

AGENDA

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ANN ARBOR'S ALTERNATIVE NEWSMONTHLY

HOMELESSNESS IN WASHTENAW COUNTY

Who are the Homeless?

"We have learned that the word 'homeless' describes the final stage of a variety of problems about which the word 'homeless' tells us almost nothing."

—Rev. Paton Zimmerman, President,
The Shelter Association of Ann Arbor

In 1987 there were 3,024 homeless people in Washtenaw County. An Inter-Agency Shelter and Housing Council study showed that during the course of the year, 1,035 homeless people were sheltered at SOS Crisis Center, 747 at the Shelter Association, 688 at SAFE House, 491 at the Salvation Army, and 62 at Ozone House.

But there is an additional group that cannot be counted, known as the "hidden homeless." Cathy Zick, Director of the Shelter Association, said these are the people who are "doubling or tripling up with people, or who are staying in parks, cars, abandoned buildings or aren't using the shelters and services designed to help the homeless." All of this adds up to a big problem in Washtenaw County.

This month, AGENDA editor Laurie Wechter interviews Ryan and Walter to let them tell, in their own words, what it's like to be homeless. Andy Burt, Director of Prospect Place, an Ypsilanti shelter for families, helps Sue, a homeless mother, tell her story.

Then, from a shelter worker's perspective, Burt describes how Prospect Place helped Sue. Wechter also interviews two Ann Arbor shelter workers, Cathy Zick and Ann Nagy, case worker for the Salvation Army, to let them tell in their own words what it's like to deal with the problems of homelessness every day. (Because of space limitations, only excerpts from the interviews with Ryan, Walter, Cathy Zick and Ann Nagy appear.)

Finally, in the Community Resource Directory (page 10) activist N. Renuka Uthappa of the Homeless Action Committee (HAC), analyzes Ann Arbor's low-income housing shortage.

RYAN'S STORY

What do you want people to know about being homeless? It's not fun. It's extremely aggravating. It is depressing. A lot of people misunderstand the homeless as far as I'm concerned.

What is the misunderstanding? That we're bums, that we don't do anything for ourselves. That all we want to do is loiter in their areas, especially stores. If you are in a place five minutes someone either calls the police or throws you out. Especially during the wintertime there are specific times when there is no cover anyplace to get out of the cold and nobody wants to let you in. That's why half the people in here are sick. Like today, if the library wasn't open there wouldn't be a place for a lot of people to go to. Unless you want to spend time in the museums all the time or take the chance on getting citations, tickets or getting busted by the cops for loitering, there's no choice but to stay outside in the cold.

Have you been busted for loitering? I've been kicked out of a couple different places by the cops.

Have many people here been busted for loitering? There have been a few who have received citations for being at the bus station. We have been told that if we are caught at the bus station anymore, we will be banned from the day shelter. Still there are a few people who go there every day whether or not they get kicked out because they just can't take the cold.

What would you say is a more accurate picture of the homeless than the misconceptions you described? When I wasn't homeless, I used to think why don't they get their lives straightened out? Now that I'm in that position I can understand that it's not so easy.

How long have you been homeless? Almost a month.

How long do you expect for that to go on? I am waiting for something to kick in and once that does I'm going to get my own place. Until then I don't have much to do.

What do you do during the day? Sit in the day shelter, take a walk when it gets too frustrating there. Go right back again.

What's frustrating about it? All the people there. All the conversations. A lot of arguments go on out there. There's constantly negative emotions. If they're not expressed you can see it on the faces of the people there. There's a lot of boredom, a lot of depression.



PHOTO: CASEY CAVANAUGH

Are there people you hang out with regularly? Yes, my cousin is here. And there is a girl who hangs out with me once in a while. Little by little I'm making friends here and there. My cousin and another friend of mine and I went to the museums today as a little threesome. Basically if you really look, you don't have to be alone. Lonely yes, but not alone.

What has Social Services done for you? At the present moment they've given me food stamps. And as soon as I get my unemployment paper up to them I'll get a check in two weeks, probably \$33 to \$37, and I'll get it every two weeks. Because of the problems I have I've also applied for disability. As soon as that check's in I'll receive a lump sum. That's going to be nice enough to get my own place.

Do you think that will be soon? Any time from now to the next three months.

Which of the area shelters have you stayed at? I have stayed at the Arbor Haven Salvation Army shelter. I didn't like it because they force their religion on you if you do stay there. As far as I'm concerned that's a line of bull because it's against your constitutional rights. I've also stayed here [the Night Shelter] and at Ashley [the Day Center]. Here and at Ashley the people are generally friendly. They don't like to let themselves get too close to you, but they will give you a helping hand if you need it.

What do you think of the food? I think they water things down sometimes a little too much trying to make it stretch. We had chicken à la king tonight. The rice was okay. It has lots of butter in it. It was really nice. But the chicken dish itself was more like soup. It was supposed to be a real thick gravy in there. This stuff was running all over the plate, not to mention the apple sauce that went with it!

A few dinners I've had, I can't believe they're serving it to us because it's restaurant quality food, like a four star restaurant. I'm a cook myself and I know good food when I taste it. I had a spaghetti dish the other night that was better than anything I've ever had before, and some carrots that outdid anything I've made myself.

What do they serve you for breakfast?

Breakfast is usually cream of wheat. This morning we had oatmeal

(see RYAN, page 4)

SMERA: New Breed of "Environmentalism"

by Brian Ewart

When Scott Chaplin opened his December issue of AGENDA, he was amazed to see a half-page advertisement attacking the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (DNR) as "reckless, haphazard, and zany." The prominently displayed advertisement was attributed to an environmental group Chaplin had never heard of: "Southeastern Michigan Environmental Resource Association" (SMERA). He sat down and wrote a letter to the editors of AGENDA in which he stated, "I find it difficult to believe that this group is an environmental group."

Chaplin should know about environmental groups. He is a local environmentalist who once worked for Greenpeace. "The SMERA advertisement," he said later, "seemed to be more of an effort to turn people against the DNR than a serious effort to solve our environmental crises." What Chaplin found most surprising was that the state agency he had often experienced as being too lenient with sources of environmental pollution should be attacked by SMERA's ad as being "self-proclaimed 'defenders of the environment,' [who] use government clout with the pretense of cleaning you up when what they really want to do is clean you out."

Chaplin concluded his letter by saying, "...I question whether SMERA is really 'a group of citizens concerned about responsible maintenance and management of the Michigan environment...because any serious environmentalist would know that a smear campaign against the DNR for allegedly being too tough on corporations is a ludicrous way to work for a clean environment. Who are you SMERA, and what are you really working for?'"

Chaplin's letter was published in the January issue of AGENDA but so was a second advertisement signed by "Solomon Eagle" and sponsored by SMERA.

The object of Chaplin's complaint proclaimed itself to be the "First of a Series," an "Environmental Letter to the People of Michigan" signed with the apparent pseudonym "Solomon Eagle." This SMERA advertisement accused the DNR of being incapable of administering the \$440 million of environmental bonds which were recently approved by Michigan voters for clean-up of toxic contamination. The "Second of a Series" (published in January) attacked both the DNR and the Ann Arbor City Government for failing to resolve the municipal solid waste problem.

The advertisements seemed equally rhetorical and both used language that appeared to be highly emotional. The DNR was equated with "Carry Nation with her little hatchet," "a big fat baby," and "an amiable, thirsty, impecunious drunk." Readers were told that "Today DNR—and others—visit modern plagues of fear, ignorance, contempt, and villainy upon the people, towns, and businesses of this state." Imagery, such as "a hammer on the head" and "twist slowly in the wind," as well as the promise that "their [the DNR and 'others'] perfidies must be reported and will be in this monthly series" struck some as having an uncomfortably threatening tone.

For two months, people in Ann Arbor and beyond have been echoing Chaplin's question, "Who are you SMERA, and what are you really working for?"

SMERA made its first public appearance with its advertisement in the December issue of AGENDA. In this advertisement SMERA sharply criticized the DNR's implementation of Act 307. Act 307 became an issue a year ago when an Ann Arbor-based scientific filter manufacturer, Gelman Sciences, Inc., filed a lawsuit against the DNR for allegedly failing to have written regulations defining the evaluation and ranking process for polluted sites. Gelman Sciences is currently being sued by the State of Michigan for allegedly contaminating groundwater with 1,4-dioxane.

Recently, the implementation of Act 307 was again brought to the public's attention when the company's founder and chairman, Charles Gelman, stated in a widely distributed letter that, "Based on expert testimony, we have been grossly mis-

(see NEW BREED, page 2)

Giving Hell vs. Giving Help

Third of a Series

ENVIRONMENTAL LETTER TO THE PEOPLE OF MICHIGAN

by Solomon Eagle



The too frequent view of public officials concerning businesses is a variant on the adage about sparing the rod and spoiling the child. The pious p.o. argument goes that if government spares the rod of stiff regulations and vindictive clout, those nasty, spoiled companies will waltz off gleefully in all directions violating every law in sight. That's too simple-minded for even p.o.'s to maintain convincingly.

With countless examples from the bleak and bloody pages of history to guide them, why do officials at the DNR and elsewhere cling fast to the conviction that an adversarial attitude toward Michigan business is the only way to beat pollution, clean the environment, wash the wind, protect the public, and keep those desperado companies in line? Lord Chesterfield in one of his 236 letters to his "Dear Boy," Philip Stanhope, warned that he intended to "dissect and analyse you with a microscope, so that I shall discover the least speck or blemish." Stanhope, for all his famous papa's monitoring and advice, didn't turn out very well, achieved little, and died at 36. So much for striving to push people—and companies—into obedience, goodness, and greatness.

On November 21, 1988, the acting head of the Environmental Response Division at the DNR was quoted as saying, "In connection with Act 307 cleanups in Michigan, we're going to give the polluters hell." Giving hell may be fun and games at the Division, but how effective is it at accomplishing cleanups?

Battles seldom clean up anything, and battlefields are never praised for their tidiness. Solomon Eagle and other old warriors can testify to that axiom. Challenges to combat such as "giving the polluters hell" bring verbal pollution into the state. Business people, the innocent as well as the guilty, fear they're in for an expensive pushing around by the Lansing zealots. And they're inclined to cry for "Help." Help, not hell, is what the state's business community always needs in its struggle to accomplish two obvious goals of every business and job provider in the state—to stay alive and to keep clean.

No business is deliberately an imitator of The Odd Couple's Oscar Madison. Businesses don't deliberately pollute, because social and moral concerns aside, pollution is inefficient and costly. No business loves a mess for its own sake or fouls the environment for the heck of it. Give a company with pollution problems reasonable support, assistance, and comprehensible rules; and that company, the Eagle predicts, will eagerly try to qualify for the Spic and Span Corporation Club.

The DNR Environmental Response Division isn't alone in the impulse to storm, shout, and rattle sabres to chastise profitmakers and employers (when they survive the incessant flak from the bureaucrats). The federal GAO recently said the EPA in its cleanup efforts should "bring all the tools of the law to bear against those who pollute." That reads better than it works. In action, such tools are too often used to torment, badger, and accuse rather than to encourage, assist, and support. Without judicious care on the part of the tool and law wielders, foulup rather than cleanup can result.

Maybe there's too much inclination to give hell instead of help to our troubled polluters. Since hell doesn't do the job, why not give help a chance? And maybe it works both ways. Could be that even with our bureaucracies, crusading politicians, and the DNR, there's something to be said for giving them help and consideration, not hell. Or perhaps we're simply feeling a temporary affliction of fondness for our governmental overseers and the DNR in the month of St. Valentine's Day. Please, DNR, be our Valentine, not our Simon Legree.

Sponsored by

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ADVERTISEMENT

NEW BREED

(from page one)

ranked on the DNR's Act 307 list, which ranks environmental contamination sites under the Michigan Environmental Response Act (MERA).

