



A community-based newspaper serving the Puget Sound area since 1981



The Voice

March
2011

Articles translated
into six languages

The newspaper of Neighborhood House

A legacy carved in stone

Yesler Terrace resident creates bust of sculptor James Washington, Jr.

BY TYLER ROUSH
The Voice editor

As an African-American sculptor living in Seattle, it's not surprising that Charles Parrish would find inspiration in James Washington, Jr., perhaps the city's most prominent black artist and sculptor.

Parrish, a resident of Yesler Terrace, has channeled that inspiration into a sculpture of the late artist, which he donated to the James & Janie Washington Foundation.

He spent more than six months carving the bust from alabaster.

"It captures the spirit of him, I think, in a really nice way," said Tim Detweiler, the foundation's executive director.

Washington was still living when Parrish began seriously working on his art nearly 25 years ago. He looked to Washington, who was then in his late 70s, as a role model and inspiration.

"He's getting his artwork out, is what I

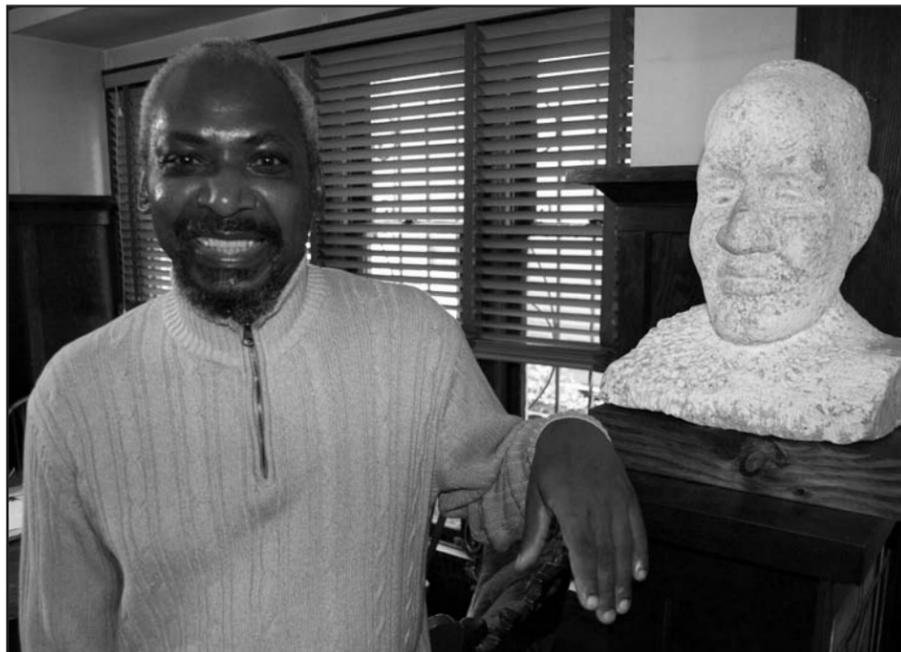


PHOTO BY TYLER ROUSH

Charles Parrish channeled artistic inspiration into a bust of prominent local sculptor James Washington, Jr.

saw," Parrish said. "So I thought to myself, 'I should be doing that.'"

While Parrish does dabble in ink drawings and other art forms, his primary

mode is sculpture — predominantly busts of prominent black leaders. His subjects

Please see "Washington" on Page 4

Federal court preserves state food stamp benefits for legal immigrants

Court order prevents DSHS from cutting benefits for more than 10,000 households in Washington

BY LISA WOOD
University House resident

A federal court order has blocked an attempt by the Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS) to discontinue food stamp benefits for more than 10,000 households in Washington state.

DSHS, in the midst of a statewide budget crisis, had moved to terminate the state's Food Assistance Program, which provides food stamp benefits for thousands of legal immigrants in Washington ineligible for federal food stamp benefits due to their status as resident aliens. About 10,350 households receive funding through the state's supplemental program.

DSHS mailed notices out to affected households on Jan. 18, informing them that their state-funded food stamp benefits would be cut as of Feb. 1.

Please see "Food" on Page 5

Housing advocates face uphill battle in Olympia

State, federal budget cuts raise the stakes for Housing and Homelessness Advocacy Day

BY LYNN SEREDA
Section 8 voucher holder

Every year there is a Housing and Homelessness Advocacy Day in Olympia, where housing advocates — including many low-income people served by various housing programs — meet with their representatives.

The advocates come to the capitol to voice their support for various proposed legislation involving housing issues. Each year many of the proposed bills get stalled in committees, or otherwise don't pass through the Legislature to become law.

Please see "Advocacy" on Page 5



FILE PHOTO

Demonstrators march toward the Capitol Building in Olympia during Housing and Homelessness Advocacy Day in 2008.

Legislative agreement would save Disability Lifeline, but at a reduced rate

State lawmakers appear to have reached an agreement to save Disability Lifeline, the state aid program that provides cash and medical coverage to thousands of Washington state residents who are disabled.

Monthly cash grants would be reduced to \$174, down from \$339 per month as recently as December 2010. Grants had previously been reduced to \$258 on Jan. 1.

Disability Lifeline could still be cut further — or eliminated entirely — when the Legislature adopts the 2011-2013 budget. Lawmakers still have to contend with a nearly \$5 billion deficit in the next biennium, and social programs such as Disability Lifeline and the Basic Health Plan of Washington are among the many state-funded programs thought to be on the chopping block.

Neighborhood House
Jesse Epstein Building
905 Spruce Street
Seattle, WA 98104

Nonprofit org.
U.S. postage PAID
Seattle, WA
Permit #8887

In this issue

Health Notes	Page 2
E-CIGARETTE REGULATIONS ADOPTED	
One to grow on	Page 3
DIGGING YOUR ROOT VEGETABLES	
Lobbying for change	Page 5
LET YOUR VOICE BE HEARD IN OLYMPIA	
Translations	Page 8

Quotable

"At the time, I couldn't imagine a better job. It allowed me to talk to people who were the fabric of an interesting community, who were exciting and vital."
— Elliott Bronstein reflects on his time as editor of *The Voice*. See the related story on Page 4.



Health Notes

A column devoted to your well-being

Board of Health approves electronic cigarette regulations

BY THAI NGUYEN
Seattle Housing Authority

The King County Board of Health recently passed regulations to protect King County youth from electronic smoking devices. The Board of Health voted to:

- prohibit the sale of e-cigarettes or any other unapproved nicotine delivery products to minors;
- prohibit free giveaways or highly discounted sales of electronic smoking devices;
- prohibit the use of e-cigarettes in the same places where real smoking is not allowed by the state, such as restaurants, bars and workplaces.

E-cigarettes are battery-powered electronic devices that deliver nicotine. Designed to look like and be used in the same way as conventional cigarettes, they are frequently advertised as an alternative to smoking or a quit-smoking tool. E-cigarettes use cartridges to deliver vaporized nicotine, the same highly addictive drug that is in tobacco. The FDA is examining e-cigarettes, but the products are currently unregulated at the federal level.

The King County Board of Health passed this regulation to protect young people from this product. E-cigarettes are

highly appealing to youth. Manufacturers and distributors sell them in convenience stores and mall kiosks with marketing tactics that target youth, including the use of bright colors and fun flavors like chocolate, vanilla and mint.

The FDA has warned that e-cigarettes can increase nicotine addiction among young people and may lead youth to try conventional tobacco products.

As these products have become more widely available and gained popularity, public use has increased. E-cigarettes not only mimic the appearance of regular cigarettes but have similar properties. The user of an e-cigarette exhales a smoke-like vapor comparable in appearance to the exhaled smoke from a cigarette.

Since their use is nearly identical to the use of traditional tobacco products in public, this can lead to confusion and encourages people to light and smoke traditional tobacco products. This may foster increased nicotine addiction and secondhand smoke.

Board members also fear that the use of these products threatens to undermine the social norming impact of the Smoking in Public Places law, creating a new social acceptance standard that could easily lead to cigarette use.

Community forum to discuss housing, job discrimination for those with arrest records

BY CITY OF SEATTLE

Many people with arrest and conviction records have a hard time finding work or a place to live. Should Seattle's anti-discrimination ordinance include protections for those who have served their time? How could a change in city law provide greater safeguards for people with arrest and conviction records as well as the public?

Residents from Sojourner Place Transitional Housing and other community groups have asked the Seattle Office for Civil Rights and the Seattle Human Rights Commission to work with elected officials to make it unlawful to deny a person a job or housing based solely on arrest or conviction records, except when the conviction relates to the job or housing, or when there is a threat to the safety or welfare of others.

The City of Seattle will host a community forum to discuss the issue:

6 - 8 p.m. Wednesday, March 16
Seattle City Hall, 600 Fourth Avenue
Bertha Knight Landes Room

Getting to City Hall

Main entrance: West side of Fifth Avenue between Cherry Street and James Street Transit: Bus and rail schedules are available at transit.metrokc.gov and www.soundtransit.org.

Parking: \$3 parking available at SeaPark Garage, Sixth Avenue between Cherry and James (one block east of City Hall). To receive discounted rate, show a copy of the forum agenda when you leave the garage.

For more information or to request interpretation or an accommodation please contact Brenda Anibarro at 206-684-4514 or Brenda.Anibarro@Seattle.Gov.

The forum is sponsored by the Seattle Office for Civil Rights, Seattle Human Rights Commission and Seattle Councilmember Bruce Harrell. Seattle Housing Authority is a co-sponsor.

Numerous scholarship opportunities available for low-income individuals

Four scholarship programs that have approaching application deadlines may be applied for by low-income residents of Seattle Housing Authority buildings. Scholarship funds may be used for vocational or technical schools, two-year colleges, or four-year colleges, depending on the program.

For up-to-date information about these and other scholarships, visit the Seattle Housing Authority website, www.seattlehousing.org, and click on "Residents," then on "Education Programs," and then on "Scholarships."

For more information or if you have questions about any of the scholarships listed below, call Seattle Housing Authority Community Builder Brett Houghton at 206-484-1413, or e-mail her at BHoughton@seattlehousing.org.

Housing Authority Insurance Group Scholarships

Apply by Saturday, April 30

The Housing Authority Insurance Group will award a total of 40 \$2,500 scholarships in 2011. Applicants must have been public housing residents or residents of a household participating in the Housing Choice Voucher Program (Section 8) for at least six months prior to applying.

Applicants must be graduating high school seniors, or must already have a high school diploma or GED; must be currently attending or planning to attend a college, university, or technical school; and must have a cumulative grade point average of 2.5 or greater.

College Bound Scholarships

Apply by Friday, May 16

Do you have a seventh- or eighth- grader at home? If so, you may wish to sign up for a College Bound Scholarship. This scholarship provides college tuition for low-income students who promise to graduate from high school, demonstrate good citizenship, and seek admission to a college or university.

To learn more about College Bound

scholarships, go to www.collegesuccessfoundation.org/collegebound/Default.aspx

Dream Big! Scholarships

Apply by Friday, May 16

The Higher Education Project will award at least two \$1,000 Dream Big! Scholarships in 2011 to Seattle public housing residents and Housing Choice Voucher Program (Section 8) participants in Seattle who would like to attend college, including technical school, on a full-time basis in the next academic year. The scholarship for tuition and fees is paid directly to the school. Applicants must be under 21 years old.

To sign up for the program, contact Houghton at 206-484-1413 or BHoughton@seattlehousing.org.

