

FREE - donations accepted

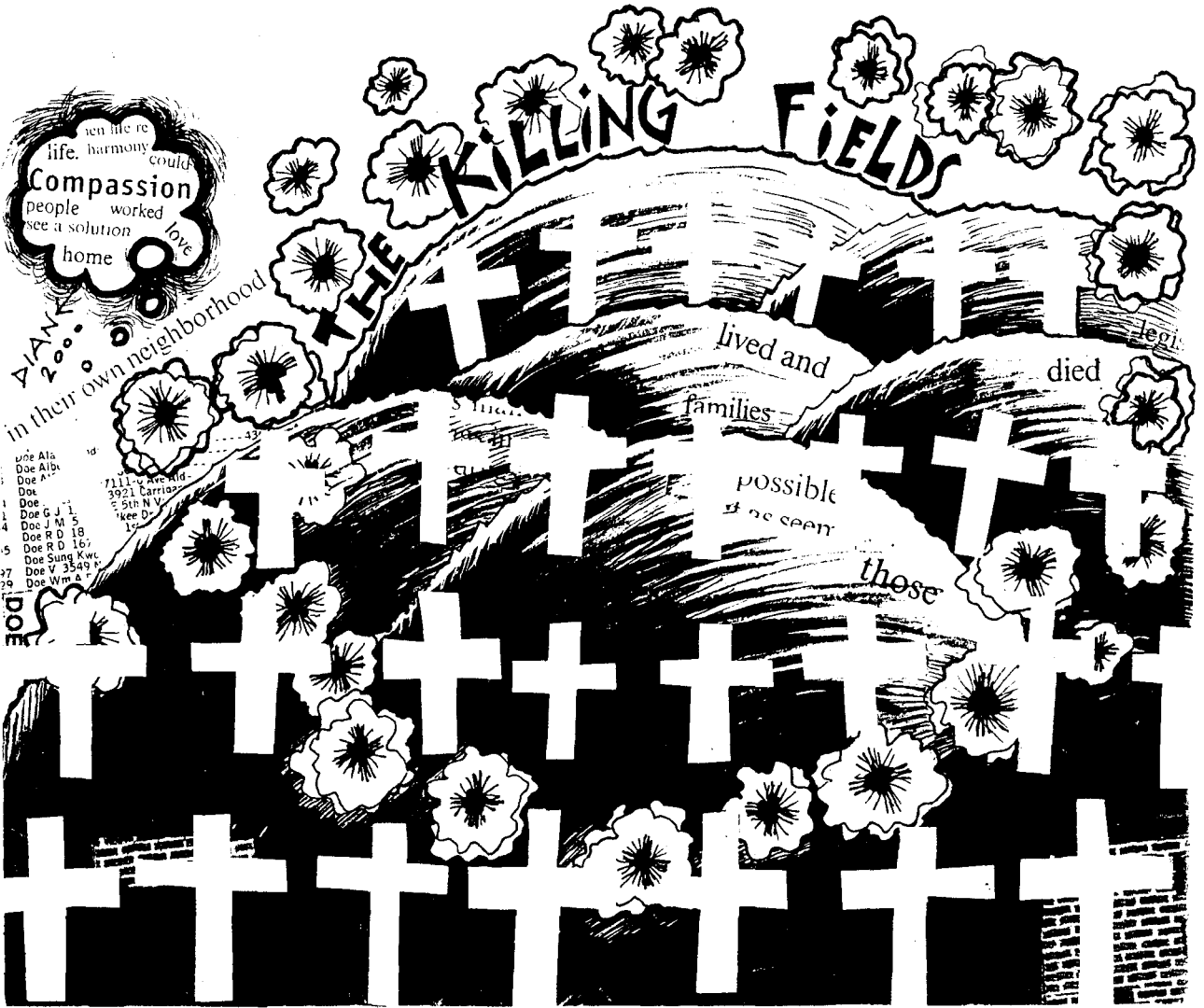
Carnegie



NEWSLETTER

JULY 15, 2000

401 Main Street. Vancouver V6A 2T7 (604) 665-2289



THE KILLING FIELDS

These words labeled an event held on July 11 – as 2,000 crosses were planted in Oppenheimer Pk.

In 1997, residents blocked traffic and planted 1,000 crosses to highlight overdose deaths and the fact that drug users in the downtown eastside had the highest HIV infection rate in the western world

Three years later, few of the recommendations made to stop this have gotten beyond the report stage. Again, community activists and users lay this genocide at the feet of the drug war mentality crippling all levels of government.

a thousand crosses in oppenheimer park

when eagles circle oppenheimer park we see them
feel awe feel joy feel hope soar in our hearts
the eagles are symbols for the courage in our spirits
for the fierce and piercing vision
for justice in our souls
the eagles bestow a blessing on our lives

but with these thousand crosses
planted in oppenheimer park today
who really see them feel sorrow feel loss feel rage
our hearts shed bitter tears
these thousand crosses are symbols
of the social apartheid in our culture
the segregation of those who deserve to live
and those who are abandoned to die

these thousand crosses silently announce
a social curse on the lives of the poorest of the poor
in the downtown eastside
they announce an assault on our community
these thousand crosses announce a deprivation
of possibility for those of us who mourn here
the mothers and fathers and sisters and brothers
the uncles, aunts, grandmothers and grandfathers
the sons and daughters the friends and acquaintances
of those members of our community
of a thousand dreams of a thousand hopes
of a thousand yearnings for real community lost to us
but memorialized today

Three years later, drug users in Vancouver still have one of the highest HIV infections in the western world (VIDUS Study, Susan Currie). Between 1988 and 1998 there have been almost 2,500 overdose deaths. (Larry Campbell, Coroner) “It’s like two Boeing 737s crashing on Main and Hastings every year.” (Tanya Fader, CAP)