SMERA concluded its December advertisement by calling for, "Dissent, Dissent" when self-proclaimed 'defenders of the environment' use government clout with the pretense of cleaning you up when what they really want to do is to clean you out." Similar concerns were raised recently by Charles Gelman when he was interviewed by Ted Heusel on WAAM. During the broadcast, Gelman stated, "recently we've just dug in and decided to fight back." That decision was reached, he said, after finding the company was confronted with a DNR that was remote and non-responsive and a chief enforcement officer who said Gelman Sciences should be forced out of business.

"Dissent, Dissent" as an appropriate response to unreasonable demands by the DNR also seemed to be on the mind of special council to Gelman Sciences, Edward Levitt, who spoke during a Nov. 30 court-ordered Act 307 hearing. Noting an earlier speaker's request that the Gelman Sciences concentrate on contamination instead of litigation, Levitt said, "To the extent we're responsible, we will bear the burden; but to the extent we're not, we will not sit blindly by while we are gouged."

SMERA's next appearance was on Dec. 20, 1988 when two Ann Arbor residents identifying themselves as SMERA representatives testified at the most recent Act 307 hearing. At that hearing, SMERA representative Mark Sutter testified that the combination of pollution scores for a variety of contaminated city, county, state and federal sites made "government" the largest single polluter. The DNR, Sutter argued, should look after offending government entities before seeking to police others.

Sutter's list of government-owned sites of pollution included Fort Smith Air Base, K.I. Air Force Base and "a marine federal terminal." His argument echoed one made by Charles Gelman in a "Viewpoint" column published in The Ann Arbor News two weeks earlier. In that article, Gelman wrote, "the DNR is able to keep quiet pollution on military bases and police installations."

In his testimony, Sutter described SMERA as "a group that is trying to be a research association that you can come to to gain information and resources concerning environmental issues in general and specific issues related to contamination."

Another SMERA representative at the Act 307 hearing, Karen Roberts, identified herself as the "Government-Business Liaison" for SMERA. Roberts described the group as "a newly formed association of people who are concerned about the condition of the environment in Michigan and about the delay in cleaning up the environment that we believe has been created by the inability of the DNR to interact in a meaningful way with business and other organizations. SMERA is dedicated to the dissemination of information that will lead to a better environment for all residents of this state."

Roberts announced that SMERA was "creating a business hot line" with an "800 number" which is to be called the "NRD (Natural Resources Difficulties) Hot Line." The purpose of the hot line is to receive "all comments, criticisms, and problems encountered by businesses in dealing with the DNR." The information is to be "funneled through a single channel directly to the appropriate DNR official."

Despite the remarkable similarity of views, when asked about SMERA, Charles Gelman responded, "I don't know much about SMERA. You'll have to talk to the SMERA people." When asked if there are Gelman Sciences employees in SMERA, Gelman acknowledged that "a couple of them are, some of them, I believe, are not."

According to Charles Gelman, the only two individuals known to have identified themselves publicly as representatives of SMERA (Mark Sutter and Karen Roberts) are "highly technical people" employed by Gelman Sciences in marketing. When told that some environmentalists believed SMERA sounded like "a front for industry," Charles Gelman responded, "I don't think their intent is to be any front for anybody, but you'd have to talk to them." The appropriate person to speak with, Gelman indicated, was the group's secretary, "Banner."

Reached at his home, SMERA "Information Officer" Adam Paul Banner explained that he was new to the group. "I wasn't in on the conception. I was brought in at a later date." Referring to problems with state and local regulation, the retired Dow Chemical industrial chemist said, "You can't enforce regulations to the point that no chemical company is going to come into the state." "Industry," he explained, "has got to be able to function in some manner...and do it with some rules and regulations...which they can understand and which are obtainable."

When asked about the source of SMERA's funding, Banner responded, "There's been some

donations made, and just how much (does) it (come to)? My contact is a lawyer and a couple of other people and we're (going) to get a meeting together and get more formal as soon as we can get all the groups together."

SMERA's post office box is signed in the name and home residence of Edward Levitt. Reached at his office at Gelman Sciences, where he serves as special council, Levitt said he couldn't remember if he is a member of SMERA from a "legal point of view," but he "very well may be." He explained that he contributes his skills as legal advisor to the group. Asked if SMERA is associated with Gelman Sciences, Levitt said, "No."

Levitt denied SMERA is a front for industry. "No business is giving SMERA its marching orders," he said. "We are not to act as a paid tool nor will we act as a paid tool for anybody and that includes not only business, that will also include an environmental group (and) that will also include an angry citizen."

When asked if the creation of SMERA had anything to do with the problems Gelman Sciences is having with the DNR, Levitt said that Gelman Sciences' litigation with the DNR seemed to be a focal point for industries and others with grievances. Currently that focus is chiefly on the DNR's implementation of Act 307 and the cleanup standards, Levitt explained. Levitt believes SMERA will continue to be active even after these issues are resolved. It will continue, he stated with conviction, "until business and government get along well."

Research conducted in the early 1980s under the direction of U-M sociology professor Mayer Zald examined another instance of a movement that emerged when business and government did not "get along well": the "pro-nuclear movement."

Pro-nuclear groups evolved at a time when the nuclear power industry was experiencing major changes in its political and business environment. Increasing community opposition, rising costs and declining profits resulted in the cancellation of orders for new nuclear power plants and the halting of plants under construction.

The emerging pro-nuclear movement differed from the industry's traditional lobbyists and representatives. Movement members presented themselves as independent advocates of nuclear power. They frequently organized as "citizen's groups" and used the means of political influence which are available to ordinary citizens. In this way, the pro-nuclear movement developed as a counter to the anti-nuclear movement.

Upon closer examination, however, the pro-nuclear groups often proved to be less "spontaneous" and more closely linked to the nuclear industry than it initially appeared. Far from being "independent" voices for nuclear power, the researchers found many of these groups were created or subsidized by the nuclear industry. In effect, the industry was creating the illusion of popular and independent support.

The effectiveness of these industry-created groups depended upon the fiction of their independence. Therefore, the industry often attempted to obscure the links which bound them to the "independent" groups they created and maintained.

During the past three years Gelman Sciences has experienced a considerable loss of support in the community. Once viewed with respect and admiration, corporate officials now see their company's reputation suffer under a barrage of criticism associated with the groundwater contamination.

Faced with the dual task of running a major business and addressing a massive groundwater contamination problem, corporate officials appear frustrated that seemingly technical problems must be addressed in a complex and shifting political and social environment. Confronted with some of the greatest challenges in the corporation's history, its officers find a loss of credibility and public confidence results in less control just when they feel more is needed.

It is in this context of a community, corporate and human tragedy that SMERA has emerged.

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PHOTO: CASEY CAVANAUGH

Ann Arbor "Unwelcomes" Bush Presidency

by Ted Sylvester

ANN ARBOR — On Jan. 14, as George Bush was climbing into the saddle of power in Washington, about 250 people gathered downtown in front of the Federal Building for an "anti-George Bush Inaugural Protest." The crowd alternately cheered, jeered, and shivered as representatives from 17 local activist groups took the podium to urge the new president to build his promised "kinder, gentler nation."

For one hour, speaker after speaker expressed a common theme. From homeless activist to peace activist, from gay/lesbian rights activist to tenant rights activist, from anti-racist activist to pro-Palestinian activist, from student activist to abortion rights activist—the radical, progressive, revolutionary, and liberal alike—all voiced a common abhorrence of the Reagan Revolution and George Bush's role in it.

"While some things have changed, too much has remained the same," Pam Nadasen from United Coalition Against Racism (UCAR) told the crowd. Nadasen cited Miami's Overtown riots as an example of the continuing and pervasive problems of racism and poverty in America. "The question we need to be asking," she said, "is why are Blacks and Hispanics fighting over crumbs under the table when down the block you have rich white men making six-digit salaries without doing a damn thing?"

Many of the other speakers echoed the sentiments of a pre-protest press release issued jointly by 13 sponsoring groups, which called on the Bush administration "to reverse the spending priorities of the past eight years...by helping the most oppressed people of our country and overseas." The groups specifically called for cuts in the defense budget and a return to pre-Reagan levels of social spending. According to the statement, "human rights must be a priority and should be reflected in increased spending for AIDS research, affordable housing, and education."

Mary F. Berry: "Keep the Flame of Justice Growing"

by Beth Anne Appel

YPSILANTI — Challenging the audience to "keep the flame of justice growing," Mary Frances Berry, U.S. Civil Rights Commissioner spoke Jan. 16 to a full house in Eastern Michigan University's Sponberg Theatre.

Her speech entitled, "Martin Luther King Jr.: The Legacy of Freedom" was sponsored by the Office of Equity Programs and Campus Life as a part of EMU's celebration of Martin Luther King's birthday.

Listing the many achievements of the civil rights movement, Berry stated, "That is not the whole story. Look at the 16 million people unemployed, looking for full time work, or the homeless—the people who are the victims of crime, harassment and racism even on the college campuses."

Once fired by Ronald Reagan from the U.S. Commission of Civil Rights, Berry sued in Federal Court and later won reinstatement. Berry serves on that commission now, and teaches law and history at the University of Pennsylvania.

Of the Reagan administration, she said, "Mr. Reagan is going out like he came in—fantasizing about Black leaders and civil rights problems, and ignoring his own duplicity and responsibility for making things worse."

On Bush's administration she said, "At the very

The crowd, for its part, carried many hand-painted signs, some of which read "Healthcare Not Wealthcare," "Shelter People Not Cars," "Maintain Roe vs. Wade," "Secret Wars Obvious Crimes," and "Test Peace Not Nuclear Weapons." Though many speakers urged them to "take to the streets," only about one-half of the protesters chose to march the few blocks to the offices of The Ann Arbor News after the rally. After a short speech demanding fairer media coverage of social issues, and a short conversation with a News editor, the crowd dispersed.

One of the organizers of the protest, Dave Austin, a member of Latin American Solidarity Committee (LASC), said he considered the rally a "success because of the diversity of the participants," and the possibility that "people can make a connection between what they're working on and other causes." Part of the success of this particular protest, Austin added, was that it was organized from the start to include a cross-section of groups from Ann Arbor's progressive grassroots community.

According to the protest's emcee Phillis Engelbert, also a member of LASC and an organizer of the event, the list of sponsoring groups and their speakers just kept on growing, and not everyone made it to the podium.

Representatives from the following organizations spoke at the rally: Homeless Action Committee, Concerned Faculty, Public Health Students Association, National Lawyers Guild, Latin American Solidarity Committee, Interfaith Council for Peace, Ann Arbor Tenants Union, U-M Asian Student Coalition, United Coalition Against Racism, Palestine Solidarity Committee, Center for Health, Peace and Understanding, Lesbian and Gay Rights Organizing Committee, Women's Action for Nuclear Disarmament, Revolutionary Workers League, Socially Active Latino Students Association, Committee to Defend Abortion Rights

least we might hope for the lowering of the temperature of the rhetoric, the ideological temperature in our society. If we do enough work, we may be able to force him to face up to some of the problems that have been left as part of the Reagan legacy."

Berry said, if King were alive today, "I think he would find the right phrase to shame people who think it is all right to pretend that housing in America is desegregated when it is not. I think he would be able to explain that housing in America is ...apart-heid, American-style."

Berry thinks that King would have a special word of praise for all the people who have remained committed to progressive causes during this period of conservatism in America. "I do not think that he would excuse people who use the dominance of conservatism and greed as an excuse for refusing to stand up in the cause of justice. You talk to people who say 'I would have done something, but it is just not the right time. You can't do anything when the tide's against you.'

"I think King would have said simply, 'If Rosa Parks had taken a poll before she sat down on the bus in Montgomery, she'd still be standing.'"

Berry also urged the audience to "find ways, whether it be through politics, non-violent direct action, or individual acts of courage, to keep the flame of justice growing in our time."

New in Paperback at Borders...

Michigan's Children by Marcene Root and Ruth Zweifler, Student Advocacy Center, Ann Arbor, \$8.50.