National Affordable Housing Management Association (NAHMA) Scholarships

Apply by Wednesday, May 18

High school seniors, high school graduates, and adults holding a high school diploma or GED who live in Seattle Housing Authority buildings or who live in households subsidized by the Housing Choice Voucher program (Section 8) are eligible to apply for 2011 higher education scholarship grants.

Residents and participants who wish to apply for a NAHMA scholarship need to submit a "Certification of Residency in Good Standing," a document that requires property management approval, to Houghton at BHoughton@seattlehousing.org.

Find more scholarships online

To learn about other scholarships for which you or your child may qualify, go to www.thewashboard.org/login.aspx. The College Success Foundation creates a guide to scholarships every year. You can access that guide on their website, www.collegesuccessfoundation.org/Page.aspx?pid=426.

Financial Fitness Day offers hope in the form of free help for Seattle-area residents

The Seattle-King County Asset Building Coalition, in conjunction with numerous community businesses and organizations, is proud to present Financial Fitness Day. This free event will be from 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. Saturday, April 2 at the Rainier Community Center, located at 4600 38th Ave. S. in Seattle.

Everyone is encouraged to attend this one-of-a-kind event that gives access to many financial resources in one location.

"Financial Fitness Day will be an amazing opportunity for our community members to access a tremendous array of free services to help people understand, manage, and improve their financial situations", said Diana Stone, Director of Initiatives for Seattle King-County Asset Building Coalition. "We're offering people hands-on opportunities with experts to save money and make plans to help them reach realistic financial goals. For the first time, more than two-dozen of our partners have committed to providing these services at the same time in the same place."

People who attend Financial Fitness Day will be able to receive help filing their tax return, printing a free credit report, opening a bank account, creating a household budget, developing a plan to get out of debt, applying for public benefits (food, utilities, child care, health insurance) and shredding confidential documents. All of these services will be completely free of charge for everyone.

In addition to the free financial services and resources, translation services will be available at no cost. There will also be translation available in American Sign Language for the hearing impaired. Attendees with small children will be able to receive childcare services on-site.

Financial Fitness Day will be at the Rainier Community Center, WA.

To register for this event or to find out more information, visit www.skccabc.org/fitness_fair or call 1-888-864-8623. Again, registration is strongly encouraged if you need childcare or language interpretation or American Sign Language services.

The Voice

Editor

Tyler Roush
206-461-8430, ext. 227
tylerr@nhwa.org

Reporters

Jim Bush
Sakina S. Hussain
Kristin O'Donnell
Greg Potter
Venetia Rynnion
Lynn Sereda
Lisa Wood

The Voice, the newspaper of Neighborhood House, is published monthly with the support of Seattle Housing Authority and the King County Housing Authority. Neighborhood House helps diverse communities of people with limited resources attain their goals for self-sufficiency, financial independence and community building. The Voice contributes to that mission by providing low-income people, immigrants, refugees and other concerned parties with timely, relevant news. Opinions expressed do not necessarily reflect those of the staff, Neighborhood House, SHA or KCHA. We welcome articles and tips from the community and reserve the right to edit all submissions. The Voice is published online at www.nhwa.org and at www.seattlehousing.org.

Write a letter to the editor

Send your letters by e-mail to tylerr@nhwa.org, or by regular mail to:

Neighborhood House
The Voice
905 Spruce St., Suite 200
Seattle, WA 98104

Be safe

Tips on effectively reporting crime

By **KELLY MCKINNEY**
Seattle Neighborhood Group

The good news is crime is still down in Seattle. However, there are times when a specific location seems to attract criminal activity. It can be an apartment, a street corner, a business or the neighborhood bus stop.

Ongoing criminal activity can be very frustrating to deal with. It takes persistence and patience to resolve this kind of issue. It is important to know what to report and to whom.

Ongoing criminal activity consists of several suspicious incidents; each incident of criminal activity must be reported to 911 and the Seattle Housing Authority Property Manager for your community. Contacting your Community Police Team Officer is a good idea, too. However, a community police team officer does not replace the need to call 9-1-1.

Community Police Team Officers do not respond to incidents immediately. Their purpose is to respond to chronic community crime issues that involve long-term problem solving strategies.

Keeping a problem activity log is a good way of tracking and reporting ongoing criminal activity. Recording the following information can help the police and the management office:

1. Work with your neighbors who are concerned with the same problem activity.
2. Use objective language. Recording ongoing criminal activity is about crime, not about your preferences, likes,

dislikes or preconceived notions about other people.

3. Date and time are very important details.
4. Record the address or unit number where the activity is occurring.
5. Describe the activities that you think are suspicious. Be specific and objective. For example: "Two men got into a fight. One man was tall and slender and had long red hair. The other man was short and heavy-set and wore a cap. They were yelling obscenities at one another and then the heavyset man pulled a gun."
6. Record descriptions of the people and vehicles involved in the problem activity.
7. Note anything that you see and hear.
8. When you call 911, ask for the event number. This is different from the incident number. The event number is generated by the 911 call. It helps the police track the 911 call. Record any incident numbers. The incident number is generated by the police report.
9. Record any actions that you have taken to address the problem.
10. When you give copies of your log to the police and the management office, keep a copy for yourself.

Kelly McKinney (206-323-7084) and Allan Davis (206-323-7094) are Community Education Coordinators for Seattle Neighborhood Group. Call Allan or Kelly for crime prevention information or help with your safety and security concerns.



One to grow on

Garden tips for community gardeners

Prepare a crunchy, colorful carrot crop

By **ANZA MUENCHOW**
Special to *The Voice*

This week I pulled from the ground the last of my 2010 carrots and parsnips, and what a wonderful dinner we had! I am anxious to plan for the next root crops from our garden. There are so many lovely carrots to plant, and we can start seeding every month from March to July. Those early types can be so tender and delicious, sometimes so tender they are difficult to harvest without breaking.

Carrots like a well-drained soil, so consider making a raised bed for them. Dig deeply to loosen soil and remove the rocks. A good compost will help, but don't use a fresh manure, as this may be too much nitrogen and will make carrots hairy, with big leaves and less root mass.

Sowing the seed can be difficult. Some people buy the pelleted seeds, which make them larger and easier to handle. Unless they are certified organic, the pelleted coating may contain chemicals for germination that you may or may not want in your soil.

I buy extra of the regular seeds and just sow thickly. Make the long furrow and just lightly tap the envelope to plant a long row of seed. I used to scatter sow an area and keep thinning to prevent crowding, but I've found that carrots prefer rows. Rows also allow for ease in covering with floating row cover or Remay.

I always include a light sowing of radishes in the furrow with the carrots. Radishes come up quickly and are easy to see, while carrots take a long time and are so tiny when they come up. When the radishes are getting large enough to harvest, which is just a few short weeks, I thin the carrots and weed the row as best I can.

Because the carrots take so long to grow and are so tiny for a long time, weeding is important for good production. Do your best job of slug control, as the small carrot seedlings are easily taken out by a marauding slug or two.

Besides the weeds, the next problem for carrot growers is the carrot rust fly. This pest is not obvious, but its damage is. The fly lays its eggs at the base of the leaf frond, and its maggots tunnel through the carrots, leaving a rust colored scar and damage.

This pest is best managed by excluding it with a row cover like Remay or Agribon, which stays on for most of the season. Buy one wide enough to keep the whole plant covered as it grows. Secure the edges of the row cover with rocks, soil or a piece of scrap lumber.

I place the row cover on the soil immediately after sowing, as it improves germination and keeps the seeds from washing off the bed as I water them in. This fabric will also keep the root maggots out of the radishes.

The other root pest you may find is the wire worm. This pest is obvious. It is yellow/orange colored and a half inch long, segmented critter that is tough enough that you have to cut or tear it apart to kill it. The damage is a small black hole or tunnel in the carrot root. The adult stage is the click beetle, which you may see in June and July. This pest prefers to live in tall grass, so it isn't usually a major carrot pest for our area.

Choose some fun colors for your carrots. I enjoy the purple and red carrots, too. Carrots were bred to be orange a few hundred years ago, and that became the standard. Bring back some older genetics and enjoy the splendid colors in your salads!



Find out if you qualify for the earned income tax credit

The Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) is a tax credit for people who work but do not earn high incomes. Nationwide last year, over 26 million eligible taxpayers received nearly \$59 billion total in EITC. The IRS encourages all eligible taxpayers to claim the EITC credit as it is a valuable tool to lower their taxes or to claim a refund.

To qualify, taxpayers must meet certain requirements and file a tax return, even if they did not earn enough money to be obligated to file a tax return.

The EITC has no effect on certain welfare benefits. In most cases, EITC payments will not be used to determine eligibility for Medicaid, Supplemental Security Income (SSI), food stamps, low-income housing or most Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) payments. Unemployment benefits are not considered earned income, but must be included in income calculations.

Do you qualify for EITC?

To qualify, you must meet certain requirements and file a tax return. As described below, some EITC rules apply to everyone. There are also special rules for people who have children and for those who do not.

Individuals and families must meet certain general requirements:

- You must have earned income.
- You must have a valid Social Security number for yourself, your spouse (if married filing jointly) and your qualifying child or children.

- Investment income is limited to \$3,100.

- Your filing status cannot be "married filing separately."

- Generally, you must be a U.S. citizen or resident alien all year.

- You cannot be a qualifying child of another person.

- You cannot file Form 2555 or Form 2555-EZ (related to foreign earned income).

Your income cannot exceed certain limitations. For tax year 2010, your earned income and adjusted gross income (AGI) must each be less than:

- \$43,352 (\$48,362 married filing jointly) with three or more qualifying children

- \$40,363 (\$45,373 married filing jointly) with two qualifying children

- \$35,535 (\$40,545 married filing jointly) with one qualifying child

- \$13,460 (\$18,470 married filing jointly) with no qualifying children

Credit limits for 2010 Tax Year

Income and family size determine the amount of the EITC. The Earned Income Credit Table, which shows the credit amounts, is included in the Instruction booklet for Form 1040 and in Publication 596, Earned Income Credit.

For tax year 2010, the maximum credit amounts are:

- \$5,666 with three or more qualifying children
- \$5,036 with two qualifying children
- \$3,050 with one qualifying child

- \$457 with no qualifying children

Avoid common errors

You are responsible for the accuracy of your tax return. The rules for EITC can be complicated, so you should seek assistance if you are unsure of your eligibility.

Some common EITC errors are:

- Claiming a child who is not a qualifying child.

- Filing as "single" or "head of household" when the taxpayer actually is married.

- Reporting incorrect income amounts.
- Missing or Incorrect Social Security numbers — for both taxpayers and qualifying children.

Taxpayers can find help in determining

Free tax preparation

The United Way of King County is operating free tax preparation centers throughout Seattle and King County. Visit www.uwkc.org and click the link on the home page for more information, including a list of sites that offer free tax preparation.

Your United Way tax preparer may also help you determine your EITC eligibility and help you complete a tax return.

A list of all of the United Way's free tax prep sites appeared in the February 2011 issue of *The Voice*.

eligibility by using the EITC Assistant on the IRS website at www.irs.gov. The tool is available in English and Spanish.

Community notes

Let's draw the line between youth and alcohol

White Center community meeting
4 - 6:30 p.m. Monday, March 28
Greenbridge YWCA
9720 Eighth Ave. S.W.
Seattle, WA 98106

Are you concerned about the impact alcohol has on your neighborhood, and on young people? Would you like to contribute to a safer, healthier community?