The horror and anger of this is made more real by reading two thousand crosses throughout the following work –

brought finally into a unity here in this community park
this park which is the geographical heart
of the downtown eastside

these thousand crosses are a protest against the
abandonment of powerless and voiceless human beings

these thousand crosses speak to us resoundingly
collectively to warn us that to abandon the wretched
the miserable the scorned the scapegoated
makes a legitimate place for abandonment in our society
and this abandonment will go right up the social ladder
but to truly care for lives at the bottom
will make a place for care
and this caring will ensure that no one be abandoned

these thousand crosses represent the overdose deaths
of drug addicts

who are not the only drug addicts in our society
but only the most visible

the most naked because the poorest
but these thousand crosses reveal a culture
pretending to be about life and health and hope
but permeated with death and disease and despair
these thousand crosses bear witness not to a culture
of care and freedom
but of carelessness and addiction

any one of these thousand crosses
could easily represent my own death
doctors at st. paul’s hospital asked me after an overdose

why I was still alive?
 and that is a question each moment puts to us
 a question each one of these thousand crosses
 puts to each of us
 why are we still alive? for what purpose?

our purpose is to live in community and
 community is care care for one another
 care for those least able to care for themselves
 care for all care in action
 and there is no one to care if you do not care
 there is no one no one at all to care if I do not care
 but it would be a betrayal
 of these thousand who have died to call them victims
 to victimize them in death

because in truth they are martyrs
 these thousand crosses symbolize
 the lives and deaths of a thousand martyrs
 the word martyr means one who bears witness
 one who suffers misery for a long time
 one who is killed or persecuted for adherence
 to a belief an enculturated belief
 that pain the pain of trying to live in this
 abusive abandoning crushing and excluding
 socio-economic system

that this pain must be individually managed
 the erroneous belief that suffering can be relieved
 outside real community outside care

these thousand crosses of these contemporary martyrs
 bear witness not only to their drug overdose deaths
 but to the uncounted deaths in the downtown eastside
 deaths of drug addicts from suicide and a.i.d.s.

and so we are all abandoned if one is abandoned
 so we are all uncared-for if one is not cared for

but if we would speak of real health
 and of true community

we must let these thousand crosses direct us
 toward those aboriginal tribal communities and other
 real spiritual communities where when one individual
 behaved destructively the entire community gathered
 and asked one question what is wrong with us?
 what is wrong with us
 that this member of our community
 should behave in this way?

but in our culture we reverse this spiritual truth
 and blame the individual solely for his or her fate

and the perpetuation of this lie costs us
 costs us heavily
 costs us the lives these thousand crosses represent
 costs us how many more thousands of lives?
 costs us in so many many ways

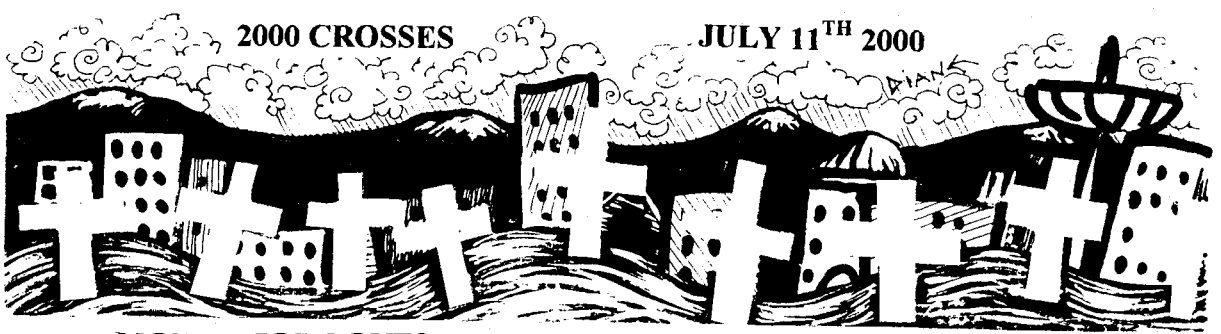
and from this moment here in this community park
 this park of great care where the streets and alleys
 and hotel rooms of the downtown eastside
 the killing fields of the downtown eastside
 are transformed into living testimonies and memorials
 of those who have brought us together today
 in oppenheimer park where children play birds sing
 young people create and seniors gather
 these crosses are planted like seeds in our hearts

what will be the fruit these seeds bear?
 will it be a stronger commitment to compassion
 and justice for every member of our community?
 a commitment to those most disabled?
 most abandoned?
 a commitment to do whatever is necessary to prevent
 a thousand more deaths by drug overdose
 in the downtown eastside?

will these thousand crosses
 these thousand seeds
 these thousand memorials burst forth into new life
 for those who will not have to become a martyr
 to our social madness around drug addiction
 but will care burst forth in our hearts
 in our lives in a new way for the sake of others
 and for the sake of ourselves?

I believe these crosses these seeds are already bearing
 fruit hope hope stands right now right here
 in this park at this moment hope is standing here
 hope in each cross hope in each of us

when these thousand crosses are planted in this park
 who really sees them are awakened
 are called forth to community to care
 and who really see these thousand crosses are called
 to be
 hope soaring in the hearts of those
 for whom hope is gone
 soaring in courage and blessing
 as when eagles circle oppenheimer park.



MONEY FOR LOVE?

I cycle to Oppenheimer Park on a rickety thrown-together bike, "LOOK AFTER THE LIVING" sign bumping into the pedal and whirring on the wheel. Planning on doing a massage table – token healing – thinking that's what's needed, especially here. But I'm not prepared for the 2000 fresh pale stick crosses silently filling the park, and I'm overwhelmed and have to sit down on the first bench. It's an eerie sight. Even the somber singer wails a song of remorse at the preventable death – the easily preventable deaths. All it takes is just a little love, some care, not even much money – instead of catering to limited viewpoints of uncaring established ones and spending available money on hired lackeys – the POLICE.

It begs the question: What kind of society is this? Is this the Canada whose international reputation is one where decency and the common good stand high? Is this the Canada where I came thinking to build a decent life with other fine people who value freedom over oppression... who value life now?

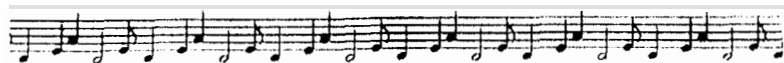
A man passes who says "Good God, what have they done putting up all these crosses without bodies?" I reply "There are 2000 people who died here" (in the vicinity) and he said "They done it wrong, should have just put up a sign." I think it was done right, and I hope the rest of Vancouver sees this. Maybe they'll see the commonality of people, under the veneer of their habitual lives as addicts, workers, housewives, and leaders (oxymoron for "politicians"). It brings it home; the 2000 addicts who died are people just like you.