Plural But Equal: Blacks and Minorities in America's Plural Society by Harold Cruse, William Morrow, \$9.95.

The Cuba Reader: The Making of a Revolutionary Society edited by Brenner, LeoGrande, Rich, and Siegel, Grove, \$14.95.

Albuquerque: Coming Back to the U.S.A. by Margaret Randall, New Star, \$12.95.

And We Sold the Rain: Contemporary Fiction from Central America edited by Rosario Santos, Four Walls Eight Windows, \$9.95.

Rachel and Her Children: Homeless Families in America by Jonathan Kozol, Fawcett, \$8.95.



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RYAN (from page one)

which was a real nice change. I love oatmeal. They have croissants filled with apple filling or peaches, sometimes meat croissants. They have toast, regular cereal, cheerios, corn flakes, juice, eggs today as well. It's usually a fairly decent breakfast. Once in a while they pack lunches for everyone besides there being peanut butter and jelly if you want to make a sandwich for the day.

What would you like to see changed in the shelter system? Definitely more staff. They are seriously understaffed. In the day shelter there are usually four to five advocates and one person to watch the big room. Each advocate is assigned from five to 20 people depending on the number of people at the shelter at one time.

Something I would also like to see changed would be getting some sort of partition between the beds. Up in the bedrooms there is no privacy.

Do you feel safe? Are your things safe? Your personal belongings, if they're not watched at all times by yourself or someone you trust, will come

up missing. You're supposed to have a contract to get a bin for storage at the day shelter. Even when the advocates keep them, if something is lost or stolen they don't hold themselves responsible. As long as I've been here there have been 13 items stolen that I know of and I've only been here less than a month.

Safety, that depends. If you aren't racist, biased or prejudiced you get along real good. If you are prejudiced and make it known, the Blacks do something I think everyone should do, not just the Blacks but including them. They band together to fight a common enemy. If it's just one of you and ten of them everyone knows what the outcome will look like. Just sweep the person under the carpet and forget he's there.

I am nervous at times when I go to sleep because there are times when drunks come in. The shelter people know they are drunk and they just try to put them to bed. I could imagine them having some type of a fit and just raising hell in the bed area.

Is there anything else you'd like to talk about? I think the public should be a little more understanding. The city should get off its lazy so-and-

so and do something. They do have the funds no matter what they try and tell you. They just want to use them for other reasons to better the city. But how can you better a city if you can't take care of the people in it?

What would you have the city do with the funds? I would like to see low income housing set up around the area. Some place enough to take care of the homeless at least, to make sure no one is sleeping on the street.

Do you know of people that are sleeping outside? There are a few because they don't like the shelter at all. A couple people I know are sleeping in houses and the people don't know it. I really worry about them sometimes. There are a couple people who found really strange places to sleep that are warm but still dangerous.

What reasons do you think people become homeless? A lot of people come in because they just lost their homes. Sometimes it's because they're migrating from city to city trying to figure out what city they want to stay in. One thing I can say about the Ann Arbor area, it's decent and clean.

Sue's Story

Sue and her three children—4-year-old twin girls and a 2-year-old boy—have been living at Prospect Place Family Shelter in Ypsilanti since Oct. 8. For over two weeks during this time they were housed in a subsidized housing complex until it became an unsafe place for them to live. Sue attended U-M for one year and has worked for five years as a unit clerk in a hospital in Cleveland, Ohio. She plans to begin to study nursing or paralegal affairs at Washtenaw Community College this spring. Here is Sue's story as it was told to Prospect Place Director, Andy Burt.

After three years of living with a man, the father of my son—and we had a house—he decided he didn't want to be responsible for the family anymore. On July 4, ironically Independence Day, he moved out. I couldn't afford the house or utilities, so I moved back to Michigan from Cleveland to be close to my family who live here. The children and I stayed with my family until they couldn't take the chaos any longer. My mother has had three strokes, has diabetes and high blood pressure. The stress of three small children and too little room were too much for them.

I contacted Prospect Place at the end of September when I had just about reached the point of sleeping in my car with the kids. Finally a place came open for me at the shelter.

In the first 30 days of living at Prospect Place I found one apartment to rent but it wasn't ready for me to move in. I continued to look and met a lot of frustration looking for housing and being turned down time and again because I had too many children. So many times I was told it would be okay for me to move in if I had a man and two kids, but not for me and my three kids. Also, the fact that I am on ADC (Aid to Families with Dependent Children) means there is nothing affordable in the community. To support me and my children through the winter months I receive \$649 a month on my ADC grant to cover all expenses and \$170 a month in food stamps. I am required to get a three-bedroom apartment in any federally subsidized housing and there aren't many three-bedroom units. I'm told that there are ordinances in Ann Arbor and Ypsilanti regulating how many bedrooms there must be for families of my size. I was told this by landlords, but have understood from Ypsilanti city officials that no such ordinances are on the books. Spacewise, my three children and I could live in a two-bedroom apartment. It might be a little crowded, but it would be affordable.

Finally, after more than a month's search, I found a subsidized unit that I could afford and

WALTER'S STORY

What do you want people to know about being homeless? It leaves you with an empty feeling inside. You wish there were more places that you could get shelter. You wish you could feel better about yourself. It takes a lot out of you.

I wish there would be more shelters, more places that feed people and more places to go to get out of the cold all night, like 24 hours.

What's available now? Just the shelter here and the Day Center. They're great. The workers are nice, outgoing. You hardly ever see them bummed out and there's a lot in here that could bum you out. Living with a bunch of people that you're not

moved in just before Thanksgiving. I would have some extra money to live on, I thought, not extravagantly, just enough money for diapers, laundry soap, toilet paper, paper towels, the essential items that food stamps don't cover. I was told when I moved into the townhouse apartment that the area was not safe, but if I stayed out of trouble, minded my own business and kept my nose clean that the troublemakers wouldn't bother me.

The townhouse was nice, with brand new appliances. But after the trouble and expense of moving in, after only two weeks someone came into my house as I was taking the children into the apartment from the car and stole my wallet right out of my house. They had obviously been watching the mail the day before. My welfare check was sticking out of the box. My other mail was pushed down into the mailbox and there were two sets of footprints in the new snow on my doorstep. They took the cash from that check, all the money I had. The very next day a friend—also a former Prospect Place resident—who had borrowed my car to run an errand was forced to stop the car by someone running in front of her. She was pulled out of the car and assaulted. I had already witnessed several drug deals in my neighborhood and had been harassed while walking to and from my house. I decided at that moment it was better to move out before my children and I were victims.

I moved in with my ex-boyfriend for a few days and then returned to Prospect Place on Dec. 15. The children and I spent the holidays here and at this time I have no good leads on housing for us. Everything has a one- to four-year waiting period, so there's nothing immediately available. Many apartment complexes have non-refundable application fees so that it seems pointless to try when I know the wait is too long. It's not even feasible to waste my gas money to look for something that won't materialize soon. I've applied for Section 8 (federal housing subsidy program) in two local offices. I have dual preference status which puts me near the top of the list, yet I can expect it will be several months before I can get a voucher or certificate to subsidize my housing.

After seven months of being homeless, seeing no light at the end of the tunnel, suffering from abuse from my ex-boyfriend and the stress of taking care of three preschoolers, I gave up a week ago and signed myself into Mercywood Hospital before I gave up totally. I have just come back out to stay at Prospect Place, where I am trying to look for housing, put together a childcare plan for the kids, and finalize my plans to study nursing or paralegal affairs at Washtenaw Community College. I'm just taking one day at a time.

accustomed to, you're bound to run into different moods besides yours. Sometimes I don't feel good myself. I suffer from anxiety and depression at times when I'm really in bad shape. But I overlook that and try to find a place to myself which is hard to do when you are in a place like this [the Night Shelter].

What's the dorm like? It's one big room with lots of beds. Accommodations are okay. They separate the snorers which is okay. It's separate because some people work and they won't get a good night's sleep.

Right here they wash your clothes for you. You can take a shower early in the morning if you want to. They give you shampoo if they have it. They usually have shampoo, toothpaste, deodorant, razors. If you have your clothes there at a certain time

they'll be washed. They don't gripe or say you've got too much stuff or you're too late.

How long have you been homeless? I've only been on the street for three weeks.

Have you made any friends here? Ralph, Jim—I'm a very solitary person. I don't make friends easily so I choose carefully the people I associate with. A couple guys are really nice. Most of these people are working. They're not drinking or doping.

(see WALTER, next page)

WALTER (from previous page)

What do you do during the day? I follow up leads on a room. I can't afford an apartment, even though I'm on Social Security Disability, so, I look in the paper. I try to find a room that's around \$200 to \$300. I only get \$490 now.

They have found me a place and I hope that I get it this month. What they do is look for a nice area for you. In my case, I'm a user so I wanted to get away from bad areas and dope. I lucked out and saw a place on Thayer St. across from Hill Auditorium. I'm hoping to get in there at the end of this month. It's \$250 plus utilities and I should be able to afford that. The job came along today.

Who looked for a place for you? Pam from the Day Center of the Shelter Association. They are advocates. They help you get on social services and then they encourage you to look for a room so you are not just taking up space. That makes room for somebody else that's out there to come along. They do the same with them, helping them get on their feet. It's helping you help yourself.

With the meals they give you a little map. It tells you where they are serving at what time. There's nothing to eat on Saturdays or Sundays. Possibly the Day Center will have a meal or someone to come in and serve a meal.

The Day Center and the Night Shelter—there's an icebox right here—and there's usually something in there to eat. If there isn't, there might be bread or you just go without eating. You know tomorrow you'll get a breakfast. You can make a

lunch there and sometimes they make you lunches. On Saturdays they make you a lunch and on Sundays I believe they make you a lunch too.

When you became homeless did you stop taking drugs? Yes, right away. I've been straight, as they say, for a month. It feels good. I'm going to Narcotics Anonymous. My advocate Pam at the Day Center suggested it would be a nice place for me to go and get myself together. And Selma, she's real nice. She's helping me get a job. I will be getting a job as a crossing guard.

How do you feel you've been treated here? Good, real good. I'd been used to living in Detroit. I know it's a bigger city, but it seems like the people there aren't as outgoing as they are here. I know. There are some shelters there that I stayed in. The food was lousy. They preached a lot of gospel to you. It seems like they wanted you to become one of the Christians just like them and that's great too, but it seems like they were forcing that down your throat. Twice a day, before you could eat, you had to go to church. If you don't, you don't eat. You couldn't come and go. You either had to stay or have a good reason why you left. I stayed there two weeks once.

What would you change in the shelter system? Some of the people are having a harder time than me trying to find a place because they're on General Assistance. A lot of places in this city won't take it. That could change. There are a lot of places that should accept General Assistance. It's not the way you look. Who cares the way you look. I'm used

to paying \$400-\$500 for an apartment, but not for a room. It could be cut down. It gives the students a break too. They're not rich either.



Walter outside the Day Center

Do you feel safe? Are your things safe?

Yes, I feel safe. All the stuff is at the Day Center. It's safe. It's in storage bins. They have individual containers you can put your stuff in. There's always

somebody there that will make sure nobody is getting into any other's stuff. It's well supervised. They open the storage area at 10 am and again at 4 pm. It's better than carrying all the stuff around with you.

The best place that ever happened to me was when I came here to Ann Arbor. This is the best thing that ever happened to me and I'm 40-years-old. The people here are great. I don't know what it is but it's in the air. I don't feel threatened when I walk down the street so therefore I don't have to watch my back. In Detroit you do. I'm a Vietnam veteran so I'm used to unusual happenings and always look over my shoulder. I'm a peace loving person and I feel real safe here in Ann Arbor.

What does the Department of Social Services do to help? I don't know I'm not on DSS.