Join us for this community meeting to

see how we can work together to prevent underage drinking and drug use in our neighborhood.

The event is sponsored by Neighborhood House and its Community Advisory Coalition, the South Seattle Drug Free Communities Coalition and Teens Against Drugs and Alcohol (TADA).

Food and raffle prizes will be provided.

For more information, contact Steven Van or Mike Graham-Squire at 206-957-0119.

30 Years of The Voice:

Longtime editor Elliott Bronstein reflects on his 15 years at the helm



PHOTO BY TYLER ROUSH

Elliott Bronstein was editor of *The Voice* for 15 years, from 1984 to 1999.

By **TYLER ROUSH**
The Voice editor

The *Voice* has seen many editors in its 30 years of publication, but none have had quite the staying power of Elliott Bronstein.

Altogether, Bronstein spent 15 years as editor of *The Voice* from 1984 to 1999, or roughly half of the newspaper's 30-year history.

Now a public information officer in Seattle's Office of Civil Rights, Bronstein recently reflected on his time with the *Neighborhood House* newspaper.

"I really enjoyed the job," Bronstein said. "At the time, I couldn't imagine a better job."

"It allowed me to talk to people who were the fabric of an interesting community, who were exciting and vital."

The *Voice* editor was a part-time, 30-hour per week position when Bronstein started. That schedule fit well with his personal and family time — he and his wife had recently had the first of two children. His wife worked at Harborview, and Bronstein's office was in the nearby Epstein building, just a block south. The two were able to co-

ordinate their schedules so that they could both be available for their children.

That was one perk. Another was that *The Voice* appealed to his diverse skill set.

"Whoever is the editor of *The Voice* has to be a jack-of-all-trades," he said.

In addition to writing, photography, interviewing and management skills, the job also tested Bronstein's mechanical inclination through the layout of the paper.

The process of producing *The Voice* has changed a lot over the years. Layout for Bronstein meant cutting out columns with an exacto knife and pasting them to a sheet using a light table and an electric waxer.

For a short time, he had to typeset headlines by hand, using a machine called the Kroy Headline Maker. Headlines came in two sizes — 18-point and 24-point fonts.

"That was the machine I always fantasized about throwing out the window," he said with a laugh.

"It was a really different era, one that feels remarkably old-fashioned," he said.

Today, *The Voice* is produced electronically in its entirety — word processing, photo editing and layout are all done on a computer.

Translations first appeared in *The Voice* under Bronstein's watch. He recalled when the Ethiopian languages, Amharic and Tigrigna, were added to the translation page.

"That was a sign we had a significant number of East African people coming to live in the garden communities," he said.

Russian translations followed shortly thereafter, as more families left Eastern Europe following the dissolution of the Soviet Union.

Circulation expanded a couple of times during Bronstein's tenure — *The Voice*, at first the newspaper for the garden communities of High Point, Holly Park, Rainier Vista and Yesler Terrace, soon expanded to high-rise communities and to scattered

sites.

Bronstein's tenure also coincided with the first years of the AIDS epidemic.

Though he said it sounds bizarre today, Bronstein recalled a time when there were still serious debate about what was appropriate in reporting on HIV/AIDS.

"At the time we had to ask ourselves if we could translate 'condom,'" he said. "The agency took a bold stand on the need for translation (of HIV/AIDS information)."

His work tackled other serious subjects — an investigative report uncovered a scam that promised a "free" computer to low-income people who signed a contract.

But he is most fond of the time he spent interviewing ordinary people who, it always seemed to turn out, were never so ordinary. The job gave him access to a font of personal stories that he otherwise would have never known.

"I used to joke, it allows me to go into a person's home and ask questions that were none of my business," he said.

One story in particular stood out. In the mid-1990s, he said, he interviewed a man who had been part of a Los Angeles crime syndicate, and who had come to Seattle in the mid-1980s to deal crack. He hit rock-bottom soon after, as he began using his merchandise.

After a period of recovery and time in rehab, the man was able to turn his life around and had become a drug and alcohol abuse counselor.

"That was one of the most fascinating interviews I ever did," he said.

It's those stories of people that he remembers most vividly from his time at *The Voice*.

"It's a gift to be able to sit down in someone's home," he said. "It's a real gift for me."

"I got to work with great people, doing interesting things and meeting interesting people."

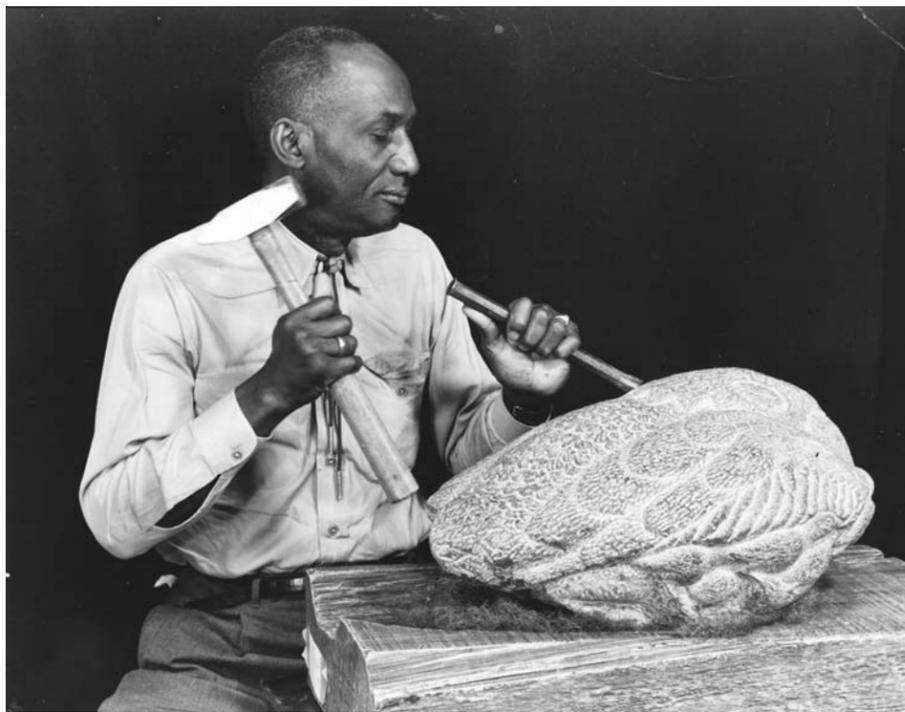


PHOTO COURTESY OF THE JAMES & JANIE WASHINGTON FOUNDATION

James Washington, Jr. established himself as a leader in the arts and in his community.

Washington

Continued from Page 1

have been as varied as South African civil rights leader Desmond Tutu, Seattle Public Schools Superintendent John Stanford and Academy Award-winning actor Forest Whitaker.

For his sculpture of Washington, he had in mind not only the legacy of the late artist, but also Seattle's black community.

"I wanted to do it for the black people of the community, and for black history month," Parrish said of the sculpture, which is on display at the Washington Home, Studio & Garden in Seattle's Central District.

Parrish has been involved with Washing-

The Washington Home, Studio and Garden

1816 26th Avenue, Seattle, WA 98122

Tours are available by appointment only, 11 a.m. – 3 p.m. Tuesday through Friday.

Call 206-709-4241 or visit www.jameswashington.org for more information.

ton's studio for about four years, as both a worker and an artist. He regularly visits the studio to tend to the gardens and landscaping. He's also a regular in the studio space



PHOTO BY TYLER ROUSH

Charles Parrish's sculpture honors local artist James Washington Jr.

that is available to artists on-site.

"He's a great asset to the foundation in that way," Detweiler said. "It's been fantastic having Charles here," both for his support for the foundation, and as an artist.

It was through his work at the foundation that Parrish found one window into the life of James Washington. Parrish was tasked with tidying up a studio in Washington's home, filled with a trove of priceless items that the artist had collected in his 91 years.

In addition to letters, journals, sketches and his own artwork, Washington collected an enormous collection of artifacts and items from around the world.

"It was piled to the ceiling in many areas," Detweiler said.

By sorting and cataloging objects collected over so many decades, Parrish said he began to get a hint of who Washington was,

about where he found his inspiration.

It was knowledge that would help inform Parrish's sculpture, which he worked on for more than six months.

Within the collection, Parrish said he found copies of the Bible, at least one dating to the 1700s, as well as artifacts from Africa.

"It told me a little about him," Parrish said.

From humble beginnings, an artist of world renown

James W. Washington, Jr. was born in 1908, one of six children born to James Washington, a Baptist minister, and Lizzie Washington.

The family lived in Gloster, Miss., a rural town deep in the Jim Crow South, when the threat of violence against blacks was ever present.

When James was about 5 years old, his father was forced to flee for his life following an argument with a local man who was associated with the Ku Klux Klan. He never saw his father again.

Despite a difficult upbringing that saw him bounce between various jobs as a child and young man, Washington discovered a true passion for art.

"He always was able to break through these boundaries and bonds that were put on him," Detweiler said.

In 1938, he found a job as a teacher in Vicksburg, Miss., with the Works Progress Administration (WPA), one of President Franklin D. Roosevelt's New Deal programs designed to put people back to work during the Great Depression.

One of the subjects he taught was art, which gave him time to work on art of his

Please see "Washington" on Page 5

The Legislature is in session: Make your voice heard!

BY JIM BUSH
Center Park resident

On Jan. 10, the Washington State Legislature convened to start the process of conducting the state's business (or, to be more precise, to do the peoples' business).

The current session will last 105 days to allow for the adoption of the state's two-year budget (in even-numbered years, the Legislature is in session for 60 days).

While the regular session is set for 60 or 105 days, this does not preclude the Legislature from meeting again in special session, either at the request of the governor or by calling themselves into special session on their own, if there are urgent issues that need to be addressed on short notice.

Much of the discussion this session will be centered on how to fix the roughly \$4.6 billion gap in the upcoming budget.

In December, Governor Christine Gregoire submitted a 2011-2013 budget proposal, which included a number of substantial cuts to many programs people rely on in this state — among them the elimination of Disability Lifeline and the state's Basic Health Plan.



FILE PHOTO

Lawmakers are at work in the chambers of the state Legislature. This year the Legislature must trim gaps in the current and upcoming budget. The deficit for the 2011-2013 budget could approach \$5 billion.

Will Gregoire's budget be adopted as is? It's too soon to tell — the Legislature will likely be working on its own proposal until at least April.

There is sure to be a considerable amount of discussion on the proposed budget — and many individuals and groups are contacting

their legislators, either through direct communication or by attending one of several lobby days scheduled for this time of year.

Getting in contact with your elected representatives is fairly easy.

Each legislative district (there are 49 of them) has three delegates — one senator

and two representatives. A full listing of who's in the House and Senate, their district and their contact information, including phone numbers and e-mail address, is on the Legislature's website at www.leg.wa.gov. You can also get this information, plus information on how to contact various other elected officials on the City, County and Federal levels, by obtaining a copy of "They Represent You," a free brochure that's available from the League of Women Voters (206-329-4848 or www.seattlelwv.org).

E-mail addresses for legislators all follow the same format — `lastname.firstname@leg.wa.gov`. In other words, to send an e-mail to Senator John Doe, you would address it to "doe.john@leg.wa.gov."