We can no longer sit and wait for our elected "leaders" (robber barons of the castle) to act. People across the city are mobilizing and forming into groups e.g. Vandu, the Coalition Against

Police Brutality, to force action, to resist the oppressive policies of the city and the sharp end of so called "Normalcy". I bet the poor, the disenfranchised & the wronged are beginning to out-number the "Haves". It's time to force their hands to act. This is our community, don't let them fool you with "We pay the taxes". The large amounts of city-imposed tax on expensive homes goes mainly on themselves anyway – just look at the facilities, state of roads, capacity of buses, etc in the Eastside compared to the affluent Westside. And we ALL pay taxes! Every single dollar transaction puts 7 cents into Victoria's purse and another 7 cents goes to Ottawa. Think how many transactions take place every day. Each time you buy a slice of pizza you are paying taxes. Should we pass a bylaw that all taxes on local transactions stay in the community? I don't like the idea of regionalizing, but I do want to stop supporting the Robber Barons.

HOW DO WE GO FORWARD? It's difficult not to get drawn into an "Us & Them" but we need to be aware that the "means" becomes the "end", so let us act positively and not "anti-". Let's start to look out for ourselves as a community and recognize the efforts being made – the silent retreats for spiritual nurture (thanks Kathi) – Vandu raising the awareness & voice of drug users (thanks Ann) and the many people initiatives from this vibrant community. We are a vibrant community and will heal ourselves with help or hindrance from the economic & political hierarchy. Link arms, take care of yourself and give what help you can to the human being standing next to you. United, it's easier to grow.

Blessed Be - Nick



Carnegie Community Centre
Association.....Presents....

The Carnegie Classics

First time in the Downtown Eastside!

Strings Attached

Classical/jazz fusion made up of classical string quartet and jazz quintet (it's called a nonette) playing their own original works

Sunday, July 30 @ 4 pm
In the theatre

All welcome!

(Thanks to the Hamber Foundation for financial support.)



Come out and DANCE
to the music of

THE HASTINGS FIVE

Friday, July 21st, 7pm
in the Theatre
everything from bluegrass to salsa!!

poem

when my mama moved *across* the state line
into michigan from ohio
she had no income
so she got on the telephone
late one afternoon
to the local welfare office
and was told
it was too late in the day to apply
and besides
there was a long complex screening process
to go through anyway
but my mama's friends were with her –
several members of a black motorcycle gang
and they all

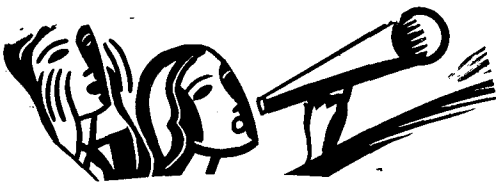
If a song bird sings his song
CAN ANYONE STOP IT?
What GOD has put together
CAN ANYONE COMPLAIN?
Perhaps Ezra Pound was right
Saying, "What you love remains"
That radiant beauty of Youth
Will always be there on streets
The electric energy in Nature
Pushing out towards our faces
A Christmas plant in my window
All day with big pink blossoms
Just waiting to explode into view
THE HIPPIES ARE GOIN CRAZY
On Granville Street Tuesday night
Pushing Rosie in a shopping cart
AND SHE'S TOPLESS AGAiN
People come to spend some time
With a metal cow on a Street corner
IT IS THOSE Parting MOMENTS
THAT ARE EASIEST TO LET GO OF
Everyone taking the snapshots to keep
A picture of the ruins of an Inca city
For the month of July on the calendar
Everyone looking for the big KAHUNA.

Daniel Rajala



rode down on that welfare office
and convinced
the case workers closing up
to stay open long enough
for my mother
to call the governor of michigan's office
and get hold of an assistant
who actually put
my mother onto the welfare roll
that very day
in what i've always thought of
as a magnificent example of
radical
welfare
advocacy

Bud Osborn



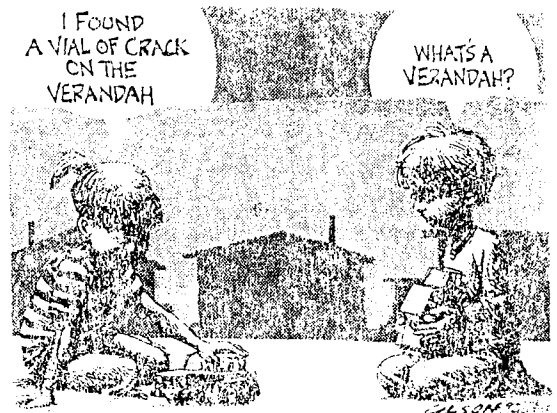
The thing with filming is...

- it is a billion-dollar industry in BC, going from \$12 million worth of business in 1978 to \$1.07 billion worth in 1999.
- there are 'strict' guidelines governing hours of operation and night filming, policing (both cops and litter), open tables of food on site, polling residents in the immediate area and informing all concerned of both intentions and parameters (gun fire, vehicles chased or crashed, etc.)
- the City issues permits; the BC Film Commission monitors all productions and is an official liaison between various unions, the Directors' Guild, and levels of municipal government, and works under the Ministry of Small Business and Culture. There is a Film Resource Group that helps get projects and grants together and helps in site selection,
- the film industry, either in the form of unions or a few production companies, donate food/clothes/small gifts and sometimes cash to agencies and non-profit groups; they were responsible for such a giveaway around Christmas 1999.

The thing about filming is...

- film companies treat neighbourhoods and residents like props, set decoration subject to whatever changes they require.
- Residents are subject to noise, street blockages; denial of access to buildings, lanes, garages, diesel fumes from portable generators, excessive and intrusive bright lights and their heat, disregard for privacy rights and broken sleep, having either no knowledge of proposed filming or being given no respect for concerns except as an afterthought or a public relations brush-off, having their landlord give permission for building/lane/property access to a production company, get a financial return, and the tenant/resident just gets the downside.

DERA, at the general membership meeting on July 7, invited reps from both the City and the BC



Film Commission to hear from residents on filming in the Downtown Eastside. The establishment of guidelines on conduct in the neighbourhood did not just happen at the wave of a magic wand. It's been over the last 10 years that the disregard by film production companies for the people's rights and lives has been changed. It's been like collective bargaining and making regulations over things like tables of food for extras and crew not being out on sidewalks while residents who haven't eaten for 2 or 3 days walk by and can't have any; like no gunfire on streets, car chases or crashes; like times and giving notices and so on.