Do you think you will have housing in the long term? Oh yes. The Section 8s that I'm used to were all shabbily run and there were slumlords that ran them. The last place where I lived, I didn't like because they needed new windows in there. She told me that I had to pay for this out of my pocket where there should have been windows in the joint before I even got in there. It was drafty. The heat was okay. You could elevate that. But you had to pay for the heat yourself. The light, I don't mind paying for electricity. The stove was gas. It was only \$90 but I don't feel that that was too cool. I know there's some Section 8s here in Ann Arbor, but I'm kind of shy and scared to go into them now. They're still like projects.

make it long term. A crisis comes and they end up back in the street or the living situation they can secure is just so marginal that you or I would be doing well if we made it last eight or ten months.

Our biggest staff is four full-time VISTA volunteers. Plus we have one and a half paid advocates. Advocates are service workers that work one-on-one with the folks. I would say we probably have at least 30 people right now providing some support services.

What are the advocacy services? We try to connect people with advocates right away. Everybody can use the shelter for 30 days. If they choose not to use an advocate at that time that's their decision. Some people don't need it. Other people think they don't need the help and they do.

People get hooked up with a lot of substance

(see ZICK, page 6)



THE SHELTER ASSOCIATION OF ANN ARBOR

CATHY ZICK

Do you have a current figure on the number of homeless people in Ann Arbor? I know that the shelter served 908 homeless throughout 1988. On a given night in winter when our numbers are highest I see 70-plus people. In addition the other shelters are full. Then there's the hidden homeless, a group that uses us as one of several supports. They might be with a friend tonight or a relative another night and use us at the end of the week.

It must be hard to do accurate surveys. It really is. In any given month we see over 200 different people. It's a very fluid population.

How did the shelter get started? It grew out of an effort at St. Andrews Church back in 1983. They provided shelter throughout 1983 and most

of 1984 either at the church or in The House Across the Street. In Feb., 1984 the Shelter Association was incorporated really broadening its support much beyond St. Andrews and other churches to include all sectors of the community.

Is there an average period of time people stay here? We provided over 20,000 bed nights at the shelter last year to 908 different people. That's only 20-some per person if you just divide it. In reality that's not how it happens. We have a number of people who are only here for a night or two passing through. But we have a number of people that are here much longer, the people that have really bottomed out. It also takes longer than 30 days to raise what's now usually \$800 for a security deposit for a single room. There is another group of people that really can make it on their own for a while, but don't have enough resources to really

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Life Beneath the Gloss • Lenten Series • Sundays 7 pm

FEB. 5 • "A Meditation on Compassion in the Life of Jesus Christ and in the Life and Works of Vincent Van Gogh" • Rev. Donald Postema

FEB. 12 • "Jesus' Way of Seeing" • Rev. Virginia Peacock

FEB. 19 • "The Cross: The Absence or Death of God" • Rev. Virginia Peacock

The University and the Common Good

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U-M Prof. William Alexander • 7:30 pm

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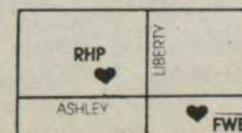
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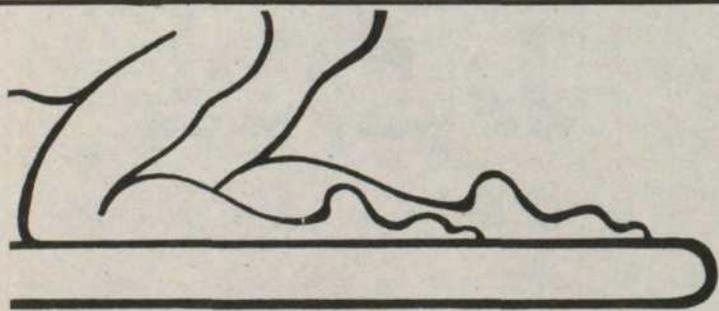


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ZICK (from page 5)

abuse treatment programs because a large portion of our population has some kind of chemical dependency. Advocates assist people in getting connected with financial resources. More and more we have employers that will call us with jobs meaning we can place people in employment.

We have relationships with a number of landlords to help people find housing and we help people raise the security deposit.

We have Community Mental Health and Public Health services provided on site at the day program. The Veterans Affairs office and Social Security office come in periodically.

Does the shelter have a city affiliation? No it doesn't. The city has always been a prime supporter, but by far, not the only supporter.

What is the difference between the shelter that you provide and that of the Salvation Army? We serve different populations and different needs. At Arbor Haven you can't be currently using or abusing drugs or alcohol. At our place you can stay, even if you are currently using, as long as you can abide by our simple rules.

A lot of our folks need much more than just pointing in the right direction. A lot of them you need to go hand in hand with to appointments, to the housing search. The needs are greater.

In terms of the day program services, we provide much more structured services than we did initially. At first we just had the overnight shelter. We try not to limit ourselves by setting up a lot of criteria that is going to exclude those that need the services. Like taking on a money management task and becoming somebody's payee. We've done that in a very few cases but it was something needed we couldn't get anybody else to do.

What amount of growth in homelessness have you seen in the past few years if any? We served around 800 people in 1986 and 1987, and 900 in 1988. It has grown somewhat. But I think it's grown more in terms of the length of time that individuals stayed as opposed to how many different people were served. Either they need us longer or are coming back sooner because the housing is becoming scarcer and more expensive.

We have more people working than ever before. Between 20 and 25% of our folks are working and are really trying to save money. Two weeks ago, somebody told me two weeks ago they found a single room. They were told it'd be \$250 a month for the room, but \$800 to move in. We have a lot of people that are

ANN NAGY

What makes Arbor Haven unique? Arbor Haven is a structured program. When a client comes to us—and many do come that have been hopeless for a long time—with our direction and our structure we help them get employment. Once they've saved up their money, then we help them get into a place. And from there they keep escalating because the jobs are usually \$5 an hour. After they get situated they start going for a higher paying job depending on their skills.

We're alcohol-free and we're drug-free. We do get a lot of recovering alcoholics in Arbor Haven. If they're released from a treatment center, we require that they be on Antabuse [a drug that induces severe illness if alcohol is ingested]. We do have have to be very strict with that. It's not fair for a person to come in that's been drinking. The people that are on Antabuse can smell it.

Do you have advocates similar to those at the Shelter Association? I am the case worker. The van brings the clients here each morning [from Arbor Haven at 809 Henry to the Salvation Army Citadel at 100 Arbana]. I, in turn, speak to each client individually. At that time we map out their day and find out what their plans are. I do an awful lot of networking for the clients. Right now I have 36 companies, stores, businesses in the Ann Arbor area that hire Arbor Haven clients.

What kind of connection do you have with The Shelter Association and the churches of Ann Arbor? The churches of Ann Arbor, most of them, support Arbor Haven. As far as the city shelter, we work very closely together. If they feel that there is someone who could benefit from our program, Cathy or whomever will call and say, "Ann, there's this guy here or this woman. I think you can help them."

Are your beds usually full? We house up to sixteen people. We sometimes have openings, but again like I say, some people come and they feel that they don't want the structure so they leave. So we're not really overflowing.

This month are you full? I had to evict a couple

working, even holding down two jobs, in order to get the deposit together. We work out a money management plan so that they're saving and not paying anything for their stay with us.

Have you turned anyone away? We try not to this time of year. A number of nights this summer we turned people away. Some people find summer sublets. Some people will choose to stay outside.

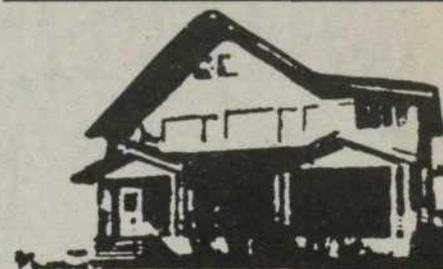
It's not easy to stay in the shelter. I wish we could make it better than we can. It's really hard when you put 50 people in a building that size. You share a bedroom. You share the bathroom. You share the laundry room. You're with people with all kinds of behavior and from different backgrounds, likes and dislikes and problems. We do our best but I know there's no way to make staying at the shelter real pleasant.

What do you do if clients can't find someplace in the Ann Arbor area to move into? We don't limit our house hunting to Ann Arbor. We probably place more people in Ypsilanti than in Ann Arbor because that's where the placements are. Some people feel very strongly about staying an Ann Arbor resident. We encourage people to be realistic about what they're looking for.

What other programs do you have? A program that we're excited about, that just started in August, and really got off its feet in October, is our Women's Services Program. That operates six nights a week downstairs [in the administrative building next to the night shelter]. It's always been real hard for women to stay at the shelter when they are out-numbered by four-to-one. The common characteristic among homeless women is that they have been physically or sexually abused so it's real hard to come to a public shelter in the first place. Most women will hold out as long as they can so there's usually more damage and they're more needy. We started this program as a way to provide a refuge.

The women cook meals together a couple nights a week. What's exciting is for the first time there is a sense of community among the women. Women are also a very isolated population. You hardly ever saw any support networks. You'd see some among the men. You'd see a woman with a group of men but you didn't see many support networks among women. It's real nice to see what's happening there. It's also a place from which no woman is barred even if she's been barred from the shelter. If she has been placed in the community she can come to that group. We have several women that are starting to be a real support for those that move on and leave the shelter but happen to live in the Ann Arbor area.

(see ZICK, page 11)



THE SALVATION ARMY ARBOR HAVEN EMERGENCY SHELTER

people this morning for drinking. So we do have a few openings now. It'll be filled before the evening.

During what kind of period do the people you see remain homeless? The people that come to Arbor Haven are allowed to stay anywhere from one day to possibly four, five, six weeks depending on how much money they make. We require that all of their money be saved for housing, cigarette money, gas money if they have a car. There's no just going out and blowing your money because at Arbor Haven we provide all their meals. We do their laundry. We give them all their personal items. So really they don't need to spend a dime. Once I see that they have \$600 to \$800, whatever the case may be, then I'll say "Okay guys, you have enough money to start looking. I'm going to put you on a time limit." So from that point I will give them possibly another week to two weeks to make their move into a place.

Do people have a hard time getting together a security deposit? Yes they do. Affordable housing is something that we're in dire need of. However, the agencies, the Department of Social Services, are pretty good if the people qualify for help with security.

What kind of help is there for mentally ill homeless people? Not much. There are the Adult Foster Care homes but they are so difficult to get in to. The mentally ill, now they are falling through the cracks. And it's a terrible thing to say but there really isn't. There are just too many of them.

(see NAGY, page 11)

CALENDAR

To publicize March CALENDAR events, send formatted listings by Wednesday, February 15 to AGENDA, 202 E. Washington #512, Ann Arbor, MI 48104. (996-8018)

FORMAT—Date, event, sponsor, time and place. One or two sentence description, (fee), phone number.

Unless otherwise noted, all events listed in the CALENDAR are free and open to the public. Also, all locations are in Ann Arbor unless otherwise noted.