You can also contact your legislators through the Legislative Hotline at 1-800-562-6000 (TTD: 1-800-635-9993). Callers can leave a message for their elected representatives (including the governor), learn where a particular bill is in the legislative process, get copies of pending bills and provide input on a specific bill or issue being considered by the Legislature.

Washington Continued from Page 4

own. It was also where he first found an audience for his work — he exhibited paintings in art exhibits sponsored by the WPA. At the time he primarily practiced painting, having not yet uncovered the passion for sculpture that would make him famous.

He married Janie Rogella Miller in Little Rock, Ark., in 1942. The couple relocated to Bremerton in 1944, where James worked in the naval yard. A year later, they settled in Seattle, where they would spend the rest of their lives.

They became active members of the Mt. Zion Baptist Church, and in the Central District community where their home still stands, now an historic landmark and museum.

"They were kind of an anchor in the community, through tough times and through good times," Detweiler said.

In 1948, Washington established the first integrated art show in Seattle, hosted at the Mt. Zion Baptist Church. The exhibit, which ran annually for 13 years, featured the art of white, African-American and Asian-American artists, and helped solidify Washington as one of the leaders of Seattle's art community.

In the 1950s, and still primarily a painter, Washington traveled to Mexico, where he met Diego Rivera, the famed Mexican muralist and — notably, as the U.S. was then in the midst of the McCarthy Era — Communist.

It was while in Mexico, walking in the massive Teotihuacán archaeological site, that he found a stone. Not just a hunk of volcanic rock, the stone would shape his future as an artist. It would become the basis for his first stone sculpture. After creating the first piece, he carved another, and then another.

"And it just never stopped from there," Detweiler said.

Washington's sculptures have been shown in the Seattle Art Museum, New York's Whitney Museum of American Art and the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, among many others. One of his first sculptures is in the Smithsonian.

He also created numerous public installations, including sculptures at Odessa Brown Children's Clinic and Mt. Zion Baptist Church in Seattle.

Today, the James & Janie Washington Foundation honors the memory of James Washington through its programming at Washington's Seattle home and studio.

By offering studio space and a residency program for local artists, including Parrish, the James & Janie Washington Foundation ensures that the couple's legacy remains of the people and for the people.

"That's an important way that we give back as much as we can," Detweiler said.

And Parrish is planning his next sculpture. The subject will be a man that Washington depicted in a sculpture of his own: Martin Luther King, Jr.

Food Continued from Page 1

Nghia Nguyen, who along with his wife receives state food stamp benefits, received a termination letter about twelve days before his benefits were to be eliminated.

The couple relies on food stamp benefits and on part-time work to make ends meet. "My wife does part-time babysitting to get money for food," Nguyen said.

With looming questions, Nguyen took the termination letter to Long Luu, who works at the Neighborhood House office in Yesler Terrace.

Luu confirmed that Nguyen needed to update his green card, which would make him eligible for federal food stamp benefits. No longer would Nguyen and his wife have to worry about the uncertainty surrounding the Food Assistance Program — the couple began receiving federal benefits Feb. 10.

Court order blocks termination of food stamp program

For thousands of other Washingtonians, the preservation of their benefits would rest in the hands of a federal judge.

On Jan. 27, a Federal District Court Judge entered a temporary restraining order against DSHS in a class action lawsuit filed by legal immigrants in danger of losing their food assistance. The group was represented by Columbia Legal Services.

The lawsuit claimed that DSHS violated legal immigrants' rights to equal protection under the 14th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution. The violation occurred when

DSHS moved to cut the state-funded Food Assistance Program while continuing to apply state funding to administer the federal food stamp program for other recipients.

Households receiving the notices were only given eleven days to prepare themselves for the stark realization that they would be minus a source of income for an indefinite period of time.

The temporary restraining order lasted fourteen days and reinstated food stamp benefits for February and March to thousands of legal immigrants.

On Feb. 17, the court issued a preliminary injunction, blocking DSHS from terminating state-funded food stamp benefits for legal immigrants.

"The judge did grant the preliminary injunction. DSHS has been ordered not to terminate the (Food Assistance Program)," said John Camp of DSHS. "We have various ways of letting people know that, all of which will take time.

"If you received a notice in January, we will be posting this new information on our website, and other resources as well."

More information is available online at the Columbia Legal Services website, www.columbialegal.org/node/131.

Columbia Legal Services advises anyone who did not receive February food stamp benefits to contact DSHS for help by calling 877-501-2233 or visiting the local DSHS office.

Anyone in need of additional help may call Columbia Legal Services at 800-260-6260, Ext. 207.

Advocacy Continued from Page 1

But each year, other legislation does get passed, including funding for many crucial programs that serve low-income people, making the long day in Olympia a worthwhile experience.

This year, because of the state budget crisis, advocates have a much more difficult task in convincing the legislators to pass key housing bills, as many other programs are competing for the same shrinking pot of available money.

"Funding is the greatest challenge, which we need to not only create new affordable housing but to maintain existing housing,"

said Alouise Urness, an organizer with The Tenants Union of Washington State.

More than 500 people still rose to the challenge and attended the Advocacy Day. With the day falling on Valentine's Day, Feb. 14, the chosen theme was "Have a Heart for Housing."

A large TV Screen had video of people telling their stories, and flashed different facts and figures, which the advocates could recite when meeting with the legislators.

While some legislators said that it would be hard for them to make a choice between funding for housing, education or health-care, housing advocates noted that there are 21,000 students (under 18) reported as homeless in our state.

Urness noted that "nobody will win if there's no funding for housing," since homelessness often leads to healthcare issues or difficulty with children being able to stay in school.

One of the top-priority bills, the Fair Tenant Screening Act, which would reform the way credit reports are used to screen prospective renters, has once again died in a committee.

However, at press time, the Housing Trust Fund bill is still alive; it looks optimistic that a new bill offering protections to many people facing foreclosure will also pass.

Urness noted that Housing Advocacy Day was even more critical this year, since

in addition to the state budget trouble, massive cuts have also been proposed to the federal budget that will affect HUD programs.

The Tenants Union also circulated 800 postcards for people to sign, urging no federal budget cuts for housing programs. The postcards will be delivered to U.S. Senators Patty Murray and Maria Cantwell.

To find out more about what is happening to the rest of the pending state legislation, the best way is to go to the Washington State Low Income Housing Alliance (WLIHA) website at www.wliha.org. You can join the WLIHA e-mail list to get the latest news on housing issues.

TRANSLATIONS

TRANSLATED ARTICLES FROM THE VOICE

ሰርተው ላገኙት ገቢ የታክስ ክሬዲት (EITC) ብቁ ሊሆኑ ይችላሉ!

የፌዴራል ኢንሳሽርንስ ታክስ ተጠናቆ መመለስ ያለበት ሚያዚያ 15 ሲሆን ይህን ታክስ በሚሞሉበት ሰዓት ለኤርንድ ኢንሳሽር ታክስ ክሬዲትም ጭምር ቢሞሉ ጥሩ ነው።

ብቁ ለመሆን፣ ለዚህ ብቁ ለመሆን ካስፈለገ

የተወሰኑ መመሪያዎችን ማሟላትና የታክስ ራተርንን መሙላት፤ ለዚህም በቂ ገንዘብ ባያገኙም የታክስ ራተርን ለሞሙላት ግዴታ ባይኖርብዎትም።

- ለ2010 የታክስ ዓመት ለሰሩበት ገንዘብ ከታክስ ተመላሽ (EITC) ብቁ ልትሆኑ የምትችሉት ፡
 - ከሶስት በላይ ልጆች ካለዎትና የሚያገኙት ገቢ ከ\$43,352 በታች ከሆነ (ወይም ትዳር ካለዎት በጋራ የምትሞሉት ደግሞ \$48,362 ከሆነ)
 - ሁለት ልጆች ካለዎት የሚያገኙት ገቢ ከ\$40,363 በታች ከሆነ

- (ወይም ትዳር ካለዎት በጋራ የምትሞሉት \$45,373 ከሆነ)
 - አንድ ልጅ ካለዎት የሚያገኙት ገቢ ከ\$35,535 በታች ከሆነ (ወይም ትዳር ካለዎት በጋራ የምትሞሉት ደግሞ \$40,545 ከሆነ)
 - ምንም ልጅ ከሌለዎትና የሚያገኙት ገቢ ከ\$13,460 በታች ከሆነ (ወይም ትዳር ካለዎት በጋራ የምትሞሉት ደግሞ \$18,470 ከሆነ)
- በተጨማሪ በዓመት ውስጥ በተለያዩ ነገሮች ኢንቤስት አድርገው ያገኙት ገንዘብ

ከ\$3,100 መብለጥ የለበትም። ለዚህም እርስዎ፣ ባለቤትዎና እንዲሁም ልጆችዎ ተገቢ የሆነ የሶሻል ሴኩራቲ ካርድ እንዲኖራቸው ያስፈልጋል። ይህን ፎርም በሚሞሉበት ሰዓት “married filing separately,” የሚለውን እንዲሁም ፎርም 2555 ወይም 2555-EZ ፎርም መሙላት የለብዎትም (የውጭ አገር ገቢ ካለዎት)። የኪንግ ካውንቲ ዩናይትድ ዌይ ይህን የEITC ፎርም በሞሙላት ሊረዳዎ ይችላል። ለተጨማሪ መረጃ www.uwkc.org ይጎብኙ።

(EITC) **ሎአዊዎች ለማስገባት የሚያስፈልገው** ገንዘብ በገንዘብ ሰነድ ላይ ተመልክቶ ማሳሰብ ይገባል።

ሙሉ የሆነ ማስገባት

ሙሉ የሆነ ማስገባት ለማስገባት የሚያስፈልገው ገንዘብ በገንዘብ ሰነድ ላይ ተመልክቶ ማሳሰብ ይገባል።

ሎአዊዎች ለማስገባት የሚያስፈልገው

- ሎአዊዎች ለማስገባት የሚያስፈልገው ገንዘብ በገንዘብ ሰነድ ላይ ተመልክቶ ማሳሰብ ይገባል።
- ሎአዊዎች ለማስገባት የሚያስፈልገው ገንዘብ በገንዘብ ሰነድ ላይ ተመልክቶ ማሳሰብ ይገባል።
- ሎአዊዎች ለማስገባት የሚያስፈልገው ገንዘብ በገንዘብ ሰነድ ላይ ተመልክቶ ማሳሰብ ይገባል።

በተጨማሪም ሎአዊዎች ለማስገባት የሚያስፈልገው ገንዘብ በገንዘብ ሰነድ ላይ ተመልክቶ ማሳሰብ ይገባል።

QUÍ VI CÓ THỂ HỘI ĐỦ ĐIỀU KIỆN ĐỂ NHẬN LẠI TIỀN THUẾ BÒI HÒAN

Hạn chót để khai thuế liên bang là ngày 15 Tháng Tư. Và khi quý vị khai thuế, quý vị có thể hợp lệ để khai thuế bồi hoàn.

Người hay gia đình mà đi làm có lợi tức thấp có thể hội đủ điều kiện để nhận lại tiền thuế bồi hoàn từ \$457 đến \$5,666 nếu họ hợp lệ cho chương trình thuế bồi hoàn.

Để hội đủ điều kiện,

Quý vị phải đáp ứng các điều kiện và phải đi khai thuế, cho dù quý vị đã không kiểm được số tiền lương đòi buộc để khai thuế.