DERA gets the complaints of residents when filming gets disrespectful or impacts badly on individuals or a particular building or street. In the last year, on average, a film is being made every other day in our community. In reality, since filming is mostly done according to weather, the summer sees up to a dozen films being made every day. Complaints in the last six months have doubled and tripled.

Several people spoke of all the benefits filming brings, citing all the jobs, money, and giveaways. An equal number spoke of specific violations and things that didn't seem fair. No one called for a moratorium or ban on future filming, but Sparrow asked that a scale of returns be set up parallel to the number and size of productions – if the Downtown Eastside is used in 75% of all productions then 75% of fees and a set rate should be exacted as a tax and go directly back into our community. This would assist many non-profits and groups for

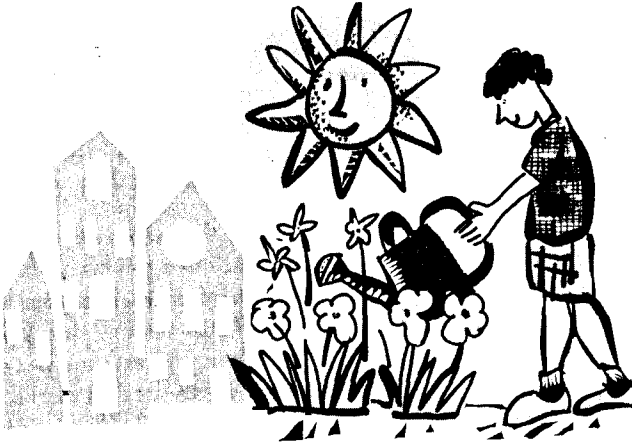
whom core funding and money for necessary services is always scarce.

The parting words were hopeful – “Let’s have reps from the film industry, government and the community meet to make it work out for all.”

By PAULR TAYLOR

[*DERA announced the occupancy, after almost 2 years of work to secure and renovate, of the new Metropole Hotel! Each of the 60 rooms has been enhanced with a washroom and kitchenette. “The excitement of tenants is really moving,” said Nancy Chevario, the new housing manager. Kudos to Terry, Frank, Merv and Cal.

The Metropole strengthens our community’s right to have a solid say in the dispensation of the Woodward’s building across the street.]



Ode to My Dear Departed Valerie

I saw a teardrop trickle down your cheek
 I put out my hand to comfort you
 I saw a smile forming in your eyes
 It was so long ago – and yet I will always
 remember and treasure that moment.
 Yes Val, we had our up & downs, but we
 also had our good times.

Now you’re gone.. but on a clear night I look up
 at the night sky and see your star – remember
 when we chose that special star and agreed that
 when our time was up... wait for me my love.
 I still love you and miss you.

Albert

The Sliding Glass Door

I was in my apartment
 when I heard the screams
 for help and the shattering of glass.

I ran outside and one half block
 from where I lived
 I saw people standing
 on their balconies
 and a crowd on the sidewalk
 looking up onto a second storey
 apartment building balcony.

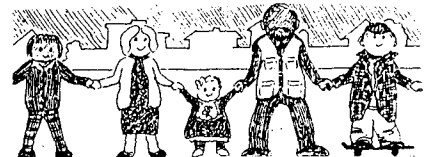
A little boy had run through
 a closed sliding glass door.
 Part of his body was still lodged
 in the glass. He forced himself through,
 shattering the glass and screaming
 in agony. His uncle broke into
 hysterical laughter and had to be
 led away.

Paramedics arrived and efficiently
 taped the bleeding wounds while
 the mother looked away in horror.

If only a decal had been placed
 on the glass door, perhaps this
 would never had happened.

My thoughts are with the
 little boy and I hope he is
 receiving gentle care.

Anita Haviva Stevens



**UBC & CARNEGIE SENIORS
PRESENT A SIX WEEK WORKSHOP ON**



**LIVING A HEALTHY LIFE
WITH CHRONIC CONDITIONS**

Starting WEDNESDAY, JULY 19th 1-3:30pm
in the Seniors Lounge. Interested Participants
must be committed for the full six weeks...

Dates are as follows: -

July 19, 26 Aug. 2, 9, 16, 23 1-3:30pm

This program is for people who suffer with arthritis, heart disease, stroke, diabetes, lung disease, or other chronic conditions. Friends and families are also encouraged to attend. The course will cover symptom management, effective communication with health care teams, making daily tasks easier, managing anger, fear, stress and frustration. A free manual is included.

SIGN UP WITH SANDY IF INTERESTED



Editor,

Jack Latek is a social worker doing a project that helps mentally ill people get jobs. The project needs to collect broken earrings, broken jewellery and metal lapel pins for the poor to make necklaces at a halfway house in the east side.

Jack believes in helping other people get better in doing practical things with their hands to improve motor and mental skills.

I am a mentally ill 22 year-old man who has been put in his care for about 8 years now and am trying to improve my life by talking to people and writing these letters. I wrote to the Vancouver Sun and it got put in there in 1996.

I would very much like it if you could publish this letter and include the address to send pins for the poor. Jack says he has gotten several spiral bike racks for all of Vancouver – one on Main St near where he lives, one at the Living Room on Powell and one at Lonsdale Quay. Please send broken earrings, broken jewellery and lapel pins to: Jack Latek, 4383 Main St., Vancouver V5V 3R1
Thanks.

Christopher McCandless

The Tree is Pleading

Summer's now here
Another year gone
A tree blown down
That just won't die

Compost by now
The tree long gone
Wood chips were made
When it got hauled away

Thru cracks in the sidewalk
All along the fence
The tree is pleading
For one more chance

Round the telephone pole
Underneath the park bench
Shoots coming up
Just wanting a chance

Roots are still there
Many shoots do they feed
They know what to do
They've done it before

Some would be grown
An umbrella of green
A tree to sit under
So cool and green

No money need spend
The tree to replace
Just let Mother Nature
Go at Her pace

Paul Wright



A Gentle Light Touch

Footrubs being given
On the corner today

People are surprised
A footrub for them

That someone
Would touch them
With care once again

Warm water in buckets
Feet to soak in

Oils and powders
On the table in a row

A gentle light touch
The connection is made

Spirits coming out
Need not be afraid

Tents giving shelter
From the chaos
and the pain

The toughness put aside
For awhile anyway

The corner feels like
it's miles away

Kelly is giving
Of herself this day

Opening a door
Showing the way

A gentle light touch

The connection is made

Paul Wright

**DOWNTOWN
EASTSIDE
YOUTH
ACTIVITIES
SOCIETY**

STD CLINIC - 219 Main; Monday - Friday, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.