ALL MONTH

Martin Luther King, Jr. "Peacemaker Exhibit": Friends of the Ann Arbor Public Library, Women's Action for Nuclear Disarmament (WAND), U-M Office of Minority Affairs & the U-M Museum of Art Month-long display of exhibit from the Chicago Peace Museum at the Ann Arbor Public Library, 343 S. Fifth Ave. This collection of photos, posters, original artwork, leaflets and documents illustrates a timeline showing Dr. King's contributions to the history of civil rights and peace activities. Mon: 10 am to 9 pm, Tues-Fri: 9 am to 9 pm, Sat: 9 am to 6 pm, Sunday: 1 to 5 pm. Docent guided tours of exhibit available for groups. 994-2345

Animals in Photography Photo Contest: The Humane Society of Huron Valley Entries will be judged on quality, composition, and how successfully the photo captures the animal's nature, personality or beauty. Grand prizes include a Minolta camera and a 3001 Bogen Tripod. \$2 entry fee per photo, due with an entry form no later than Fri., Feb. 24. 662-5545

1 Wednesday

The Essentials of Identity: Minor Affairs Committee-MSA & others Mon-Fri: 9 am to 10 pm, Sat: 10 am to 3 pm, Rackham Galleries (third floor). An art show focusing on the Asian-American experience, through Feb. 14. 662-2087

Brown Bag Lunch: Concerned Faculty noon, Guild House, 802 Monroe. 995-1499

Beans & Rice: Sanctuary 6 pm, Guild House, 802 Monroe. An opportunity to meet others and to support direct aid for Central America. \$2. 662-5189

"Take Back the Night" Planning Meeting: Ann Arbor Coalition Against Rape 7 to 8:30 pm, Community Access (2nd fl. Fire Dept. on N. 5th Ave. across from City Hall). Meetings to plan the rally are every Wed. All are welcome. 994-8775

Meeting: Men Survivors of Violence 7:30 pm, call for location. Men of all sexual orientations are invited to share their experiences as victims of violence and to learn to be survivors. 994-5403

Meeting: Latin American Solidarity Committee (LASC) 8 pm, Wolverine Rm., Mich. Union. Discussion of El Salvador's ruling party's decision to reject FMLN offer to participate in elections. 665-8438

"Back in the USSR & Proverbial Human Suffering": Student Struggle for Soviet Jewry 8 pm, 1429 Hill. Live performance of Ari Roth's "Proverbial Human Suffering" and video showing of the PBS Frontline program, "Back in the USSR." 769-0500

Meeting for Anti-Racism Course: Concerned Faculty, FAIR & UCAR 8 pm, Guild House, 802 Monroe. Discussion on what the U-M proposed anti-racism course should be. Tom 763-6731

"EEK-A-MOUSE": Blind Pig 8 pm & 11 pm, 208 S. First. Calypso-reggae performers from Kingston, Jamaica. \$10 in advance at Ticketmaster, the Blind Pig (12 pm to 8 pm), or charge by phone 423-6666. 99-MUSIC

2 Thursday

Meeting: Women & Spirituality 7:30 pm, Guild House, 802 Monroe. 662-5189

"On the Verge or the Geography of Yearning": Performance Network 8 pm, 408 W. Washington. Play about three fearless American women who embark on a journey to the "last unexplored bit of globe." \$9/\$6 students & seniors. 663-0681

"One Way or Another": Latin American Solidarity Committee (LASC) Film Series 8 pm, Rackham Amphitheater. This film dramatizes, with a feminist sensibility, the effects of profound political and social changes on personal relationships in the Havana shantytowns of post-revolutionary Cuba. Spanish with subtitles. (78 min) 665-8438

RAMJAM: Rainforest Action Movement (RAM) (call for time) Benefit concert for RAM, a group working to save the earth's rainforests, featuring The Iodine Raincoats and Big Box of Nines at The Beat, 215 N. Main. 764-2147

The Difference: Blind Pig 208 S. First. Pop-rock quintet plays original songs featuring new music. 996-8555

3 Friday

Community Response Team Training: Citizen's Advisory Committee on Rape Prevention (CACORP) Educate the community about rape and rape prevention. Be part of a team that goes into neighborhoods after a sexual assault has occurred. 994-8775

Friday Noon Forum: Guild House noon, Guild House, 802 Monroe. Speaker Donna Ainsworth from Interfaith Council for Peace and Justice just returned from the Middle East, \$1

for vegetarian soup and peanut butter sandwich. 662-5189

Women's Tea: Women's Crisis Center (WCC) & U-M Lesbian Programs Office 5:30 to 7 pm, 218 N. Adams (in the First Congregational Church), Ypsilanti. All women are welcome every Friday to this alternative alcohol-free happy hour. 485-2310

Gay Men's Coffee House: Brothers 8 pm, Guild House, 802 Monroe. 763-4186

"On the Verge...": Performance Network 8 pm (see 2 Thur)

Suspects: Blind Pig 208 S. First. R&B band from Detroit. 996-8555

4 Saturday

Dedication & Opening Reception for King Peace Exhibit: Friends of the Ann Arbor Public Library & others 2 to 4 pm, 343 S. Fifth Ave. downstairs meeting room. Martin Luther King, Jr.-Peacemaker Exhibit opening. Elise Bryant, Artistic Director for Common Ground Theater, will perform excerpts from the musical "People Could Fly" and Doc Reilly will read from the speeches of Dr. King. 994-2345

"Emerald Forest": Hill St. Cinema 7:15 pm, 1429 Hill. An American engineer searches the Amazon jungle for his son, who was kidnapped by a primitive Indian tribe. \$2.50. 769-0500

"Love's Labour's Lost": Michigan Theater 8 pm. Shakespeare's tale of the King of Navarre and three of his lords will be performed by The Acting Company, \$22.50, \$18. 668-8397

Martha Reeves and the Vandellas: Prism Productions 8 pm & 11 pm, Blind Pig, 208 S. First. The Motown Legend herself in a rare club performance, \$12.50 at Ticketmaster or charge by phone, 423-6666. 99-MUSIC

"On the Verge...": Performance Network 8 pm (see 2 Thur)

"Aguirre, the Wrath of God": Hill St. Cinema 9:15 pm, 1429 Hill. A Spanish explorer in the 1500s search-

es the Amazon for the mythical city of El Dorado. \$2.50. 769-0500

5 Sunday

Meeting: Ann Arbor Homeless Action Committee (HAC): 6 pm, Guild House, 802 Monroe. Planning of events to raise public consciousness of homelessness. 930-2959

"On the Verge...": Performance Network 6:30 pm (see 2 Thur)

Letter Series: Canterbury House 7 pm, 218 N. Division. Presentation and slide show by the Rev. Donald Postema of the Ecumenical Campus Center entitled: "A Meditation on Compassion in the Life of Jesus Christ and in the Life and Works of Vincent Van Gogh." 665-0606

Lesbian-Gay Men's Music: Gay Liberation 8 pm, Blind Pig, 208 S. First. 996-8555

6 Monday

Fighting to Save the Earth: U-M Environmental Advocacy Program, Environmental Law Society & others 7 pm, Rackham Amphitheater. Speakers: David Brower of the Earth Island Institute and Dave Foreman of Earth First. 764-6529

African Drums: Friends of the Ann Arbor Public Library & others 7:30 to 8:15 pm, 343 S. Fifth Ave. downstairs meeting room. In conjunction with the Martin Luther King, Jr.-Peacemaker Exhibit, Aron Kaufman will demonstrate a variety of African rhythms and songs. 994-2345

Rosh Hodesh Celebration: Jewish Feminist Group 7:30 pm, location TBA. Join in this traditional women's celebration to welcome the new month of Adar. 769-0500

Writers Series: Guild House 8 pm, 802 Monroe. Poets Justin Tyme and Stephanie Ivanoff will read from their works, (refreshments). 662-5189

Open House for Lesbians & Gay Men: Integrity 8:45 pm, Canterbury House, 218 N. Division. 665-0606



You are cordially invited to attend an **AGENDA Valentine's Day Dinner**



What: An evening of fine food (a Salvadoran dinner cooked by the Celaya family), a talk by Barbara Ransby on alternative press, and Latin American music with DJ Alejandro Celaya.

When: Tuesday, February 14, at 6:30 pm.

Where: The First Presbyterian Church, 1432 Washtenaw, Ann Arbor.

A minimum donation of \$7 per person will be requested. The proceeds of the event will benefit AGENDA and the Celaya family (a Salvadoran refugee family living in sanctuary at the Friends House in Ann Arbor).

We at AGENDA appreciate the support you have given us. We hope you will continue that support by celebrating Valentine's Day with us.

Please R.S.V.P. by Monday, February 6 by calling AGENDA at 996-8018. If you reach our answering machine, please be sure to leave your name, phone number, and the number of people in your party. Also, please designate the number of vegetarians.

MENU

- Black beans and rice: cooked with onion, garlic, tomato, and green pepper.*
- Enchiladas: carrots, onions, green beans, potatoes, green pepper and chicken (optional) served on a deep fried corn tortilla topped with feta cheese and a slice of egg.*
- Curtido: spicy (hot) coleslaw made from carrots, cabbage, onions, cauliflower, chili, vinegar, and oregano.*
- Quesadilla: sweet cheese bread is not like the Mexican variety, but is made from rice and wheat flours, feta cheese, sour cream, eggs, sugar and margarine; topped with sesame seeds*
- Lemonade, coffee, tea*

AGENDA, 202 E. Washington # 512, Ann Arbor MI 48104, (313) 996-8018

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Ballad Theater

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BENEFIT PERFORMANCES GROUP SALES OR FURTHER INFO CALL (313) 965-1515
TICKETS ON SALE NOW AT TICKETMASTER or charge by phone 423-6666

7 Tuesday

Reservation Deadline for Valentine's Day Benefit Dinner: AGENDA Reserve your space for a romantic evening of Salvadoran food and Latin America music, to be held 14 Tuesday, 6:30 pm, First Presbyterian Church, 1432 Washtenaw. Barbara Ransby will speak on the alternative press. \$7 to \$12 suggested donation. To RSVP call 996-8018 (indicate number of vegetarians in party).

Lesbian-Gay Radio Show 6 pm, 88.3 FM, WCBN, 763-3501 or 763-4186

Drop-in Support Group: Domestic Violence Project/S.A.F.E. House 6:30 pm, St. Luke's Episcopal Church, 120 N. Huron, Ypsilanti. Safe, supportive environment for women who are or have been in abusive relationships to talk, share experiences and learn about resources which provide assistance. 973-0242

Rally: Don't Waste Michigan (DWM) & Hillsdale Organization for Preservation of the Environment (HOPE) 6:30 pm, State Capitol Building, Lansing. Will Michigan be the radioactive waste dump for seven states? Speakers: Mary Sinclair, Michael Nye, Lana Pollack, Gov. James Blanchard (invited). DWM (517) 487-6873 or HOPE (517) 437-2228 or 368-5200 for bus tr/Hillsdale.

Meeting: Lesbian & Gay Rights Organizing Comm. (LaGROC) 8 pm, 3100 Michigan Union, 763-4186

Julius Lester: Hill Street Forum/Great Writers Series 8 pm, Hillel, Green Aud., 1429 Hill. Winner of the Newberry Honor Medal and the New York Times Outstanding Book Award. Lester's latest book, "Lovesong, Becoming a Jew," documents his journey from childhood as a Methodist minister's son to Black Power politics to his conversion to Judaism. \$5. 769-0500

8 Wednesday

Brown Bag Lunch: Concerned Faculty noon (see 1 Wed)

Beans & Rice: Guild House 6 pm (see 1 Wed)

'Take Back the Night' Planning Meeting: Ann Arbor Coalition Against Rape 7 pm (see 1 Wed)

Meeting: Men Survivors of Violence 7:30 pm (see 1 Wed)

Meeting: Latin American Solidarity Committee (LASC) 8 pm, Mich. Union (check at desk for room). Will show and discuss "Making the News Fit," a video about the misleading nature of U.S. press coverage of El Salvador, including news footage and interviews with journalists. 665-8438

9 Thursday

WCBN 10th Annual On-Air Fundraising Drive 88.3 hours of on-air fundraising begins (runs through Sunday) to help A2's only alternative radio station, 88.3 FM, call or visit 530 Student Activities Bldg, U-M. 763-3501

Student Struggle for Soviet Jewry Solidarity Day: Student Struggle for Soviet Jewry 7 pm, Hillel, 1429 Hill. In conjunction with International Student Solidarity Day for Soviet Jewry, Jonathan Feldstein, ABC's "Person of the Week," will share his experience of getting a refusenik into Emory University. 769-0500

Meeting: Women & Spirituality 7:30 pm (see 2 Thur)

"On the Verge...": Performance Network 8 pm (see 2 Thur)

