my nocturnal rhythm
We never speak,
But somehow it is comforting just to know
They will be there

Dawn releases us and By some understood pattern We drift back to bed.

Wilhelmina

For your sake, oh no not mine,
Kissing the dragon as our faces shine
Serpents catching their halted breath
Sweeping up 'neath a hornet's humming nest
Coralling a condemned maiden whispering
Too late, no matter now, betwixt and between
in all its glory, yet you return so sad so sorry
For what it's worth I'll always consider you
a dear friend of mine, a flawless jewel
where celestial angels are ever watching over you
and a special space where sincere, caring Spirit Who
will always and forever rule
Robyn L.



THE NEWSLETTER IS A PUBLICATION OF THE CARNEGIE COMMUNITY CENTRE ASSOCIATION.

Articles represent the views of individual contributors and not of the Association.

Editor: Paul Taylor; cover art & layout: Diane Wood

#### Submission Deadline for next issue:

Monday, June 28



Contact

Jenny

Wai Ching

Kwan MLA

## **Working for You**

1070-1651 Commercial Dr, V5L 3Y3 Phone: 775-0790 Fax: 775-0881





The Downtown Eastside Residents Asse

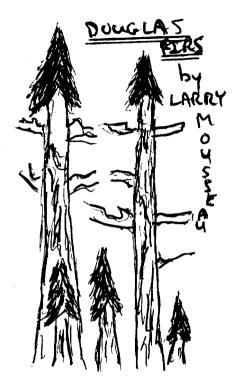
DERA helps with:

Phone & Safe Mailboxes
Welfare problems;

Landlord disputes; Housing problems Unsafe living conditions

At 12 East Hastings St. or phone 604-682-0931

I've learned that everyone wants to live on top of the mountain, but all the happiness and growth occurs while you're climbing it.



#### Freedom

I'm finally free And now I can see Who I really am And I love me And what I want to be Is happy And I'm sorry if this is sappy But I'm feeling great And there's nothing I hate I would have never thought That I would get caught Being happy 'Cause I thought they'd think I'm sappy But you know what they say That they look at me in a whole new way Me being happy Me being great And me finally being FREE!!!!

Andrea Weiss

#### THE STORY OF THE SACRED TREE

For all the people of the earth, the Creator has planted a Sacred Tree under which they may gather, and there find healing, power, wisdom and security. The roots of this tree spread deep into the body of Mother Earth. Its branches reach upward like hands praying to Father Sky. The fruits of this tree are the good things the Creator has given to the people: teachings that show the path to love, compassion, generosity, patience, wisdom, justice, courage, r spect, humility and many other wonderful gifts.

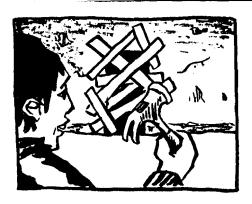
The ancient ones taught us that the life of the Tree is the life of the people. If the people wander far away from the protective shadow of the Tree, if they forget to seek the nourishment of its fruit, or if they should turn against the Tree and attempt to destroy it, great sorrow will fall upon the people. Many will become sick at heart. The people will lose their power. They will cease to dream dreams and see visions. They will begin to quarrel among themselves over worthless trifles. They will become unable to tell the truth and to deal with each other honestly. They will forget how to survive in their own land. Their lives will become filled with anger and gloom. Little by little they will poison themselves and all they touch.

It was foretold that these things would come to pass, but that the Tree would never die. And as long as the Tree lives, the people live. It was also foretold that the day would come when the people would awaken, as if from a long drugged sleep; that they would begin, timidly at first but then with a great urgency, to search again for the Sacred Tree.

The knowledge of its whereabouts, and of the fruits that adorn its branches have always been carefully guarded and preserved within the minds and hearts of our wise elders and leaders. These humble, loving and dedicated souls will guide anyone who is honestly and sincerely seeking along the path lea ing to the protecting shadow of the Sacred Tree.

by Laurie Marshall

Cover Art by Laurie Marshall, whose paintings are on exhibit at the Gallery Gachet until June 25



## Provincial Government Sues Homeless In B.C. Court of Appeal over \$100

Pivot Legal Society is denouncing a lawsuit launched by the provincial government in B.C.'s highest court to avoid paying \$100 each to a group of homeless people.