NEEDLE EXCHANGE - 221 Main; 8:30 a.m. - 8 p.m. every day

NEEDLE EXCHANGE VAN - 3 Routes

City - 5:45 p.m. - 11:45 p.m.

Overnight - 12:30 a.m. - 8:30 a.m.

Downtown Eastside - 5:30 p.m. 1:30 a.m.

2000 DONATIONS Libby D.-\$55
Sam R.-\$15 Nancy W.-\$20 Eve E.-\$20
Margaret D.-\$30 Shyamala G.-\$18
Joy T.-\$30 Val A.\$36 Wm B-\$20
Thomas B.-\$41 Harold D.-\$7 Pam-\$22
Rolf A.-\$45 Bruce J.-\$50 Beth L.-\$2
Kettle -\$18 Sonya S.-\$140 BCTF-\$10
Nancy H.-\$35 Bill G.-\$150 Wes K.-\$30
DEYAS-\$200 RayCam-\$25
Wisconsin Historical Society -\$10
Heather S.-\$18 John S-\$50
Yukiko -\$10 VEDC -\$25
Rockingguys -\$30 Anonymous -\$10

FREE - donations accepted

Carnegie

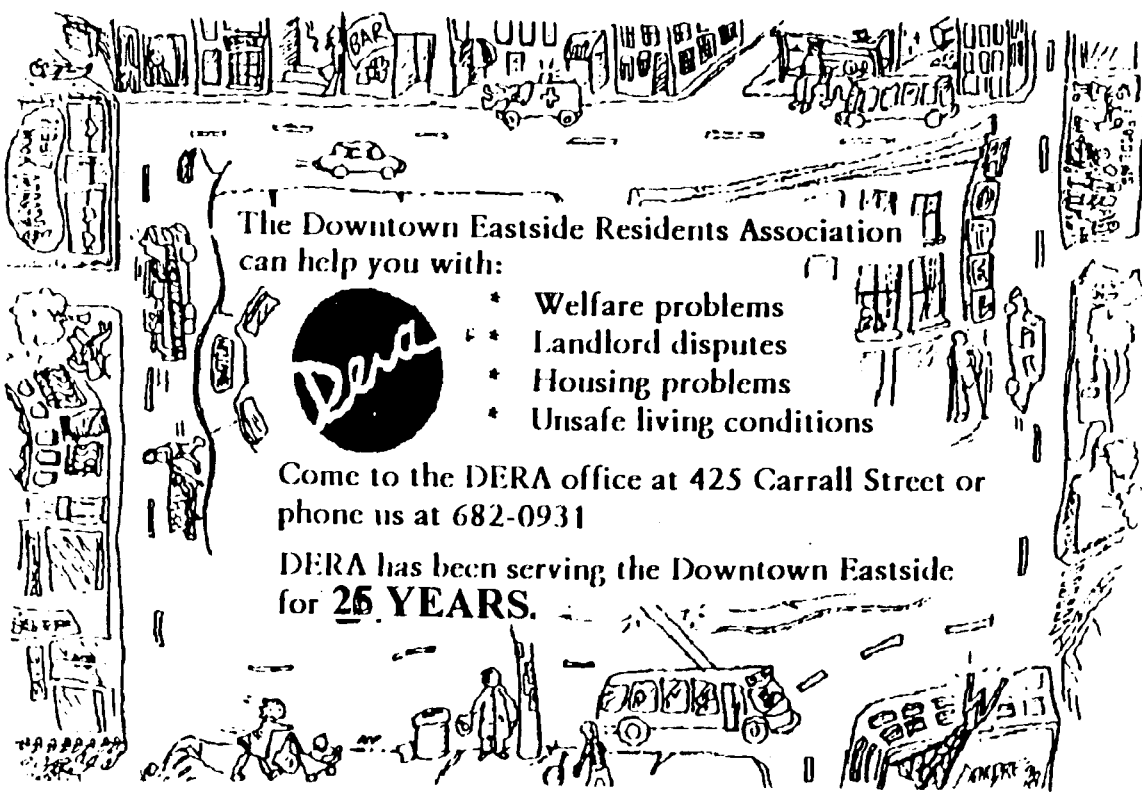
NEWSLETTER

401 Main Street, Vancouver V6A 2T1 (604) 682-2388

THE NEWSLETTER IS A PUBLICATION OF THE
CARNEGIE COMMUNITY CENTRE ASSOCIATION

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

**Submission Deadline
for next issue
Friday, July 28.**



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 **26 YEARS.**

The Economic Horror – Beating Up Young Canadians

Even though governments know that there aren't enough jobs, and that there never will be enough jobs in the high-tech, predatory, global economy, they blame the jobless for being unemployed and force them to look for nonexistent work. Governments have built intensive job search programs for unemployed citizens. The jobless, especially youth who will be cut off income assistance if they refuse to take part in the programs, must look for a job every working day of the week, knowing that the decent jobs aren't there and experiencing rejection and humiliation constantly. (1)

In British Columbia welfare rates are so low that recipients of "Youth Works" are directed to food banks to ensure that they are healthy enough to participate in training programs. (2) Many of these programs consist of little more than being on the phone begging for work, no matter how temporary or poorly paid. The experience of moving through the cycle of job search programs, low wage, part-time work, and the welfare system, increases the hopelessness, desperation and anger of many young women and men - especially those who are low income.

Non-permanent jobs are now the norm for all paid workers under 25 years of age. Even among university graduates, the proportion of those finding full-time work is falling to just over two-thirds in 1996. Real youth unemployment in Canada is over 25 percent. (3) Youth unemployment, under-employment, poverty, homelessness, prostitution, panhandling and squeegeeing are a direct result of government policies. Governments have reduced welfare rates, slashed unemployment insurance, decimated affordable housing, refused to increase the minimum wage to keep up with the cost of living, abolished the Canada Assistance Plan that contained the right to income when in need and the right to adequate income, and rejected the social responsibility to create the decent community work and healthy neighbourhoods that young people need to participate in adult society.