"Honduras: America's New Policeman" & "Seeds of Revolution": Latin America Solidarity Committee (LASC) Film Series 8 pm, Kuenzel Rm., Mich. Union. "Honduras" is a short documentary (28 min) exploring how and why Honduras has become a staging ground for U.S. military policy in El Salvador and Nicaragua. "Seeds" is a short documentary looking at Honduras and how its predominantly agricultural economy is dominated by U.S. corporations who effectively control much of the country's life, (28 min). 665-8438

10 Friday

WCBN 10th Annual On-Air Fundraising Drive Tune in and pledge now! 763-3501 (see 9 Fri)

Friday Noon Forum: Guild House noon, Guild House, 802 Monroe. Julie Steiner, Director of U-M Sexual Assault Office will speak about recent sexual assaults on campus. \$1 for vegetarian soup and peanut butter sandwich. 662-5189

Women's Tea: WCC and U-M Lesbian Programs Office 5:30 to 7 pm (see 3 Fri)

Opening Reception, First Invitational Exhibition for Ann Arbor Artists: Le Minotaure Gallery 6 to 10 pm, 115 E. Ann. Catered reception for opening of art show featuring 23 Ann Arbor artists. Art Raffle (\$25 donation) from 9 to 10 pm to benefit Armenian Earthquake Fund. 665-0445

Metaphysical Rap Session: School of Metaphysics 7:30 pm, 719 W. Michigan, Ypsilanti. Open discussion on a variety of metaphysical subjects, topics determined by the participants. 482-9600

"Siva-Parvati (The Wedding of Siva)": Malini Srirama & Troupe 7:30 pm, Schorling Aud., School of Ed., 610 E. University. An evening of classical Indian-style ballet. 936-3518

The Modern Jazz Quartet: Eclipse Jazz 8 pm, Power Center. An event jazz, classical and blues fans won't want to miss. \$15, Mich. Union Ticket Office, Schoolkid's Records, P.J.'s Used Records and Ticketmaster. 763-0046

"On the Verge...": Performance Network 8 pm (see 2 Thur)

Meeting: Latin American Solidarity Committee (LASC) 8 pm, Kuenzel Room, Mich. Union. Salomon Alfaro Estrada, Secretary General of FERS (Salvadoran Revolutionary Student



"On the Verge..."

...of missing a great play? "On the Verge or the Geography of Yearning," a play about three fearless American women who embark on a journey to the last unexplored bit of globe" runs through Feb. 12 at Performance Network, 408 W. Washington (see 2 Thur).

Front), and Sonia Miranda, Secretary of Public Relations for AGUES (General Association of Salvadoran University Students) will speak about the Salvadoran student movement its role in the popular insurrection. 665-8438

11 Saturday

WCBN 10th Annual On-Air Fundraising Drive Call in your pledge NOW! 763-3501 (see 9 Fri)

Workshop: Canterbury House 10 am to 3 pm, 218 N. Division. "Temptations to Power: The Shadow of Lent," led by the Rev. Bill Wylie-Kellerman, Methodist pastor, McMath Scholar at the Whitaker School of Theology, and contributing editor to Sojourners Magazine. Workshop will include Biblical reflection and an opportunity for public prayer at a sight of military related research. Bring a bag lunch, \$20/\$5 for students. 665-0606

Meeting: Dawntreaders 7 pm, Guild House, 802 Monroe. Dawntreaders is a group of mental health advocates and consumers. 662-5189

"Dodes'ka-den": Hill St. Cinema 7:15 pm & 9:45 pm, 1429 Hill. Kurosawa film weaves together fantasy and reality to tell the story of a group of Tokyo slum dwellers. \$2.50. 769-0500

"On the Verge...": Performance Network 8 pm (see 2 Thur)

12 Sunday

WCBN 10th Annual On-Air Fundraising Drive Call in your pledge NOW! 763-3501 (see 9 Fri)

Potluck Brunch: Graduate Women's Caucus noon, Guild House, 802 Monroe. 995-3982

Potluck: Community Farm of Ann Arbor noon potluck, 1:30 pm meeting, Rudolf Steiner School, 2775

Newport. Open to all members and others interesting in the farm's 1989 growing season. 665-8047

Dog Training and Care Clinic: Humane Society of Huron Valley 4 to 6 pm, Ann Arbor Dog Training Club, 1575 E. North Territorial. A seminar covering dog breed characteristics, feeding tips, housebreaking advice, grooming pointers and more. Dogs and equipment on hand for demonstration purposes. 662-5545

Meeting: Ann Arbor Homeless Action Committee (HAC) 6 pm (see 5 Sun)

Bible Interpretation—Gospel of Matthew: School of Metaphysics 6:30 pm, 719 W. Michigan, Ypsilanti. 482-9600

"On the Verge...": Performance Network 6:30 pm (see 2 Thur)

Lenten Series: Canterbury House 7 pm, 218 N. Division. "Life Beneath the Gloss: Jesus' Way of Seeing," a meditation led by the Rev. Virginia Peacock, Chaplain of Canterbury Ecumenical Campus Center. 665-0606

Barbara Ransby: Women's Action for Nuclear Disarmament (WAND) Doors open at 7 pm, meeting at 7:30 pm, Ann Arbor Community Center, 625 N. Main. In conjunction with the Martin Luther King, Jr.-Peacemaker Exhibit, the dynamic U-M graduate student and President of UCAR, will speak on Women in the Civil Rights Movement. 761-1718

Lesbian-Gay Men's Music: Gay Liberation 8 pm (see 5 Sun)

WCBN 10th Annual Fundraiser Benefit Bash 8 pm to 1 am, Michigan Union Ballroom. Featuring Madcat's Pressure Cooker, Morris Lawrence and the Washtenaw Community College Jazz Band, Dog Soldier, poetry from

Arwulf Arwulf and Marc Taras, Frank Allison, the Sun Messengers and more. Tune in, turn on and give! 763-3501

13 Monday

Meeting: Parents-FLAG/Ann Arbor 7:30 pm, First Methodist Church, State at Huron. 763-4186

Applied Metaphysics Class: School of Metaphysics 7:30 to 10:30 pm, 719 W. Michigan, Ypsilanti. \$8 min. weekly donation. 482-9600

Writers Series: Guild House 8 pm (see 6 Mon)

Open House for Lesbians & Gay Men: Integrity 8:45 pm (see 6 Mon)

14 Tuesday

Lesbian-Gay Radio Show 6 pm (see 7 Tue)

Valentine's Day Benefit Dinner: AGENDA 6:30 pm, First Presbyterian Church, 1432 Washtenaw. A romantic evening of Salvadoran food and Latin American music. Barbara Ransby will speak on the alternative press. \$7 to \$12 suggested donation. RSVP by 7 Tuesday at 996-8018, (indicate number of vegetarians in party).

Meeting: Amnesty International 7:30 pm, Mich. Union (check at desk for room). Letter-writing and other activities to free prisoners of conscience and to protect human rights around the world. 761-3639

Meeting: Lesbian & Gay Rights Organizing Committee (LaGROC) 8 pm (see 7 Tue)

15 Wednesday

AGENDA March issue deadline for news and feature articles by 5 pm, 202 E. Washington #512, 48104. 996-8018

Brown Bag Lunch: Concerned Faculty noon (see 1 Wed)

Rosh Hodesh: Jewish Feminist Group 6 pm, 824 Arch #4. Rosh Hodesh is the monthly celebration of the new moon. This celebration and potluck dinner welcomes the month of Shevat. 769-0500

Beans & Rice: Ann Arbor-Juigalpa Sister City Task Force 6 pm (see 1 Wed)

"Take Back the Night" Planning Meeting: Ann Arbor Coalition Against Rape 7 pm (see 1 Wed)

Meeting: Men Survivors of Violence 7:30 pm (see 1 Wed)

Amnesty International Group 61 7:30 pm, Mich. Union (check at desk for room). Letter writing and other activities to free prisoners of conscience and protect human rights around the world. 761-3639

Meeting: Latin American Solidarity Committee (LASC) 8 pm (see 8 Wed)

16 Thursday

Race & the Law: Critical Law Series 7:30 pm, Michigan Law School, room 100. 747-2661



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1st Annual Yon Barna Memorial Symposium on Avant Garde Cinema 7:30 pm, Lorch Hall, U-M. Filmmaker Brakhage will meet with the audience after the screening of three of his films: "Desistfilm," "Dog Star Man," and "The Dante Quartet." 764-0147

Women in Judaism Series: Jewish Feminist Group & others 7:30 pm, Hillel, 1429 Hill. Talk entitled: "World of Our Mothers: Women in American Jewish History." 769-0500

"The Univ. & the Common Good: The Politics of English Lit.": Canterbury House 7:30 pm, 218 N. Division. U-M Prof. William Alexander will speak on critical ethical issues in teaching Eng. Literature. 665-0606

Meeting: Women & Spirituality 7:30 pm (see 2 Thur)

"In the Name of the People": LASC Film Series 8 pm, Aud. D, Angell Hall. Four filmmakers secretly entered El Salvador from Honduras and travelled with guerilla forces across the countryside and into combat in the capital city of San Salvador. Narrated by Martin Sheen. (75 min) 665-8438

"In the Traffic of a Targeted City": Physicians for Social Responsibility 8 pm, Performance Network, 408 W. Washington. New York City's Ballad Theatre performs Marc Kaminsky's play about living under the constant threat of nuclear annihilation, \$9/\$6 students & seniors. 663-0681

"The Tragical History of the Life and Death of Doctor Faustus": Residential College Players & the Brecht Company 8 pm, Residential College Aud., East Quad. Dr. Faustus makes a deal, giving his body and soul to Lucifer for 24 years in exchange for a life of pleasure. \$6/\$4 students & seniors. 665-2846

17 Friday

Friday Noon Forum: Guild House noon, Guild House, 802 Monroe. Update on chemical and biological weapons. \$1 for vegetarian soup and peanut butter sandwich. 662-5189

Women's Tea: WCC & U-M Lesbian Programs Office 5:30 to 7 pm (see 3 Fri)

Benefit Concert for Nicaraguan Hurricane Relief: CASC, MICAH 7:30 pm, Holy Rosary Church (I-94 and Woodward Ave., Detroit). Help Nicaragua recover from Hurricane Joan, \$5 donation. 961-7620 or 894-0840

1st Annual Yon Barna Memorial Symposium on Avant Garde Cinema 7:30 pm (see 16 Thurs). First complete showing of Brakhage's "Faust." 764-0147

Grads and Professionals Veggie Shabbat Potluck Dinner: Jewish Law Students Union 7:30 pm, Law Quad, Lawyer's Club. (RSVP). 769-0500

"In the Traffic of a Targeted City": PSR 8 pm, reception following tonight's performance. (see 16 Thur)

"Doctor Faustus": RC Players & Brecht Company 8 pm (see 16 Thur)

Gay Men's Coffee House: Brothers 8 pm (see 3 Fri)

Friday Music Nights: Canterbury House Starts at 9:30 pm, music from 10 to 1 pm, with breaks for socializing and announcements of political events, 218 N. Division. Musicians: call to get on the program. 665-0606

18 Saturday

Meeting: Dawntreaders 7 pm (see 11 Sat)

"Down By Law": Hill St. Cinema 7:30 pm & 9:30 pm, 1429 Hill. Film set in New Orleans, starring Tom Waits and John Lurie. \$2.50. 769-0500

Concert: Lisa Wolf 8 pm, Unitarian Church, 1917 Washtenaw. Lisa Wolf, with Aron Kaufman, Sue Scott, Tim Twiss, Steve Osburn, Kathy Moore, and Paul Vornhagen, \$5 at Schoolkids & Crazy Wisdom, \$6/door. 665-6231

"In the Traffic of a Targeted City": PSR 8 pm (see 16 Thur)

John Mayall & His Bluesbreakers: Prism Productions 10 pm, St.