"The legal bill to have a private lawyer bring this appeal would cost far more than the total award", said Pivot Legal Society lawyer Noah Quastel, who represents 7 of the 40 people owed money. "But that doesn't mean the matter isn't important for the defendants."

The Provincial Rental Housing Corporation, which is operated by the province, is scheduled to appear before the B.C. Court of Appeal on Monday, June 7th. The appeal stems from the homeless protest that took place in Vancouver in the fall of 2002. During that protest, dozens of homeless people took over the now-renowned Woodwards Building. The province applied for and obtained a court injunction preventing the protesters from being inside the building.

On Nov. 7, 2002, a court hearing was scheduled to decide whether the protesters had breached the injunction. On the day of the hearing the government abruptly announced it was dropping the case. In response, Madam Justice Dillon ordered the province to pay "costs of the day" pursuant to Supreme Court Rules. This order meant that the government had to pay \$100 to each of the 40 homeless protesters that appeared in court that day. Instead of obeying the court order, however, the province launched an appeal to the Court of Appeal, British Columbia's highest court.

"I wonder how much taxpayers are paying provincial government lawyers to pursue this lawsuit," said Cameron Ward, one of the lawyer's fighting the gov-

ernment case. "I would imagine it's substantially more than the few thousand dollars at issue " Quastel and Ward will appear in the Court of Appeal on Monday, June 7th, to oppose the appeal. Both will be available for comment at 12:30, when the court breaks for lunch.

For information please contact: Noah Quastel: (604) 723-6624

Cameron Ward: (604) 833-8538

Carnegie Presents,

for one night only...

TOTALLY COOL! AWESOME!! FAR OUT!! LIVE!

WORLD FAMOUS!!!

## ROCKINGGUYS

on their "Fresh Outta Jail" Tour Friday, June 18, 2004 7pm in the Carnegie Theatre

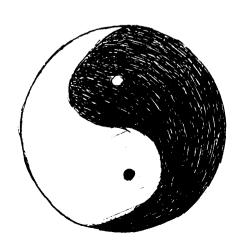


Come to the Carnegie Theatre on June 17<sup>th</sup> for a special showing of the documentary -19 SCARLET ROSES... The Story of the Ironworkers Memorial Bridge Disaster. This is the anniversary date of the disaster which took place in 1958. Longtime friend and Carnegie patron Gary Poirier was one of the survivors and is one of the men featured in the interviews. It is an amazing story and one that can never be forgotten. It's on our regular movie night and the time has yet to be determined.

#### for all the caring and concerned professionals

Peculiar how Johnny Whitebread creates work first one gang will sell you the dope and with the onslaught of addiction and disease another gang of crackers will earn good money fixin' up what they themselves created kinda like bombing Iraq so you can make money rebuilding what you destroyed in the first place Same policy applies to the individual Know this yuppie pseudo-doctor of alternative medicine comes over from the North Shore to minister to people he hates; he'd rather be brown-nosing the reliable rich from North Van but alas he needs the money paid to him so he pretends he can stand the horrible unwashed common folk he'd rather be on a golf course with other yuppies but he collects the gov't money like everyone else while he rants and raves about "these people here" he just barely contains his contempt.. but hell, he needs the money, so just like any cheap whore he shows up at work making a fair living off the suffering of people he figures he's better than plenty of people prosper off the poor and turn to their fellow yuppies, all smug and superior, lots of money to be made in the 'caring' industry you do basically bugger all and get paid for all the years you kissed ass in some school

anonymous



now carrying on like everyone here just serves

to add background colour in a portrait of yourself

#### Who do you believe?

VICTORIA (from CBC)- Senior health authority executives have been given significant raises over the past two years - while many of their unionized staff have been forced to take pay cuts.

At the Fraser Health Authority, two Chief Operating Officers received 18-per-cent raises - from \$160,000 to \$190,000 a year.