Quý vị có thể hội đủ điều kiện để nhận lại tiền thuế bồi hoàn nếu quý vị có đi làm có lợi tức trong năm 2010 và :

- Quý vị có 3 hay trên 3 đứa con, có mức lợi tức dưới \$43,352 (hoặc \$48,362 nếu là người có gia đình và khai thuế chung.
- Quý vị có 2 đứa con, có mức lợi tức dưới

\$40,363 (hoặc \$45,373 nếu là người có gia đình và khai thuế chung

• Quý vị có 1 đứa con và có mức lợi tức dưới \$35,535 hoặc \$40,545 nếu là người có gia đình và khai thuế chung.

• Nếu không có con và có mức lương dưới \$13,460 (hoặc \$18,470 nếu có gia đình và khai thuế chung.

Cộng thêm vào đó, quý vị phải có ít hơn \$3100 tiền lợi tức từ quỹ đầu tư trong năm qua và quý vị phải có số an sinh xã hội hợp lệ cho cả vợ chồng và con nhỏ.

Trình trạng khai thuế của quý vị không được khai là “có gia đình mà khai thuế riêng”, và quý vị không thể khai vào Mẫu đơn 2555 hoặc mẫu đơn 2555-EZ (liên quan đến lợi tức từ nước ngoài).

Cơ quan United Way thuộc quận King có thể giúp quý vị khai thuế với tiền tín thuế bồi hoàn EITC. Hãy vào trang mạng www.uwkc.org để biết thêm thông tin.

You might be eligible for Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC)

Вы можете иметь право на возврат налога за заработанный доход

Документы на возврат федеральных налогов должны быть отправлены до 15-го апреля, одновременно с этим вы можете подать заявление на возврат налога за заработанный доход.

Малообеспеченные работающие люди и их семьи могут получить возврат налогов от 457 до 5666 долларов, если они подадут заявление на возврат налога за заработанный доход (EITC).

Кто имеет право

Для того, чтобы иметь право, вы должны соответствовать определенным требованиям и отправить документы на возврат налога, даже если при вашем низком доходе вы не обязаны их отправлять. Вы можете иметь право на возврат налога за заработанный доход в 2010 налоговом году если:

- У вас трое или больше детей и вы заработали меньше 43352 долларов (или \$48362, если состоите в браке и отправляете налоговую декларацию совместно)
- У вас двое детей и вы заработали меньше \$40363 (или \$45373, если состоите в браке и отправляете совместную налоговую декларацию)

• У вас один ребёнок и вы заработали меньше \$35535 (или 40545, если состоите в браке и отправляете совместную налоговую декларацию)

• У вас нет детей и вы заработали меньше \$13460 (или \$18470, если состоите в браке и отправляете совместную налоговую декларацию)

Кроме того, у вас не должно быть больше \$3100 годового дохода от капиталовложений и у вас должна быть действующая карточка социального обеспечения (Social Security Number), также, как у вашего супруга и законнорожденных детей. Вы не можете отправлять налоговую декларацию отдельно с супругом и вы не можете отправлять форму 2555 или 2555-EZ (заграничный доход).

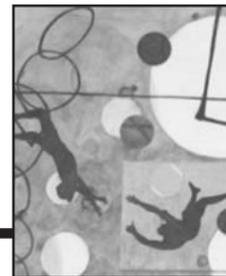
United Way округа Кинг могут помочь вам отправить документы на возврат налога за заработанный доход. Для дополнительной информации посетите вебсайт www.uwkc.org.

No Somali or Tigrigna translations

The Voice did not receive the translations in Somali or Tigrigna before press time. We apologize for any inconvenience this may have caused, and will work to resolve this issue in the future.

The mission of the Seattle Housing Authority is to enhance the Seattle community by creating and sustaining decent, safe and affordable living environments that foster stability and self-sufficiency for people with low incomes.

With local flair
THE ART OF TAMARACK PLACE
See Page 5



SHA NEWS

March
2011

News and information about Seattle's neighborhoods

Resident Action Council elects new officers

Longtime members Rick Harrison and Cinda Lium and new member Susan Fiedler join executive team

By TYLER ROUSH
The Voice editor

The Resident Action Council elected three new officers at its meeting Feb. 9, filling spots on its executive council that had been vacated late last year.

Newly elected President Rick Harrison, Vice President Susan Fiedler and Treasurer Cinda Lium will join Secretary Jim Bush and Ombudsperson Lois Gruber on RAC's executive council.

The officers will fill out the remainder of their current terms prior to RAC's next election, which will be held in June 2011.

President Rick Harrison

Harrison brings his experience as a past officer of both RAC and the Olive Ridge Resident Council to his new leadership role.

He said he'd like to guide RAC into become a "more effective organization to advocate for the rights of SHA tenants."

One of the first steps in that process, he said, will be to establish RAC as a jurisdiction-wide resident council.

The designation, as defined and authorized under HUD's guidelines, would give RAC a larger role in the Joint Policy Advisory Committee and in allocating Resident Participation Funds, according to Harrison.

He also mentioned renewing a previous outreach effort to host RAC meetings at other LIPH buildings on a rotating basis. RAC's office and meeting location, in Center Park, is in South Seattle. That's far-removed from many of the housing authority's properties north of downtown.

"I think we need to be more inclusive," he said.

Harrison has a strong background in advocacy, and currently sits on the board of the Northwest Justice Project and the Tenants Union of Washington State.

Though he has historically been critical of some of Seattle



PHOTO BY TYLER ROUSH

Celebrating with cake after RAC's special election Feb. 9 are (from left) RAC Ombudsperson Lois Gruber, interim officers Pamela Wilcox (vice president) and Kristin O'Donnell (president), newly elected RAC officers Rick Harrison (president), Cinda Lium (treasurer) and Susan Fiedler (vice president), and RAC Secretary Jim Bush.

Housing Authority's policies, he said there are many things that the housing authority does extremely well.

A prime example was the homeWorks program, which renovated 24 high-rises primarily through the use of federal tax credits.

"SHA, in a rough economy, managed to come up with \$85 million to renovate the buildings," Harrison said.

As for where it can improve, he said his top priority was to see the housing authority adopt a "true, fair hearing

process" for LIPH. He said the current system, by which a resident's case is reviewed prior to possible eviction, is unfair.

Vice President Susan Fiedler

A relative newcomer to RAC and Seattle Housing Authority, Fiedler moved to Seattle in 2008. She had previously

Please see "RAC" on Page 2

In this section

SHA News	Page 2
CELEBRATING LUNAR NEW YEAR	
Point of View	Page 3
CLEANING UP LAKE CITY	
High Point Herald	Page 4
NEW HOUSING UNDERWAY	
Rainier Vista News	Page 5
THE ART OF TAMARACK PLACE	
NewHolly Notes	Page 6
HAPPENINGS AT ATLANTIC STREET CENTER	
Yesler Happenings	Page 7
A SOCIAL INFRASTRUCTURE PLAN	
Translations	Page 8

To contact The Voice editor, call 206-461-8430, Ext. 227 or e-mail tylerr@nhwa.org.

Sribhibhadh assumes management of HOPE VI

Replaces Willard Brown, who retired in January

By TYLER ROUSH
The Voice editor

Cindy Sribhibhadh will keep the same job title and remain within the Housing Operations Department, but her role with the Seattle Housing Authority is undergoing a change.

Sribhibhadh will assume the role of property management administrator for HOPE VI, previously held by Willard Brown, who retired in January.

Sribhibhadh will have many of the same responsibilities of her previous position — she'll now apply them to Seattle Housing Authority's HOPE VI neighborhoods and other developments. She previously oversaw the Seattle Senior Housing Program,



Cindy Sribhibhadh

special portfolio and LIPH admissions at Porchlight.

"The main difference will be working with new people," she said. It will be a homecoming of sorts for Sribhibhadh, who started with the housing authority in 1985 as a front-desk clerk at Holly Park.

From there she said she moved up the chain into a supervisory role. In 1995, she became the community manager at High Point, where she saw the beginnings of that neighborhood's redevelopment under HOPE VI.

She later worked at Rainier Vista and at Yesler Terrace, before moving to the housing authority's Central Office in 2000.

"It will be very fun for me to go back and see the communities under HOPE VI," she said.

Her background in the family communities and extensive experience in property management has given her the skills necessary to excel in her new role, she said.

She's worked with senior housing, family housing and with admissions, among others.

She added that she's worked extensively on policy, and has worked with residents through the Joint Policy Advisory Committee.

In returning to the family communities, Sribhibhadh said she's interested to see how the population has changed, but also in meeting some old acquaintances.

"I'd like to reconnect with some of the residents who were there before," she said.



Reader's viewpoint

Readers of *The Voice* share their ideas

How Lake City grew up

BY GREG POTTER
Lake City House resident

I moved into the Lake City House apartments about 25 years ago, right after we had a big snow storm the day after Thanksgiving. Before I moved here I was living in an apartment built for people with cerebral palsy.

The Lake City House apartments now became my learning center for how to live independently. When I moved into Lake City House I had a part-time aide to help me learn how to live independently.

Way back when — until about 10 years ago — this neighborhood was run down. But recent retail and residential developments in the neighborhood have changed that.

Little by little, Lake City is beginning to have more people in the area, because of more apartment buildings going up.

Four years ago, Seattle Housing Authority remodeled my building through home-Works. They put in one accessible apartment on every floor of my building.

About two years ago, they started planning Lake City Village, the Seattle Housing Authority family-housing apartments right next door to Lake City House.

They're going to have underground parking at Lake City Village. That's good for the parking problems around here. I've also heard that a park is going to be built next door. There will also be new sidewalks around here.

By the time everything gets done around here, it will be a new community with new people, better landscaping and a park for everyone.

It will hopefully be cleaner around the neighborhood if everyone chips in to do it. With everything around here looking so new, I hope it's an incentive to get people not to litter as much.

RAC

Continued from Page 1

lived for 32 years in Minnesota, where she had spent seven years on a waiting list, in need of housing.

After waiting for so many years, she moved to Seattle and now calls University West home.

She noted that she was nearly homeless twice, and said she's grateful to be living in public housing.

"I feel so fortunate to be here," she said.

Already an active member on her building's resident council, where she was recently elected vice president, she wanted to know how she could get further connected to the community. Then she found RAC.

"I wanted to be a participant — all of us together, working so that we have housing, and making that housing the best it can be," she said of joining RAC.

She's also passionate about supporting victims of domestic violence.

Women who escape a violent environment face a difficult transition, she said. That's particularly true for older women, she added, for whom transitional housing might not be the best fit.

Instead, they spend long hours at work to avoid an abusive home environment, or do whatever they can apart from asking

for help.

It's an issue that is close to her heart, she said, explaining that she's a past victim. ("Everything is OK now," she added, smiling.)

Treasurer Cinda Lium

Lium joins RAC's executive committee after more than 10 years of involvement with the council. Her previous leadership experience includes positions on the Joint Policy Advisory Committee and the Resident Leadership Development Team. She's also a founding member of the Denny Terrace computer lab committee and a past contributor to *The Voice*.

One of her primary motivations for running for office was simply "seeing residents get things done," added that RAC has come a long way.

"It's really inspiring to watch," she said.

Returning to a common theme among the newly elected officers, she said that promoting and expanding RAC membership is one of her goals.

She said it was refreshing to see new members who have joined the council in recent months, and hopes to see that trend continue.