Recently a Belgian film called Rosetta came to Vancouver. It is about a young, poverty-stricken



woman from a dysfunctional family background who wants to work. She will do anything for a job, but can't find steady work and her life is dis-integrating. This powerful, depressing film tells the truth. The "system" doesn't work for many low income youth, and for increasing numbers of middle income youth, no matter how hard they try.

The labour market is not just declining. It is disappearing. A young person was asked on French radio (Feb. 10/96), "How do you see yourself in 10 years' time?"

The young person replied, "I don't even see myself at the end of this week." (4)

Don't underestimate the powerful energy of youth, however. Remember the APEC protest at the University of British Columbia, the Seattle protest against the World Trade Organization (WTO), and the May 1st protest in Vancouver against corporate domination. This story ain't over.

By SANDY CAMERON
to be continued

References

- (1) The Economic Horror, by Viviane Forrester, Polity Press, 1999, reprinted in 2000, page 11.
- (2) Help Wanted - Economic Security for Youth, by Nadene Rehnby and Stephen McBride, Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives, 1997, page 19.
- (3) Help Wanted - Economic Security for Youth, page 6.
- (4) The Economic Horror page 64.

Too, So Very True

Yes, it's true, a fact that
You're simply moving too fast.
Ya gotta slow yourselves down
take a boo around
Boppin' to the sounds.. begin at the source
Silent spaces you will discover
Take your lady, take your lover, shake off the rust
Your fallout flutters away on the breeze.
Stroll on grass, avoid the stones, kick the tires,
Pad your way to Freedom zones,
Dodging screws and charging bulls --
the unmounted, the armed, the rented watchdogs --
Obstructions helter-skelter as landmines..
I wonder who's crouchin under manhole covers..
The endless detours; racket/chainlinks/bells/horns/
whistles..like faulty-fused firecrackers
Ignore these wrecks . reeking gasses and corroded
steel . Don't be cheated out of your rightful space'
Overcome these seething disasters.
Don't stray too far; stay, stick to your path,
It's your trail, your direction, it belongs to you
whenever your being, your spirit is involved in the
space. Relax, indulge, deluxe.

Robyn Livingstone

Dear Sandy [Cameron].

In your article in the Carnegie Newsletter for July, you write "It's not that the corporate spin doctors are lying; . Sorry to break your bubble, but the phrase "spin doctor" is a euphemism used to refer to someone who is a Professional Liar (so that the speaker won't be tied up in an expensive libel suit). To say that a spin doctor is lying is redundant, and to say that a spin doctor, or someone in that role, is not lying is simply incorrect.

A spin doctor is someone who is paid to lie, usually on behalf and at the bequest of someone else. But to do so in such a way that the excuses of plausible denial, or misinterpretation can be applied as "get out of jail cards" if he's caught.

Of course the many ways spin doctors have of lying are almost innumerable. They seem to find new ways every day. Hope this helps.

Ken Strang.

Letter to the Editor (Sent to *The Province*)

It is deeply troubling that Jenny Kwan is targeted with a criminal investigation for joining her constituency's urgent efforts concerning the old Woodward's site. We are keenly aware of the devastation inappropriate use of this site will bring to our community, and have been openly appealing to the owner since 1995 for social housing here. Mr. Aghtai has behaved dishonourably in the past with us on this issue, most notably in 1997 when he backed down from a near-done deal for housing at the very last moment.

That Mr. Aghtai would file a criminal complaint against our elected official for lobbying in a harmless manner -- which ultimately resulted in a certain beautification of the area -- is further indication of a vindictive spirit.

Shawn Millar



Annual BEAT THE HEAT Wednesday, July 19, 2000

Inviting all those from Downtown Eastside &
Strathcona:

Come out for some food, kid's & senior's
activities & FUN!

It's FREE!

Strathcona Park (Hawks & Prior)

1:30pm - 3:00pm Picnic! Food Provided
3-5 The Street vs The Heat Baseball Game
umpire: Chief Coroner Larry Campbell

look for posters around the community!

For more Info call Kate: 687-1772

DAISIES!?!

Thank you Jenny, for painting a daisy on the boards nailed on the Woodward's building. They are kept vigilantly battle-ship gray by the graffiti police and the dog squad is meant to intimidate every thing bigger than a cockroach.

It's truly pathetic when a billionaire like owner Kassem Aghtai makes bought cops do an *investigation*. It's sad when religious terrorists get away with stabbing and shooting doctors but a politician can be subjected to editorial vilification for something as monstrous as painting a daisy. Media jackals like Mikie Smyth get brownie points from Conrad Black for puking on a page.

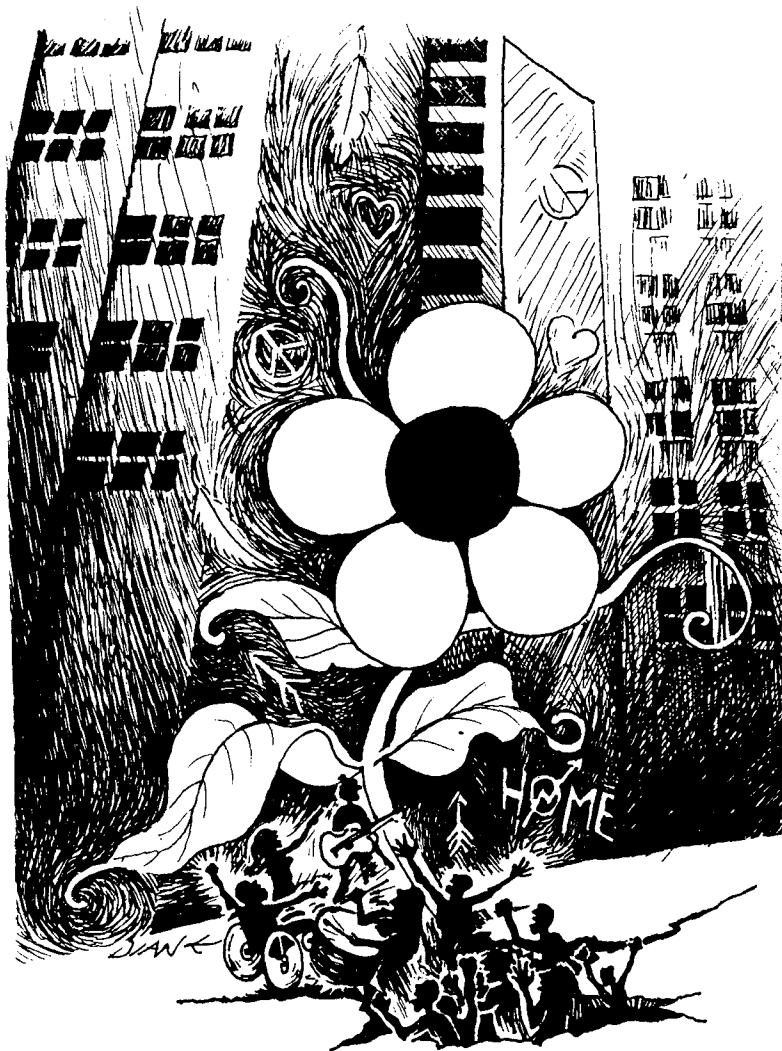
There is no end to the derision that such incompetent hack reporting deserves. The community responded in fine style. Marg Green lampooned the most vicious snipes with 'no-nonsense mother' repartee to questions about "damage done". The next step was a demonstration of nothing more nor less than true Downtown Eastside community spirit – over a hundred people turned out for a gathering at Woodward's at noon on Wednesday to celebrate, paint on the same walls, sing and dance along with a live jazz band, barbeque hot dogs, paint faces and blow up balloons.