At the Provincial Health Authority, the director of Mental Health Services also had an 18 per cent hike And the CEOs of the Vancouver Island and Northern Health Authorities both received pay increases of five per cent.

A review of executive salaries shows many other senior managers received similar wage hikes.

Hospital Employees' Union spokesman Chris Allnutt says his members will be appalled by the revelation of these executive pay raises.

"Giving health executives these kinds of increases is just utter hypocrisy, and the kind of double standard has really no place in health care," says Allnutt. Heath Services Minister Cohn Hansen defends the raises, saying HEU workers are the highest paid in Canada, and their wages needed to be cut to save money. B.C. health-care system are nowhere near the top.

Stress binds me Covers my face Wraps my anger with solitude

Injects my inner being with lustful indulgence I want to scream and rip my hair

Lift the heavy blinds from my eyes
Yet leave me in darkness
Pick the glass from my skin
and lay it on the ground before me
Shield my mind from hurt and pain
wrap me in love so I feel comforted
Take me to an unknown universe
Where I can rid myself
of this stress
that binds me
Covers my face
Wraps my anger with solitude

anon

#### The Federal Election

"Liberals don't keep their promises. If the "new" Conservatives get elected, you hope they won't keep their promises." – somebody somewhere

In general terms, opinions and coverage and ads and analysis and speculations on strategy and so on have been overwhelming in the news. This is appar-



ently politics in Canada, but think of how much the media influences the outcome of elections.

Who owns the major media sources? What are those persons' vested interests? How 'arm's length' are they from being objective, whatever that means?

Consider the last provincial election here and the treatment afforded Gordon Campbell and his cronies then and now. For the last 8 or 9 years before 2001 there was a daily, obligatory anti-NDP article and/or a story with pictures chosen to make whatever the issue was look worse and the reporting was vile.

The dog and pony show that passed for the raid on Glen Clark's home, with the innocent coincidence of TV cameras, was a case in point. The NDP were constantly portrayed as the most incompetent and just plain stupid politicians ever to disgrace Victoria.

Hindsight shows much was exaggerated, blown out of proportion, or opinions were substituted for facts but presented as objective reporting.

The media has as much as told the country that Stephen Harper will be Prime Minister, "sweeping" BC and decimating Liberals across the land. This excuse is supported by Brian Mulroney for God's sake, but almost every news clip shows him giving a reasonable and middle-of-the-road response to any question – whether about his agenda, gay rights, abortion, the military, or financial matters. The tax cuts promised should be viewed in the light of what Campbell's tax cuts did to the social safety net and government services in BC. Harper wants to make it worse. Martin already cut taxes for his rich friends and started the steamroller of the Health Care crisis by cutting billions and mandatory federal oversight across the board.

In the Downtown Eastside and Vancouver East we have been blessed with one of the very few people who don't lend credence to the folk-wisdom that all politicians are corrupt thieves manipulating government to give maximum benefit to those who least need it. LIBBY DAVIES has been a champion in this community since she was 20 years old. That's 30 years of fighting for decent housing, education and opportunities for all. She supports us - the people whom everyone supporting Liberals or Conservatives usually treats like a fungus. Practical measures including harm reduction and treatment for drug users, promotion of housing and cultural exchanges all have Libby's mark on them as genuine concerns - not the lip service paid to everything by said Liberals and Conservatives.

It is annoying that Shirley Chan comes in from wherever she's been for the ;ast few decades and starts trying to buy votes with generic food giveaways. It feels like "Here's a bag of junk food.. vote for me."

By the time you're reading this, the all-candidates' meeting at Carnegie has already happened. Last time the parachuted Liberal was a lawyer from the West End, Mason Loh, who had to look up the answers he was supposed to give to our questions. Chan tries to pass herself off as a long-time resident with her roots in Vancouver East going as deep as anyone's. Well and good. But ask yourself whose interests she will serve in Ottawa? It won't be those of the Downtown Eastside or the thousands of marginalised and impoverished residents living here.

That's my opinion. Please vote for Libby, someone we can trust, and not for someone else who's making it up as she or he goes along – and the rhetoric may only be good until the day after election day.

By PAULR TAYLOR