"I'm encouraged by the energy I see in the council, and excited by the direction in which we're heading," she said.

Ringling in the Year of the Cat



PHOTO BY TYLER ROUSH

Tuyet Nguyen (center) smiles during a dance in celebration of the Lunar New Year at a Yesler Terrace community event Feb. 8. While the Vietnamese New Year marks the Year of the Cat, the Chinese Zodiac welcomes the Year of the Rabbit. Whether cat or rabbit, the Lunar New Year was Feb. 3.

What's all that racket? Tell it to RAC!

BY KRISTIN O'DONNELL
Yesler Terrace resident

It is 2 a.m. The next-door neighbor is in his bedroom, which shares a wall with yours, and he is watching "Laverne and Shirley."

You can hear every word of the show. You want to sleep, and this happens every night.

You never did like Laverne and Shirley, but you can't afford to move. The manager says you should sleep in the living room.

Or it is 3 in the morning, and the lady upstairs can't sleep. You can't sleep either, because she's moving her furniture around. She likes to move furniture.

The police get to your place two hours after you call them, and tell you there's nothing they can do unless they can hear the noises from the street.

The Resident Action Council has members from all over Seattle who have shared stories about noise, and what happened when they complained or called the police.

The problems were similar, but what was done or not done with noise complaints was not the same in different buildings and communities.

What can we do about too much noise? We need you to come to the Resident Action Council and share your story about loud neighbors.

Did you complain? Was the problem resolved, or not? One story about bad results may not get attention or make changes, but many stories will.

Stories about how problems were taken care of will help us decide what we want the housing authority and the police to do to take care of noise problems in all of our communities. The Seattle Housing Authority lease and Seattle laws say too much noise is not allowed, especially at night.

The next Resident Action Council meeting is at 1 p.m. March 9 in the Center Park Community Room — if we work together, we can make the changes we need.

The Resident Action Council is moving to new ways to make decisions and choose leaders. Hear about changes we plan to make in our bylaws to help us work together and do more.

You can be an active member the Resident Action Council if you live in Low Income Public Housing and come to our meetings. Join us!

Center Park and the RAC offices

The Center Park Community Room, STAR Computer Center, and the RAC office are located in Center Park, 2121 26th Ave. S., at the northwest corner of MLK Way and S. Walker St.

On the #4 or #8 bus, get off on MLK Way at South Walker. On the #7, #9, #34, #42 or #48, get off on Rainier Avenue South at South Walker and walk east two blocks on Walker.

The Community Room and STAR Center are upstairs on the South Hill Street side; the RAC office is downstairs on the Walker side. The RAC office phone number is 206-322-1297.

Comments sought on revised policy

Seattle Housing Authority invites residents to review and submit written comments on revisions to the following policy concerning Housing Authority buildings.

Policy: Entry of Occupied Units by Housing Authority Employees

Seattle Housing Authority's policy regarding its employees' entering a resident's unit with notice (when the unit is occupied) and without notice or the resident's consent (in emergencies) has been slightly revised.

Copies of the revised policy are available in Seattle Housing Authority Man-

agement offices. Residents who wish to make comments should submit them in writing. Comments may be returned to the Community Management Office, emailed to dfoss@seattlehousing.org, or mailed to:

POLICY COMMENTS — Donna Foss
Seattle Housing Authority
Housing Operations Department
P.O. Box 19028
Seattle WA 98109

Note: All comments must be received in writing no later than 5 p.m. on Thursday, March 31.

About The Voice

The Voice is a monthly newspaper published by Neighborhood House with financial support from Seattle Housing Authority and King County Housing Authority.

The Voice is developed and edited by Neighborhood House with help from SHA residents and staff. It strives to provide a forum for objective news and information of interest to low-income people and those living in SHA communities.

The Voice welcomes articles, letters to the editor and columns from readers. If you'd like to submit an article, or if you have a question about anything you've read in this publication, feel free to contact Editor Tyler Roush at (206) 461-8430, ext. 227 or by e-mail at tylerr@nhwa.org.

If you have questions about SHA-related stories, you may also contact SHA Communications Director Virginia Felton at 206-615-3506 or by e-mail at vfelton@seattlehousing.org.

You can also mail submissions to: The Voice, Neighborhood House, 905 Spruce St. #200, Seattle, WA 98104. Please include your name and contact information on your submission.

All submissions are subject to editing for accuracy, style and length.

POINT OF VIEW

NEWS ABOUT THE SEATTLE SENIOR HOUSING PROGRAM AND SEATTLE'S HIGH-RISE COMMUNITIES

New ramp means greater accessibility for Phinney Terrace residents



PHOTO BY TYLER ROUSH

Jean Burns (left), a longtime resident of Phinney Terrace, is thrilled with improvements made to the ramp at the entrance to her building. She's seen here with Seattle Housing Authority Assistant Property Manager Sean McKenna. Burns, an avid Seattle Mariners fan, is originally from Longview, Wash.

A look at the improving 33rd Avenue



PHOTO BY TYLER ROUSH

Greg Potter, of Lake City House, said that things have gotten better along 33rd Avenue, thanks to a local cleanup effort. Behind Potter is a creek that was recently restored.

BY TYLER ROUSH
The Voice editor

Greg Potter has seen a lot of changes in his time at Lake City House. The area along 33rd Avenue has had its share of rough times, with the health and safety of the neighborhood questionable at times.

But right now, things are looking up for this narrow street in the Lake City neighborhood, home to Lake City House and the future site of Lake City Village.

Outside his building, Potter points to a small creek, part of the Thornton Creek Watershed.

Once overgrown with weeds and briars and choked with litter, the creek has been rejuvenated thanks to a local cleanup effort, and water can now be seen trickling along the creek bed on its way under 33rd Avenue.

Chuck Dickey, of the local Lions Club,

helped lead the cleanup effort, according to Potter.

Along the street, brush that was encroaching the roadside has been trimmed back.

A new business that moved in near Lake City House made improvements of its own, beautifying the landscaping on its property, Potter said.

The area will also soon be home to Lake City Village. The low-income family housing development is currently under construction next door to Lake City House, and Potter thinks the new development will bring even more improvements — and a greater sense of community — to his neighborhood. (See Greg's related letter on Page 2.)

"I think it will be a better neighborhood, because they are working really hard to make 33rd Avenue more safe for everyone," Potter said. "It's going to be nice for everyone."



PHOTO BY JIM BUSH

A computer user in the Westwood Heights Technology Center tests out one of the new machines during the Jan. 28 open house.

Cooking and computing at Westwood Heights

BY JIM BUSH
Center Park resident

That's right — the Westwood Heights Technology Center had an open house on Jan. 28, with several people from the STAR Center showing up to see what the center, located in West Seattle, had to offer. But more than an ordinary computer lab open house, the Westwood Heights event combined computing and tasty cuisine!

Needless to say, a lot of people were impressed with the nine state-of-the-art computers in the lab, which was funded through a grant from the City of Seattle's Technology Matching Fund (TMF) with "matching" funds generated through the volunteer labor provided by Westwood Heights residents who staff the center.

While not as advanced as the machines in the STAR Center, the computers at Westwood Heights are very usable — in fact, this article was written on one of them!

We said there was some cooking going on at the same time. We don't kid around there, because everyone who came to check out the lab got a chance to taste some of the fine cuisine offered by the Westwood

Heights kitchen staff. The chicken, mashed potatoes and rolls were simply wonderful — but then, filling one's tummy with a few "bites" before getting a few "bytes" from a computer will do wonders for anyone's mental state!

Does the STAR Center encourage more people to become computer-literate? Of course we do — and with the many computer labs in Seattle Housing Authority communities, this is not hard to do.

There are also a number of public-access computers (especially those in the public libraries), internet cafes and other wi-fi hotspots. (Even some METRO and Sound Transit buses are wi-fi connected!)

The Westwood Heights Technology Center is located at 9455 27th Ave. S.W., in the lower level of the Westwood Heights apartment building. It is served by METRO bus routes #54 and #125 from Downtown Seattle, and by Sound Transit Route #560 from the West Seattle Junction.

The center is open to residents and visitors from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday through Friday and 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturdays. Call 206-932-6942, Ext. 16 for more information.

HIGH POINT HERALD

NEWS ABOUT THE HIGH POINT COMMUNITY

New construction underway, more planned at High Point

BY SEATTLE HOUSING AUTHORITY STAFF

Seattle Housing Authority is working with two private residential developers to add 173 new for-sale homes to the High Point neighborhood over the next three years.

Polygon Northwest has broken ground on single-family homes and townhomes in the central area of the High Point neighborhood. The company expects to bring the new homes online gradually between Spring 2011 and the end of 2012. A total of 83 new homes will be built.

Polygon Northwest has previously partnered with Seattle Housing Authority to build homes for sale at both High Point in West Seattle and NewHolly in Southeast Seattle.

Intracorp is in the final stages of negotiating an agreement with Seattle Housing Authority to purchase the vacant lot at 35th Avenue and South Graham Street. Over the next three years, Intracorp expects to build up to 90 townhomes along with some neighborhood retail.

According to Seattle Housing Authority Development Manager Brian Sullivan, the new construction at this location will be consistent with the character of the rest of the neighborhood.

"It will go through the same review process and design oversight as other developers in the community," he said.

"We are encouraged by the interest that

we are seeing in home sites at High Point," he added.

Rental housing in this redeveloped community was completed in 2009, but the private construction planned for the site has been on hold because of the recession.

The site at 35th and Graham has been envisioned since the beginning of redevelopment in 1999 - 2000 as a preferred site for a neighborhood grocery store. The housing authority focused consistently on this concept in all its negotiations with potential developers.

Several years ago, an agreement was reached with Security Properties to develop the site with the inclusion of a grocery store. Security Properties pursued all major supermarket chains as well as Trader Joe's. No grocer, large or small, viewed this site as a viable location.

"We are disappointed that we have not been able to secure a neighborhood grocery store at this site," said Sullivan. "However, Intracorp has indicated a desire to continue to examine the possibilities for retail development here, including small-scale retail at the corner of 35th and Graham, with the possibility of additional retail or live-work units along 35th, if economic growth will support it.

Plans for the site also include a pocket park along Graham toward the east side of the site. This will allow for the preservation of a significant large tree in this area.

High Point Neighborhood Appreciation Night a big success

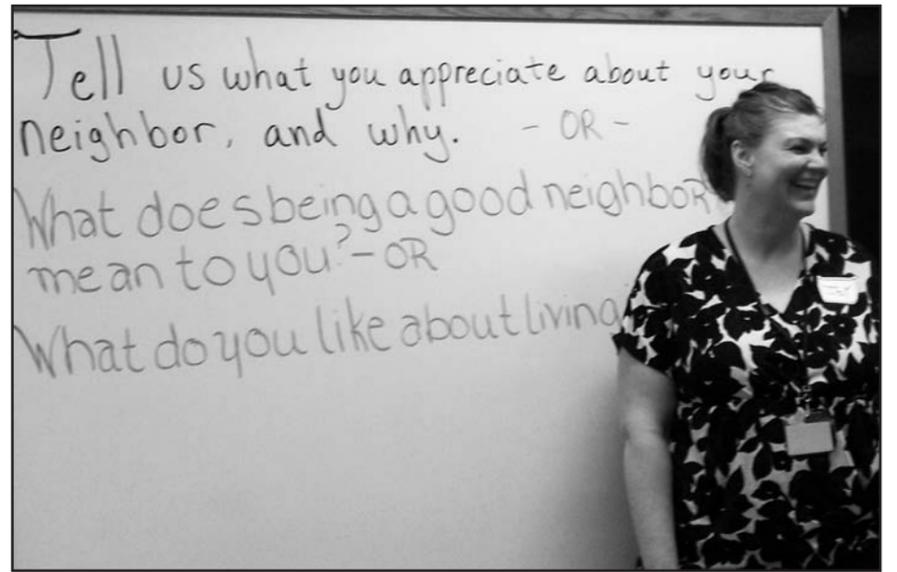


PHOTO BY VENETIA RUNNION

Community Builder Joy Bryngelson helped facilitate a discussion among neighbors about what they like best about their community.