Aaaghtai had private dicks there videotaping everyone, trying to identify the "leaders" who he is scapegoating for showing him to be the slimy financial scumbag he is. He bought the property for \$16.7 million, sold the parking garage the next day for \$11 million, had a demolition company do over \$300,000 worth of work and then refused to pay them, and has been trying to flog the

remaining building, which he's put only \$7 million into, for \$27 million.. and he just doesn't get it when any interested party laughs in his face! (Maybe he just never recovered from his days in Iran with the Shah as a business buddy and the SAVAK as his original rentacops.)

Woodward's is for people and daisies, not modems and microchips. As Albert Einstein said, "The significant problems we face cannot be solved at the same level of thinking that created them."

By PAULR TAYLOR



These Are the Faces

1 Talking Daze (Gunnegham) 3:50
2 Three Dragons (Peach) 3:10
3 Fokin' Money (Favers) 2:30

10 Trouble in Mind (Brad) 3:10
11 Blower in the Wind (Dyler) 3:31
12 What is Love (Coleman) 3:42
13 Residential School



Carnegie Musicians launch their first CD at the Folk Fest!

On July 16 at 4:15 pm, some Carnegie musicians will go on stage at the Vancouver Folk Music Festival to showcase the breadth of talent that we've grown accustomed to in our Music Program. It's also an opportunity for them to promote their first CD, which is finally done after 3 1/2 years of dedication and hard work!

Performing at the Festival are: Bharb Gudmundson, Peggy Wilson, Susi Hollman, Rosetta Stone, Ken Tabata, Mike Richter, Bob Limieux, Nancy Delyzer, John Williams, Rob Doucette, CR Avery, Dave McConnell, Earle Peach, Anita Stevens, Mary Sue Bell and Robert Escott. They will be representing all the other Carnegie musicians and all those who spent countless hours planning, fundraising, rehearsing, recording, producing and designing to create a CD that will do us all proud. If you're going to be at the Folk Fest, please come by to hear them play on Stage Two. If not, we hope you'll check out the CD! Contact Rika at Carnegie for more info on the CD

Congratulations to everyone involved!

JOB POSTING

4 COMMUNITY- BASED RESEARCH ASSISTANTS

80 Hours over the month of August, 2000
\$15.00 per hour + 12% benefits

QUALIFICATIONS:

- Familiarity with DTES Residents
- Knowledge of women's health and housing issues in the community
- Background knowledge of poverty, experience or knowledge of poverty and its effects
- Interest in research
- Research experience an asset but not required
- Computer and/or typing experience would be helpful, but not mandatory

Training will be provided.

Duties will include participating in planning, designing, organizing, carrying out, and analyzing a set of interviews with members of the community about the links between women's health and secure housing.

Deadline Friday July 21, 2000

Please submit a resume or letter that sets out your qualifications, your reasons for being interested in this project and current contact information to -

Health & Home Research Project,
c/o Suite 110 - 1st Floor, 425 Carrall Street,
Vancouver, BC, V6B 6E3

The Health and Home Research Project is a collaborative Partnership between the Bridge Housing Society for women, the Downtown Eastside Women's Centre, and researchers at Simon Fraser University. Our goals are to document the links between housing and health, involve community members in the research process meaningfully, and to communicate research findings in useful and accessible ways. This is a 3-year Participatory Research Project that will focus on the new Bridge Housing facility currently under construction. The positions advertised here are for work on the initial planning phase of the Project.

Carnegie Street Program Productions Presents

"A Gallery on the Corner"

On Thursday July 20th 2000 You are invited to attend the *one day only* gallery presentation and viewing of Artwork from the Private Collection of The Carnegie Street Program

Tents open at 1:00

Hors' d'oeuvres and drinks at 2:30

Call 665-2213 to say you're comin'!

We let our true selves appear only to appear as we are not as to appear tough distant appear solid untouchable when touch is one of our many desires that will remind us that to appear tough distant is forever always and anything esthetically pleasing is a luxury only for the young

Andrea Pearson

In memory of Richard Levy

Once again I lost a friend. It's always sad but again I feel comfort and feel relief for a soul that is set free to travel and fulfill another destiny.

'hey, you're with Angels now – and one of my favourites is Eric Michael Pearson.'

Andrea Pearson



the other side

Please let me compliment the Carnegie Newsletter for incisive, informed, free content. You are a credit to the East Side. But –

Please allow me to illustrate my discontent. I've been barred for eight months because I'm a drug taker. My Ukranian father was sucked under a train. My English mother traces a lineage of 1000 years.. and I'm their first born. I'm not a danger to stability. I'm not sick, not addicted, not dirty. I've volunteered, performed music; I'm being abused. This is the other side of the Carnegie.