Andrew's Hall, 431 E. Congress, Detroit, \$12.50 in advance at any Ticketmaster; charge at 423-6666. 99-MUSIC

19 Sunday

"In the Traffic of a Targeted City": PSR 6:30 pm (see 16 Thur)

"Doctor Faustus": RC Players & Brecht Company 6 pm (see 16 Thur)

Meeting: A2 Homeless Action Committee (HAC): 6 pm (see 5 Sun)

Lenten Series: Canterbury House 7 pm, 218 N. Division. "The Cross: The Absence or Death of God," a meditation led by the Rev. Virginia Peacock, Chaplain of Canterbury Ecumenical Campus Center. 665-0606

Lesbian-Gay Men's Music: Gay Liberation 8 pm (see 5 Sun)

20 Monday

Primary Election Ann Arbor polls open 7 am to 8 pm.

"Slave Narrative": Friends of the Ann Arbor Public Library & others 7:30 to 8:15 pm, 343 S. Fifth Ave, downstairs meeting room. Vivian Robinson's "Slave Narrative" reveals what slavery was like for children in the 1850s, the story of escape, and experiences with the Underground Railroad. Parental guidance advised for younger, more sensitive children. 994-2345

Writers Series: Guild House 8 pm (see 6 Mon)

Open House for Lesbians & Gay Men: Integrity 8:45 pm (see 6 Mon)

Toots & the Maytals: Prism Productions 10 pm, Nectarine Ballroom, 510 E. Liberty. Reggae from Kingston, Jamaica. \$12.50 in advance at Ticketmaster; charge at 423-6666.

21 Tuesday

Black Music in America: Friends of the Ann Arbor Public Library & others 7:30 to 8:30 pm, 343 S. Fifth Ave. Presentation features Willis C. Patterson from the U-M School of Music. 994-2345

Dreams So Real: Prism 10 pm, Blind Pig, 208 S. First. Arista recording artists from Athens, Georgia, \$7.50 in advance. 423-6666. 99-MUSIC

Dreams—"The Journey Within: School of Metaphysics 7:30 pm, 719 W. Michigan, Ypsilanti 482-9600

Lesbian-Gay Radio Show 6 pm (see 7 Tue)

Meeting: (LaGROC) 8 pm (see 7 Tue)

Jule Helfetz: Jewish Art Series/B'nai B'rith Hillel Foundation 8 pm, Green Aud., Hillel, 1429 Hill. Helfetz will read her poetry, some based on oral histories by Holocaust survivors and liberators. 769-0500

22 Wednesday

Brown Bag Lunch: Concerned Faculty noon (see 1 Wed)

Beans & Rice: AMISTAD 6 pm (see 1 Wed)

"Take Back the Night" Planning Meeting: Ann Arbor Coalition Against Rape 7 pm (see 1 Wed)

"Christianity & Oppression": Canterbury House 7:30 pm, 218 N. Division. Richard Cleaver from the American Friends Service Committee will give a talk entitled: "Christianity & Oppression: Lesbians, Gay Men, and Christianity." 665-0606

Meeting: Men Survivors of Violence 7:30 pm (see 1 Wed)

Meeting: (LASC) 8 pm (see 8 Wed)

23 Thursday

Kronos Quartet & Electric Phoenix: Michigan Theater Serious Fun Series 7:57 pm, Michigan Theater, 603 E. Liberty. Performances of works by William Brooks, Terry Riley, and Philip Glass. \$16.50 in advance at the Mich. Theater Box Office 668-8397.

"In the Traffic of a Targeted City": PSR 8 pm (see 16 Thur)

"Doctor Faustus": RC Players & Brecht Co. 8 pm (see 16 Thur)

"Jean de Florette": The Entertaining Yet Thought Provoking Video Series 8 pm, Guild House, 802 Monroe. Popcorn and cider. 662-5189

24 Friday

"In the Traffic of a Targeted City": PSR 8 pm (see 16 Thur)

"Doctor Faustus": RC Players & Brecht Company 8 pm (see 16 Thur)

"Manon of the Spring": Video Series 8 pm (see 23 Thur)

25 Saturday

Psychic Fair: School of Metaphysics 482-9600

Meeting: Dawntreaders 7 pm (see 11 Sat)

"Doctor Faustus": RC Players & Brecht Company 8 pm (see 16 Thur)

Benefit Dance: Hillsdale Organization for Preservation of the Environment (HOPE) 8 pm, Wilson Hall, Hillsdale. \$6/couple at the door. \$5/couple in advance. (517) 437-2228

"In the Traffic of a Targeted City": PSR 8 pm (see 16 Thur)

26 Sunday

Meeting: (HAC): 6 pm (see 5 Sun)

"In the Traffic of a Targeted City": PSR 6:30 pm (see 16 Thur)

Lesbian-Gay Men's Music: Gay Liberation 8 pm (see 5 Sun)

27 Monday

Open House for Lesbians & Gay Men: Integrity 8:45 pm (see 6 Mon)

28 Tuesday

Lesbian-Gay Radio Show 6 pm (see 7 Tue)

Meeting: (LaGROC) (see 7 Tue)

Meeting: Bread for the World 7:30 pm, Memorial Christian Church, 730 Tappan. Discussion of domestic and international hunger issues w/legislative updates. 487-9058

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Hope for Sharon Kowalski?

Sharon Kowalski can "clearly and consistently communicate her needs and wishes...and understands the communications of others," according to physicians affiliated with the Miller-Dwan Medical Center in Duluth, Minnesota. Kowalski was injured in an automobile accident in 1983; she has been confined to a nursing home since 1985, where she has not been allowed to see visitors of her choice, following a decision made by Donald Kowalski, her father and legal guardian.

Karen Thompson, Kowalski's significant other, has been pursuing legal action for proper medical care for Kowalski and for the right to visit and help care for her. District Court judge Robert Campbell has stated that he will order Kowalski moved to the Miller-Dwan rehabilitation unit for intensive communication rehabilitation. Her visitation there will be determined by himself in consultation with the professionals working with Kowalski, based on Kowalski's own wishes. Thompson and her attorneys were elated about the contents of the medical evaluation. Thompson's book, *Why Can't Sharon Kowalski Come Home?*, published last Sept., offers documentation that Kowalski wants to see Thompson and her other friends. We too are elated by the evaluation and the judge's decision.

The eviction of Dignity groups from Roman Catholic churches across the United States continues, ostensibly as the consequence of the publication of a Vatican document in late 1986 that declared homosexuality to be an "intrinsic" disorder. We appreciate that the Gabriel Richard Student Center continues to offer Dignity/Ann Arbor the use of its resources.

Voters in the Fifth Ward who would like to ascertain the stance of city council primary candidates Verna Spayth and Edward Surovell on lesbian and

AGENDA Says "Be My Valentine!"

YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED to AGENDA'S Feb. 14 Valentine's Day Dinner, an evening of fine food (a Salvadoran dinner cooked by the Celaya family), a talk by Barbara Ransby on alternative press, and Latin American Music with dj Alejandro Celaya. The fun starts at 6:30 pm at the First Presbyterian Church, 1432 Washtenaw. A minimum donation of \$7 per person is requested. The proceeds will benefit AGENDA and the Celaya family (a Salvadoran family living in sanctuary at the Friends House in Ann Arbor).

Please R.S.V.P. by Monday, Feb. 6 by calling AGENDA at 996-8018. If you reach our answering machine, please be sure to leave your name, phone number, and the number of people in your party. Also, please designate the number of vegetarians.

The menu features black beans with rice (cooked with onion, garlic, tomato, and green pepper); enchiladas (carrots, onions, green beans, potatoes, green pepper and served on a deep fried corn tortilla topped with feta cheese and a slice of egg—chicken optional); curtido (a spicy coleslaw made from carrots, cabbage, onions, cauliflower, chili, vinegar, and oregano); quesadilla (sweet cheese bread made from rice and wheat flours, feta cheese, sour cream, eggs, sugar and margarine,

topped with sesame seeds); lemonade, coffee, tea.

COMMUNITY RESOURCE DIRECTORY (CRD): CRD listings should contain your group's current activities and news. Include meeting times and places. They will automatically be inserted in the Calendar. For a small fee, your organization can greatly increase its public visibility through the CRD. March listings due Feb. 15.

SUBSCRIPTIONS: Support Ann Arbor's only FREE alternative newsmonthly. Send an AGENDA subscription (\$15) to a friend who has moved away from Ann Arbor or even to one who lives here. With a \$25 donation you receive a copy of the Freedom of Information Handbook with your subscription. With a \$50 donation you receive an "I Support AGENDA" T-shirt along with your subscription and FOIA Handbook.

DEADLINES for March issue: Feb. 10: News/feature first drafts. Feb. 15: Calendar & Community Resource Directory listings. Feb. 23: camera-ready art deadline.

AGENDA, 202 E. Washington #512, Ann Arbor, MI 48104, 996-8018.

Bureau: phone for information. **Human & Civil Rights:** information and referral to help people under discrimination because of their actual or presumed sexual orientation or because of their presumed "cross-gender" characteristics; lobbying for human and civil rights.

Gay Liberation, c/o 4117 Michigan Union, Ann Arbor, MI 48109, 763-4186; hotline: 662-1977.

Homeless Crisis Due to Low-Income Housing Shortage

by N. Renuka Uthappa

Ann Arbor is in a crisis. Approximately 1,500 people are homeless. In immediate terms, this is a crisis of shelter. People sleep outside in freezing temperatures. Many will have medical conditions exacerbated by the wind, rain, and cold. All will fight the effects of having no permanent place to be, no warmth they can count on. Some churches, local groups, and stores are making efforts to provide assistance. These efforts will help keep people alive and will make people's lives better in the short term.

But Ann Arbor's crisis is, at base, a housing crisis. People lose their homes for reasons like job loss, industrial accident, family breakup, or eviction by a landlord who jacks up the rent. There does not exist in Ann Arbor the low-cost housing needed by these people. In the past nine years, the federal government has cut the budget for low-cost housing from \$32 billion to \$8 billion (Detroit Free Press, 2/14/88).

The Downtown Development Authority, a group of twelve Mayor-appointed, Council approved members, controls approximately \$15 million of city tax revenues. This money comes from taxes paid by downtown businesses. Since its creation in 1982, the DDA has spent \$13 million of this money on two parking structures (Liberty Plaza and Ann/Ashley) and pedestrian improvements such as special lighting and cobblestones. The City Council must approve all allocations from the DDA fund. Council has the authority to open up the fund so that some of the money can be used to build affordable housing. But DDA money which was originally

intended for "commercial, office and residential uses," has been used to build parking structures, while none has been spent on housing. (Ann Arbor Tenants Union "Downtown Ann Arbor: Tax Shelters to Emergency Shelter" Oct. 1988)

Last December City Council approved a request by Kline's department store for a parking structure to be built on the site of their present parking lot. According to Larry Fox of Student Legal Services this structure will be built using \$3 million of DDA money.

On Jan. 17 Council announced its intent to sell bonds to finance the structure. The DDA would then pay back this "loan" over the next 30 years. If no group collects the 8,500 signatures (or 10% of the electorate) needed to put it to a public vote it will go to a Council vote. Eight votes will pass it.

The Homeless Action Committee (HAC) plans to begin continuous actions at the parking lot to demonstrate against this misuse of city funds. HAC hopes to convince the city government to open up the DDA fund and make allocations for affordable housing. HAC will disrupt business as usual until they do so. If necessary, HAC will block the construction of the planned parking structure.

THE HOMELESS ACTION COMMITTEE is made up of concerned community members, and several people who have once been homeless or are currently homeless. We believe shelters are an emergency measure and not a solution. HAC is working to find shelter for people who are forced to sleep outside this winter. But we work also to force this city to re-order its priorities and provide the necessary number of affordable housing units. We

need the energy, ideas, strength, and vociferous support of all concerned people in this community.

MEETINGS: HAC meets every Sunday at 6 pm at Guild House, 802 Monroe (see CALENDAR). For more information call 930-2959.