BY VENETIA RUNNION
High Point resident

Neighborhood Appreciation Night took place on Feb. 4, sponsored by the High Point Neighborhood Association with support from Neighborhood House and volunteers. Almost 100 community members engaged in sharing what they love about High Point, by decorating large banners and through story sharing.

The theme of the event was "Appreciating our Differences, Celebrating our Similarities." Banners were adorned with colorful drawings and shout-outs to neighbors in a variety of languages. The banners will be displayed at future Neighborhood Association events.

Delicious sambusas, egg rolls, and sweet tea were offered for snacking. Suldan Sheikh supplied the sambusas from his East African Grocery, while new High Point Community Builder, Shukri Olow, shared her favorite Somali tea. Egg rolls were provided by members of the Asian community to celebrate the Lunar New Year.

Seattle Housing Authority Community Builder Joy Bryngelson facilitated a lively storytelling session, with about 45 people sharing things about themselves through guided questions, including "If you won a million dollars, what would you do with

the money?"

Interpreters provided support for all languages, so everyone could enjoy the fun. Shy smiles in the group quickly turned to uproarious laughter as people began to find commonalities.

Almost all of those who received the hypothetical million dollars would travel and share the money with those in need. It is easy to understand why High Point is such a wonderful community with its diverse, caring and generous residents!

Child care was provided for the little ones, who had fun with games and banner art.

The night would not have happened without the enthusiasm and energy of volunteers, community builders and HPNA board members: Marilyn Savage, Jennifer Cobb, Miranda Taylor, Chris Smithco, Abdirahman Mohamed and Abdighane Isse.

Nursing students from Seattle University, Nora, Sarah, Amber and Esther, also helped make the evening a success.

The community is looking forward to sharing its stories again in the future. As one participant said, "This was really fun! We should do this again so we can really get to know each other more and make friends outside our own groups."

Venetia Runnion is a High Point Neighborhood Association trustee.

Drawing the line in West Seattle



PHOTO BY RYAN HASSETT

Last month a group of students and staff with Neighborhood House's TADA (Teens Against Drugs and Alcohol) and YELS (Youth Empowered with Leadership Strengths) programs decorated the statues near the West Seattle Bridge to promote the Let's Draw the Line campaign against youth alcohol use. Pictured are (from left) students Manisha Kumar and Kyla Wilson and Neighborhood House staff Steven Van, Mike Graham-Squire and Aparna Rae.

Are you interested in serving as a High Point Neighborhood Association trustee? We are looking for High Point residents who want to be involved in building community, representing perspectives of your neighbors, and planning events to bring people together. Nominate a neighbor to run for election in June or nominate yourself! For more information, please contact Shukri Olow at 206-696-3148 or solow@seattlehousing.org. Jennifer Cobb at jencobb@comcast.net or 2063693177. Get involved today!

Hey, YOUTH! Show us what you got!

showcase
art | music | poetry

Performance: Friday, March 4th, 7 - 9 pm

Practice: Feb. 21-25th & Wed. March 2nd

To Sign-up, Contact:

Aparna or Ryan @ 588-4900 ext. 626
Or Email aparnar@nhwa.org, ryanh@nhwa.org

Artwork will be put up onsite Wed 2nd, or projected day off.



High Point
Center

RAINIER VISTA NEWS

NEWS ABOUT THE RAINIER VISTA COMMUNITY

Tamarack Place showcases local artists

BY TYLER ROUSH
The Voice editor

Tamarack Place, a new mixed-income development in the Rainier Vista neighborhood, was unveiled with much fanfare during a grand opening event in January.

The walls of the new building are a perfect match for the diverse and vibrant neighborhood in which it lies.

The entryway of each floor of the building is adorned with a unique installation created by a local artist.

Noemi Cortes, of NC Interior Design Studio, was tasked with selecting the pieces that would be displayed.

"I want to see people proud of this place," Cortes said.

Local artist Melissa Koch created the central art installation in the building's main lobby.

The piece, titled "The Dance of Life," is inspired by the circus, according to Koch.

Eight panels weave a story of personal growth, of overcoming fear and other obstacles, and of a connection with the "oneness."

On the leftmost panel, a girl climbs a ladder, reaching for a moon framed by butterflies.



PHOTO BY VIRGINIA FELTON

Artwork by local artists, included this piece by Fulgencio Lazo, can be found on each floor of Tamarack Place.

The moon, symbolic of the oneness, recurs throughout the installation.

Elsewhere, an acrobat hangs suspended in midflight, while a second acrobat swings in on a trapeze to catch him. Above, another acrobat balances on a tightrope, riding a bicycle.

She describes it as a "portrait of our living myth as humanity."

Koch said she's interested in depicting cultural diversity, which makes the placement of her installation a particularly good fit.



PHOTO BY VIRGINIA FELTON

Local artist Melissa Koch stands with her art piece, "The Dance of Life," which decorates the main floor lobby of Tamarack Place.

Colorful circles and large stalks of metal decorate the walls around Koch's artwork, giving the appearance of playfully floating bubbles and fronds of vegetation.

That installation was created by Cortes, who also created art for the building's sec-

ond floor.

Other pieces were contributed by local artists Collette Collins and Fulgencio Lazo.

"That's what I want to bring here, something joyful," Cortes said.

Two cultures, one community

Rainier Vista recognizes Lunar New Year and Black History Month with unified celebration

BY SAKINA S. HUSSAIN
Rainier Vista resident

The blustery wind and soggy cold weren't enough to dampen the multicultural celebration at the Neighborhood House Rainier Vista Center, where more than 80 residents turned out to welcome the Lunar New Year and observe Black History Month.

What warmed hearts and made the Feb. 12 event even more special was the energetic and lively performance by the Âu Lạc Vovinam Lion Dance Team. It drew loud applause from the crowd, who playfully engaged with the colorfully-costumed dancers and offered them money in little red envelopes.

"The money is only meant to symbolize good fortune for the coming year. It doesn't have to be much," said Phu Thai, a resident of recently opened Tamarack Place.

He was attending the celebration with his wife and children for the first time, having moved in only three months ago, and was already very happy with the amenities and sense of community he found at Rainier Vista.

Frank Steinheiser, live-in manager of Gamelin House, was also there with his grandchildren, Branden, 12, and Sophia Gonzalez, 9.

"Even though my grandkids do not live in this area, I brought them to this event so they could partake in these fun activities and be exposed to the larger multicultural

diversity around us," Steinheiser said.

The children were particularly impressed with the Lion Dance and the yummy food.

According to the Chinese zodiac, each new year is ruled by one of 12 animals — rat, tiger, rabbit, dragon, snake, dog, horse, sheep, rooster, pig, monkey and ox. This year is ruled by the rabbit. For the Vietnamese community, celebrating Tet, it's the year of the cat.

Longtime resident Lan Nguyen, 68, and other ladies from the neighborhood sang traditional Vietnamese songs about going to the temple on New Year's Day.

Minh Dinh, outreach specialist for IDHA, translated and explained how the Lunar New Year originated in China, but because Vietnam was ruled by China for many years there were several cultural overlaps.

The free event was sponsored by Neighborhood House, Seattle Housing Authority, Âu Lạc Vovinam Lion Dance Team and the Rainier Vista Multicultural Committee.

The event also spotlighted Black History Month. Ed Frazier, a longtime resident of the neighborhood, with help from his aunt Joyce Muskelly, presented a photo exhibition on African-American inventors.

"Everyone knows about the contributions of Dr. Martin Luther King and Nelson Mandela, but do you know there are many relatively unknown black inventors whose contributions are equally valuable?" Frazier questioned.

Using black-and-white photos and biographical sketches, the tastefully designed exhibit showcased inventions such as gas masks, traffic signals, oil dipping cups for trains and leads used in pencils, all created by black inventors.



PHOTO BY SAKINA S. HUSSAIN

The Âu Lạc Vovinam Lion Dance Team performs at a multicultural celebration at the Neighborhood House Rainier Vista Center. About 80 residents attended the annual event, which celebrates the Lunar New Year and Black History Month.

"I wanted to do this to encourage us, especially our young people, and to instill some pride in them," said Frazier. "It's great to have these snapshots that go back in time and give us a moment to see what our history was," he said.

Apart from the music, dance and photo exhibition, the biggest draw, perhaps, was the scrumptious buffet of multicultural foods that kicked off the evening. Guests dined on homemade noodles, stir-fried vegetables, chicken, sambusas, fried rice and corn bread, among other items. Dessert included two different kinds of cake, a fruit platter and cookies.

Dale and Elizabeth Otto were among the Rainier Vista homeowners who participated in the event. They've lived here

since 2007 and are part of the multicultural committee.

"I'm glad to see that these events have gotten bigger and better organized over the years," said Dale. "In our neighborhood that is stratified by money, language and color, I would like to see more events like these, because it helps bring people together and develops a sense of familiarity with each other's cultural and ethnic customs."

He pointed out that the majority of the participants at the event were renters, and wished more homeowners would join.

The Year of the Rabbit is a great time to multiply your friendships and your relationships. In the spirit of this Lunar New Year, go out and get to know your neighbors and do something to help your community.

NEWHOLLY NOTES

NEWS ABOUT THE NEWHOLLY COMMUNITY

Youth can join the fun at the Atlantic Street Center

BY SEATTLE UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF NURSING STUDENTS

Atlantic Street Center (ASC) at NewHolly and Seattle University nursing students have partnered to assist teens in connecting with the wonderful activities offered at the NewHolly neighborhood campus.

To assist in that effort, the ASC Teen Center has launched a Facebook page. It will be used to advertise upcoming events, connect community members and promote youth development programs.

ASC is active year-round in community events for teens. Teen center youth and staff recently participated in Seattle's Martin Luther King Day march and rally at Garfield High School.

ASC's Youth Development staff brought seven youth participants to the rally, who joined the rest of the community in honoring the great civil rights leader. The youth prepared signs and carried an ASC banner during the march.

To get involved with more great activities to come, join the ASC Teen Center Facebook page! Search for ASC-NewHolly Teen Center

For more information, e-mail Marquinta Williams, Youth Development Program Coordinator for ASC, at Marquintaw@atlanticstreet.org.



PHOTO COURTESY OF SEATTLE UNIVERSITY NURSING STUDENTS

The NewHolly neighborhood Teen Center, operated by the Atlantic Street Center, is a great way for young people to get involved in their community.

NewHolly community turns an eye toward neighborhood safety

Following break-ins, NewHolly establishes Block Watch teams

BY LAURA GENTRY
Seattle Housing Authority

Over the last several months, a series of break-ins have occurred in the NewHolly community raising concerns for residents. In response to these recent incidents, the Seattle Housing Authority is working closely with community residents, Seattle Police Department, and SecureTrans Private Security service to strategically improve the

safety and security of NewHolly homes.