Andy Kostymiuk

No Place To Lay Their Head

Eviction is an ugly word – a curse to dignity – trauma for family – surrender to greed – betrayal of spirit and caring of our fellows.

Sam Roddan



Dear Mayor and Members of Council,

As you know, the members of our Association and the Carnegie community in general are daily confronted with the drug situation on the front steps of Carnegie Centre. We have discussed the situation extensively among ourselves, and sought a wider discussion, too, to start dealing with the problem effectively.

We looked forward to the "town hail meeting" on the resource centre, held June 27 at Strathcona Community Centre. Notices for the meeting promised that the community's voices were to be heard, but our hopes were not to be realized. To us, a town hail meeting suggests that all views would be aired, with experts to give guidance. However, the meeting was organized in an unrepresentative and manipulative way, to stifle discussion, not encourage it. For instance:

The only invited speakers on the panel were ones who were opposed to the centre.

- Members of the public who came to the meeting were told to sign in, but the sign-in sheets were actually petitions and form letters in opposition to the centre.
- The organizers tried to discourage residents in favor of the centre from speaking by placing them at the bottom of the speakers' list. In some cases, the organizers attempted to prohibit residents from speaking. Only after strong protests from the audience were all voices allowed fairly.

The Chinese translation was entirely disrespectful to the speakers. The translator told his listeners that speakers in favor of the resource centre were crazy, or not to listen to them, and other such remarks. Some members of the audience complained after the meeting, and the organizers just shrugged it off as merely the translator's "comments"

Despite this stacking of the deck, a large majority of residents who spoke - more than two thirds - were in favor of the resource centre. This mirrored the results of the city's own development permit board hearing last Spring where a majority of Strathcona residents spoke in favor, and it refutes the contention of opponents that the Strathcona "community" is against the centre.

We ask you not to judge the entire community by the way this meeting was conducted. Organizers meant it as a show of opposition to the resource centre; in fact, it showed how strong (though obviously not universal) is the support for the centre in Strathcona.

We realize this is an emotional issue, but we feel it is important to disregard concerted campaigns based on fear or misrepresentation. This is not an easy topic, with clear-cut answers, but we have found that most residents are open-minded and willing to listen to reason.

The resource centre is only one element of a comprehensive attack on the drug problem, but it is an essential element. It will save lives. Already 150 people have died this year. As a minimum it will provide relief for our beleaguered community by helping take drug users off the streets and alleys at night and bring them indoors, separating them from the non-addicted dealers who can then be dealt with by the police.

We are pleased that council has supported this idea so far, and urge you to do everything you can to bring it into reality as soon as possible. Lives depend on it.

Yours truly,

Margaret Prevost
President, CCCA

Neighbourhood Liaison Committee and Good Neighbour Agreement

In May, a letter went to those who attended meeting called by the Vancouver/Richmond Health Board. The proposed structure of the Resource Centre seems to have the Health Board at the top, then the established Advisory Committee – made up of people who have been involved from the idea stage – then there will be the Operator, likely a Downtown Eastside organisation who will staff the Centre and run programs, and finally the Neighbourhood Liaison Committee.

The letter states that the Advisory Committee has decided on the make-up of the Liaison and proposes **Lord Strathcona Elementary School** having 2 reps chosen by the school, the **Strathcona Area Merchants Society** having 1 rep chosen by SAMS, the **Lookout Emergency Aid Society** having 1 rep chosen by the Lookout, **Strathcona Residents Association** having 1 rep chosen by the SRA, the Advisory Committee will seek reps from the **Princess Place** and **Marie Gomez** residences, the **Vancouver Police Department** appoints 1 rep, the **City of Vancouver** appoints 1 rep, the **Vancouver/Richmond Health Board** appoints 1 rep, the **Operator** of the Resource Centre has 1 staff rep and up to 6 people from the users of the facility can attend meetings.

The purpose of this body will be to seek working solutions to issues and concerns it is made aware of by the community. In this light, members will be required to work towards success of the facility in the community. The Operator, who answers to the Advisory Committee and ultimately to the Health Board and Health Canada, can request an alternative representative from any group if the rep in attendance is seen to be working against these “positive purposes”.

It is odd that the centre is in the Downtown Eastside, has a chair for someone from the Strathcona Residents Association but no rep from the Downtown Eastside Residents' Association. It is odd that no rep is included to speak for First Nations' concerns. It is odd that no rep from the Faith community is part of this structure.

It is essential that this facility neither implodes nor explodes. The structure and daily workings, the community impacts and input, the inevitable attempts to sabotage and scapegoat... all and everything has to be considered. This Resource Centre can be a real beginning, but the ancient forms are waiting with a tension rarely seen. If it is set up like a balloon, the slightest prick can deflate and destroy years of effort. Make every step worth it.

[–If you have any comments or suggestions on the Resource Centre – how it should be run, what kinds of programs and services are necessary, what the above structure is missing or needs to include, please write to the *Carnegie Newsletter*.]



All I Ever Really Needed to Know I Learned in Kindergarten

Most of what I really need to know about how to live and what to do and how to be I learned in kindergarten. Wisdom was not at the top of the graduate mountain, but there in the sandbox at nursery school.

These are the things I learned: Share everything, Play fair. Don't hit people. Put things back where you found them. Clean up your own mess. Don't take things that aren't yours. Say you're sorry when you hurt somebody. Wash your hands before you eat. Flush. Warm cookies and cold milk are good for you. Live a balanced life. Learn some and think some and draw and paint and sing and dance and play and work every day some.

Take a nap every afternoon. When you go out into the world, watch for traffic, hold hands and stick together. Be aware of wonder. Remember the little seed in the plastic cup. The roots go down and the plant goes up and nobody really knows how or why, but we are all like that.

Goldfish and hamsters and white mice and even the little seed in the plastic cup – they all die. So do we.

And then remember the book about Dick and Jane and the first word you learned, the biggest word of all: LOOK. Everything you need to know is in there somewhere. The Golden Rule and love and basic sanitation. Ecology and politics and sane living.

Think of what a better world it would be if we all – the whole world – had cookies and milk about 3 o'clock every afternoon and then lay down with our blanket for a nap. Or if we had a basic policy in our nations: to always put things back where we found them and cleaned up our own messes. And it is still true, no matter how old you are, when you go out into the world, it is better to hold hands and stick together.

Robert Fulghum

Chicken Soup For The Soul