Salvadoran Student Leaders To Visit LASC

The Latin America Solidarity Committee's (LASC) educational focus this month is El Salvador. At LASC's weekly meeting on Feb. 8, we will show and discuss a video of Mercedes Selgado, representative of El Salvador's FMLN (Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front), speaking about the current crisis in El Salvador and the situation of the popular opposition movement. Feb. 22, we will show and discuss "Making the News Fit," a video about the misleading nature of U.S. press coverage of El Salvador, including news footage and interviews with prominent journalists.

On Friday, Feb. 10, LASC will sponsor a presentation by two leaders of the Salvadoran student movement. Salomon Alfaro Estrada, Secretary General of FERS (Salvadoran Revolutionary Student Front), and Sonia Miranda, Secretary of Public Relations for AGUES (General Association of Salvadoran University Students) will speak about the Salvadoran student movement and the role of students in the popular insurrection, 8 pm in the Kuenzel Room of the Michigan Union.

The LASC film series on Central America and the Caribbean continues. This month's films are "One Way or Another" (Cuba), "Seeds of Revolution," and "Honduras: America's New Policeman" (Honduras), and "In the Name of the People" (El Salvador). All films will be shown Thursdays at 8 pm, and admission is free. Check the AGENDA Calendar for dates and locations of showings.

LASC is committed to education and action in support of the right of self-determination for Latin American peoples. Our activities include education about historical and current realities in the region and the role of U.S. foreign policy in Latin American conflict. We oppose U.S. intervention and work to end U.S.- sponsored war and repression throughout Latin America. We welcome all who are in general agreement with our ideas to attend our Wednesday weekly meetings at 8 pm in the Michigan Union.

Latin American Solidarity Committee (LASC), 4120 Michigan Union, Ann Arbor, MI 48109, 665-8438.

Community Farm of Ann Arbor Sprouts Again

Last year, a group formed in the Ann Arbor area, arising out of a variety of interests and concerns, determined to develop and support (both financially and socially) a community farm in Washtenaw county. As our first step, a three-acre vegetable and flower garden on Whitmore Lake Rd. became the "farm" during the 1988 growing season. Through organizing efforts, the group grew into a member/shareholder form where 140 shares were taken by people interested in establishing a connection with a farm. In exchange for that support the members received the bounty of the harvest.

Despite the drought, the season was a success. Members received 29 different kinds of vegetables and herbs and the accounting shows that for every \$150 share, \$180 worth of produce was received. That reflects the quantitative gain but equally important is the unmeasurable—what was learned and exchanged between all that participated in this

alternative form of agriculture.

The long range goal of the project is to develop into a full farm organism, containing all the elements a healthy farm needs to sustain itself while producing an excess to be consumed by its supporters. In addition to vegetable and fruit production, the farm would include cows, chickens, and enough land to raise their feed.

At this stage, we do not have animals to care for in the winter months so the farm has been dormant since the October frosts. But the seeds the community planted in the past season have germinated and are about to sprout anew. The first organizational get-together is on Feb. 12 at the Steiner School, 2775 Newport Rd. It all starts (appropriately) with a potluck at noon, followed by a 1:30 pm meeting. Please call 665-8047 if you would like further information.

Community Farm of Ann Arbor, 665-8047.

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Ransby to Address WAND

Barbara Ransby, U-M doctoral student and leader of the Ella Baker/Nelson Mandela Center for Anti-Racism, will speak to WAND. Ransby will speak about "Women Transforming the World: What We Can Learn From the Unsung Heroines of the Civil Rights Movement. The doors open at 7 pm and the meeting begins at 7:30 pm. The meeting will be held on Sunday, Feb. 12 at the Ann Arbor Community Center, 625 N. Main St., Ann Arbor. All are Welcome. For more information a please call 761-1718.

PURPOSE: WAND's goals are to educate ourselves and the public about the dangers of continued nuclear arms buildup, to influence our Congressional representatives by informed lobbying, and to empower people, especially women, personally and politically.

MEETINGS AND MEMBERSHIP: Meetings are held the second Sunday night of the month at St. Aidan's /Northside Church, 1679 Broadway (note the change of location for this month's meeting). Call our Information Hotline at 761-1718 for a message announcing important lobbying information, meeting times, and upcoming events. Our Speaker's Bureau provides trained speakers who will address groups, classes, and public forums and rallies on a variety of issues. Contact Tobi Hanna-Davies at 662-7869. Child care is available.

Washtenaw County Women's Action for Nuclear Disarmament, Inc. (WAND), P.O. Box 1815, Ann Arbor, MI 48106-1815, 761-

Women's Crisis Center Moves to Ypsilanti!

WCC was one of the first rape crisis centers in the country. We started out and operated in Ann Arbor for 16 years, and last month we moved to Ypsilanti! We are looking forward to a great '89 and many more years of women's empowerment work in our new location.

The Women's Crisis Center is a group of women helping women help themselves. Trained peer counselors provide empathy, support, information and referrals to women who call for any reason—whether in a crisis situation or just wanting to talk with someone who cares.

Peer counselor trainings are held three to four times a year (a training period began Jan. 26). We train counselors to provide crisis intervention, information and referrals in situations like rape, domestic violence, incest, suicide, substance abuse, financial crisis, sexual harassment, and other issues women face daily. We ask volunteers for a four to six month commitment of four hours per week after training. You will gain skills in listening, counseling, and community awareness by becoming involved. If you've been thinking you'd like to get involved in something, WCC is an open, supportive, fun place for women to work with and for ourselves.

WCC is funded primarily by donations. You're welcome to make a donation any time, come to our fundraising events, buy a 1989 Peace Calendar... whatever you can do helps us continue our work helping women help themselves. We rely on your support to continue providing free quality services to the community.

In addition to peer counseling, WCC provides community organizing training; produces a free women's newsjournal, "free women's words"; participates in the deferred sentencing community service program; and offers low-cost do-it-yourself divorce kits. Please support or join our work!

Women's Crisis Center, 218 N. Adams (in the First Congregational Church), Ypsilanti, MI 48197. HOTLINE: 482-2000; Business: 485-2310; Hours: 10 am to 10 pm

BFW Sets '89 Goals

Bread For The World (BFW) locally is in the process of formulating plans for action in 1989 on domestic and international hunger issues. Starting in March BFW will begin a local education/letter writing drive to have Congress support increased funding for the Special Supplemental Food Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC). Other areas BFW will be working on include job legislation, an increased minimum wage, child care, foreign aid reform, international debt and the problems of Africa. The public is invited to the monthly BFW meetings which are designed to allow those who have never worked on hunger issues to participate.

PURPOSE: Bread For The World is a national citizen's lobbying organization that deals with hunger and health-related legislation. Although BFW does not send direct aid itself, it has given, through

its members, crucial support to domestic and international hunger programs since its founding in 1971. Members are encouraged to contact their legislators on hunger issues, and are kept informed through newsletters, background papers, and informational meetings about pertinent legislation.

VOLUNTEERS: Bread For The World locally is very much in need of volunteers to help with letter-writing drives in connection with efforts to increase WIC funding. If you can help, please attend the monthly meetings or call 487-9058 or attend the monthly meetings.

MEETINGS: BFW meets on the fourth Tuesday of every month (next meeting, Feb. 28) at the Memorial Christian Church, 730 Tappan, at 7:30 pm.

BFW 706 Dwight St., Ypsilanti, MI 48198, 487-9058.

HOMELESSNESS IN WASHTENAW COUNTY

ZICK (from page 6)

(Is the Ashley St. location of the day shelter a permanent location? No, we'd like it to be, but our lease expires the end of April. We hope that we can renew the lease for another year or until we find another site if we find one.

Why do people end up in the shelter? There are so many different reasons. A lot of times there are financial problems, loss of a job. Sometimes the housing has either become unaffordable and the lease will expire or inaccessible because the owners want to remodel, then gentrification hits. There can be a family break-up, divorce or dispute. We have people, who have been raised in foster care or institutions, who are all of a sudden on their own at 18 and aren't able to make it.

Deinstitutionalization has affected us locally. About 30% of our population has some mental illness. For health reasons like mental and physical health, sometimes substance abuse.

I think the biggest reason that people stay homeless though is the lack of affordable housing. They might have lost housing because of some crisis in their life or because of one or more problems that affected it, but they tend to stay homeless because of the lack of housing in the area.

What solutions would you propose to address the causes and the symptoms of homelessness and specifically in Ann Arbor? I see affordable housing as a long-term solution. I think some needs to be supported housing where there are services for the people that need them. Whether it's counselling or job services, some of the same services that we might have at a day program would be available for those that want it, not mandatory, but there if you need it. I see a need for some that would be supervised. Not the kind of structure of an adult foster care home, but more like the kind of supervision the Salvation Army would have provided had the SRO gone forward, somebody on site at all times.

I see a need for additional living situations for the mentally ill and developmentally disabled. I'm hoping that the grant that was recently funded by the Department of Mental Health will have some long-term effects for the chronically homeless mentally ill. That's just getting off the ground so it's too early to see. There's a need for more different types and more housing for that population.

Do you think that the city is going to build an SRO or any additional housing? I hope. I feel that there's a commitment by a lot of people, but time will tell. We desperately, desperately need it.

I think there are going to have to be more kinds of services for folks with substance abuse problems and transitional housing for them too if they're coming from the streets. Unless housing is found immediately for them it is really hard for them to go back into a drug-oriented environment. The stress of the streets is enough probably to make anybody drink.

NAGY (from page 6)

What is the growth in homelessness every year? The cost of living is escalating. Wages aren't going up that high. There are just more and more homeless in this country. It seems like the realtors, the people that have the rental properties, are just getting so greedy. The prices just keep going up and up because it is a university town.

What do you think the top causes of homelessness are in the Ann Arbor area? The causes of homelessness, in my estimation, stems back to family associations. It seems like families are not as close as they used to be. Along with the drugs and the alcohol, parents are not putting up with the abuse that the young people like to put on. It's either you conform to my rules or you get out. A lot of them choose not to follow the rules. Therefore they're out and homeless. It all stems back to the family, the home environment. Clients will sit here, most of them, and say, "My mom didn't care. My dad didn't care. They drank. I saw them drink, so I'm drinking. They did drugs so I'm doing drugs. They didn't want me around." So you see it all ties back into family.

What age groups do you see? We take them from 17 to I had an 82 year old lady. It could happen to anyone. Homelessness is not just for a few. It could happen to you.

For what kinds of reasons besides alcohol and drugs do people come in? Lack of skills, unemployment. It more or less boils around to they just can't pay their rent. And if they could pay their rent they can't find affordable housing.

What solutions would you propose to address the symptoms and the causes of homelessness? Affordable housing. I don't know if you heard before when we were trying to get the low-cost housing, the SRO going. That was going to be alcohol- and drug-free too. I was hurt that was turned down.

The people that come to us seem to be very lonely people and when they come to Arbor Haven, you listen to the clients talk and they support each other. It's great. Then when they leave they get maybe a room by themselves and the loneliness starts creeping back in. And it tends to start to get them to drink again. This SRO would have been such a godsend because of the support. Everyone needs someone.

THE FOLLOWING FIGURES ARE FROM A 1988 SHELTER ASSOCIATION SURVEY OF 74 INDIVIDUALS WHO USED THE NIGHT SHELTER BETWEEN APRIL 14-17, 1988.

LENGTH OF TIME IN WASHTENAW COUNTY: LIFETIME RESIDENTS 41%, 16-27 YEARS 11%, 10-15 YEARS 18%, 5-6 YEARS 13%, 2-4 YEARS 13%, UNDER TWO YEARS 4%.

AGE: 30-39 34%, 22-29 24%, 40-49 16%, 17-21 10%, 50-64 14%, 65 PLUS 2%.

RACE: CAUCASIAN 60%, BLACK 36%, NATIVE AMERICAN 3%, OTHER 1%.

SEX: MEN 80%, WOMEN 20%.



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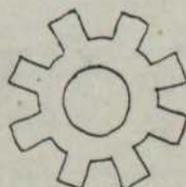
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