The community management and Community Building teams held three community meetings to discuss the incidents with residents and have their questions answered by NewHolly management, SPD and SecureTrans. At the meetings, several pamphlets were provided with information about security tips as well as home security devices like security bars, cameras, renters insurance and alarm systems.

Several measures are being implemented to increase neighborhood safety, including increased patrols by SPD and SecureTrans, support to neighbors who volunteer to create community Block Watch Teams and a planned effort by Seattle Housing to rekey many NewHolly residential units. Of the 31 reported break-ins over the last several months, approximately 50 percent showed no signs of forced entry, leading agency management to decide to rekey units.

"We want to make sure the community is safe both when its residents are home and when they are away from their home, so rekeying made the most sense to us rather than providing internal latches for homes," said Rod Brandon, Housing Operations Director for Seattle Housing.

A vendor has already been selected to do the rekeying work for approximately 620 units. A timeline is still being worked out between the vendor and NewHolly management, but Brandon estimated the job will take approximately two weeks once the job is underway. As a precautionary measure, the agency is also examining internal key control measures at NewHolly as well as other communities the agency manages.

"This is definitely a neighborhood/community effort," said Lisa Dressler, Senior Property Manager for NewHolly. "It's important that management, security, SPD

Tips from Seattle Police Department

Always close and lock your windows when away from home and limit how far they can be opened

Always lock your doors.

Don't leave your front door open or unlocked while working in the yard

Secure tools and ladders so they can't be used to gain entry into your home or a neighbor's home.

Let neighbors know if you'll be away for an extended period of time.

Much more information is available online at www.seattle.gov/police.

and the community work together to solve the problem of crime at NewHolly. We are definitely encouraging residents to participate in the Block Watch meetings we are holding monthly."

The next Block Watch meeting will be held at the Gathering Hall from 6 - 8 p.m. March 22. Pizza, interpreters, and childcare will be provided for all in attendance.

For more information about the Block Watch Teams currently being formed, residents can contact Community Builder Joy Bryngelson at the NewHolly Campus, by phone at 206-723-1725 or by e-mail at jbryngelson@seattlehousing.org.

Investigation of the break-ins is ongoing and is being handled by the Seattle Police Department. Residents who have specific questions about that investigation can call Officer Damon Deese at 206-386-1859.

Faulty water/sewer connections at NewHolly to be corrected

BY SEATTLE HOUSING AUTHORITY STAFF

Seattle Housing Authority has been working with Seattle Public Utilities since last October to test the sewage and drain systems at NewHolly.

Testing revealed problems in 48 sewer connections in Phase I. Because the sewer lines had been improperly connected when NewHolly was built, sewage from 48 homes in Phase I of NewHolly was routed into the storm drainage system instead of the sewer system.

As a result, sewage from NewHolly homes has been emptying untreated into Lake Washington. Once the problem was discovered, SPU installed a bypass to temporarily correct this condition and minimize further pollution of Lake Washington.

Some of these improper connections were in rentals, and some were in private

homes. All households who live in housing affected by this problem have been contacted directly.

Seattle Housing Authority is working to ensure that these faulty connections are repaired at no cost to renters, private owners or the housing authority. Absher Construction Company, the original contractor for NewHolly infrastructure in the 1990's, has agreed to correct the problem for free.

Absher has acquired the needed building permits from the City of Seattle, and expects to begin this work in early March. Most of the work will likely take place near the sidewalks. Residents will be notified specifically when work at or near their homes is taking place.

Staff members in the management office can answer questions about the project. They also have a map showing where the problems sewer connections are.



Visit the NewHolly Community website at <http://www.newholly.org/>

You'll find a Directory of Services, announcements of neighborhood events and community projects, a link to The Voice resident newspaper and much more.

YESLER HAPPENINGS

NEWS ABOUT THE YESLER TERRACE COMMUNITY

Yesler Terrace: Re-inventing a community of opportunity

BY LAURA RAY

Seattle Housing Authority

A vibrant, healthy community is one that provides its people — across generations, across race and across income level — with a wide array of opportunities to grow and prosper. It connects the entire family, the entire neighborhood and the entire community through a network of social, health, economic and educational services. A strong social infrastructure supports the betterment of each individual for the betterment of all. With the majority of its 1,200 residents earning below the federal poverty line, the diverse and vibrant Yesler Terrace is well-poised to strengthen its position as a community of opportunity.

Seattle Housing Authority has partnered with Building Changes to lead the Yesler Terrace “social infrastructure” planning effort. Building Changes is a Seattle-based nonprofit that unites public and private partners to end homelessness.

For the past several months, Building Changes has worked with the existing Yesler Terrace community, including the Citizen Review Committee and Community Council, to identify the programs and services most critical to the quality of life and opportunity for residents. Their final recommendations, delivered to Seattle Housing Authority in late January, were broken down into three primary sections: 1) recommended services 2) service partnerships to continue exploring and 3) services to research further.

“With our partner organizations, we hope to further social equity and economic opportunities at Yesler Terrace by expanding resources most critical to the quality of life of residents,” said John Forsyth, Community Services Administrator for Seattle Housing Authority. “Programs such as the Seattle University Youth Initiative create opportunities for low-income youth while also uniting the University with the rest of

“The new Yesler Terrace is envisioned as a place where people from across society can come together to enjoy cultural diversity, high-quality homes and access to nearby parks, shops and offices. When completed, it will provide new opportunities for life and prosperity for the neighborhood.”

— Stephanie Van Dyke, Seattle Housing Authority Development Director

the community.”

As defined within the Guiding Principles, social equity “ensures that residents at Yesler Terrace today are treated fairly, and that the new community will be a culturally and economically diverse place where everyone can share in the advantages and amenities of the new neighborhood.” As part of their recommended services, Building Changes suggested ways to continue to promote social equity through:

- Educational attainment opportunities for children and youth, such as early childhood education services and tutoring;
- Opportunities for adults, such as partnering to provide entry-level or college preparatory courses and strategic training that results in certifications and/or degrees that align with high-demand occupations, particularly in health care; and
- Coordinated youth-focused services that cultivate learning, supporting, creating and having fun in a safe environment, either through strengthened partnerships on-site, transportation to partner sites or to a youth center.

Economic opportunity, as defined within the Guiding Principles, is “the means of improving the overall economic conditions, opportunities and quality of life for current and future generations at Yesler Terrace.



PHOTO COURTESY CATHOLIC COMMUNITY SERVICES YOUTH TUTORING PROGRAM

Social infrastructure in the redeveloped Yesler Terrace, such as the tutoring program currently offered by Catholic Community Services, will be vital to the health and success of the neighborhood.

It means creating living-wage jobs for residents by developing partnerships with nearby businesses and institutions.” Building Changes’ suggestions include focusing on case management, computer lab access, asset building and financial literacy services and services to support small businesses.

“Our Pathways out of Poverty program is a partnership with the Workforce Development Council and Seattle Vocational Institute. Through this program 40 people have gotten jobs and 30 low-income people have received training. We are also explor-

ing new opportunities for healthcare training as part of a new \$10 million grant the Workforce Development Council received,” Forsyth said.

As the Yesler Terrace redevelopment moves forward, Seattle Housing Authority will consider the recommendations provided by Building Changes as staff negotiates service partnerships and space allocations, such as the ones that may be located in the steam plant (see related story below).

The final Building Changes report is available on www.seattlehousing.org.

Old Yesler Terrace steam plant to be transformed into a center of education and training

BY LAURA RAY

Seattle Housing Authority

For several decades, the old steam plant at Yesler Terrace stood dormant, primarily used as a storage facility. Now, with its recent historic landmark designation, Seattle Housing Authority has plans for the uniquely modernist building, transforming it into a state-of-the-art space for early childhood education, adult education and job training. Seattle Housing Authority hopes to spearhead the project with a \$3.1 million capital grant from HUD.

“This project brings us one step closer to realizing the vision of Yesler Terrace, offering residents increased access to important self-sufficiency services,” said Tom Eanes, Senior Development Program Manager for Seattle Housing Authority. “It will create a new Center for Education and Training in the heart of the community while at the same time preserving a piece of Yesler Terrace’s history.”

The following social services and resources could be housed within its expansive, natural light-filled rooms:

- Neighborhood House Head Start early learning program;
- Catholic Community Services Youth Tutoring program;

- Express Credit Union for affordable financial service and micro-enterprise development;
- SEIU NW Training Partnership for training of home-care aides;
- City of Seattle New Citizenship Program for naturalization classes; and
- SHA’s Job Connection program providing employment case management, job development and referrals to other self-sufficiency services and education programs.

Additional opportunities could exist with the Seattle Central Community College, which has expressed interest in providing financial aid workshops, COMPASS (entrance exam) testing and ESL classes.

The center will also feature a new rooftop terrace for Head Start and two multipurpose areas adaptable to a variety of users. As part of the Guiding Principles for the Yesler Terrace redevelopment, Seattle Housing Authority is exploring the use of various sustainable design elements, such as a green roof, solar collectors, ground-source heat pump, rainwater harvesting as well as a super-efficient building envelope.

Seattle Housing Authority expects to learn about the grant award status in June. Construction for the project is slated to begin in 2013, with occupancy expected in 2014.

Keep up with the Yesler redevelopment on the web

Project web pages feature fresh, new content and visuals

The past four years of planning for the Yesler Terrace redevelopment have been busy.

With the identification of the Preferred Alternative, the Environmental Impact Statement nearing final completion and the Development Plan mere months away, Seattle Housing Authority has revamped and refreshed content on its website to reflect these most recent and forthcoming milestones.

Visit www.seattlehousing.org and click on the Yesler Terrace link to get up-to-date project information. The site features new sections highlighting information most relevant to the project, including the Project Vision, Building a Sustainable Community, Environmental Review Process, Involving the Community, News & Information, We Want to Hear from You and Frequently Asked Questions.

In addition to fresh, new content, visuals have also been updated, including artist renderings of the possible redevelopment and a timeline of upcoming project milestones.

TRANSLATIONS

TRANSLATED ARTICLES FROM THE VOICE

የሲያትል ቤቶች የእንግሊዘኛ ቋንቋ ፕሮግራምን በዘጠኝ ተጨማሪ ቋንቋዎች ለማስተዋወቅ የሚያስችል ሬዲዮ ስርዓት መጀመሩን ገለጸ።

ባለፈው ወር የሲያትል የቤቶች አስተዳደር አስር ቋንቋዎችን ሬዲዮ ስርዓት ለማድረግ ለማስተዋወቅ መጀመሩን ገለጸ። ይህም የእንግሊዘኛና ሌሎችን ዘተኝ ጨምሮ ሲሆን እያንዳንዱም ቋንቋ የራሱ ቴሌፎን ቁጥር ያላቸው ናቸው። እያንዳንዱ ሬዲዮ ስርዓት ቋንቋዎች ስለሲያትል የቤቶች አስተዳደር መለስተኛ ፕሮግራም ገለጻ ይሰጣል። ስለቤት ሸጭር

ፕሮግራም፣ ስለ አስተዳደር ገቢ ስላለው የቤቶች አስተዳደር ፕሮግራም፣ ስለሶስቱ በማደግ ላይ ስለሚገኙት ኮሚቴዎች (ሃይ ፖይንት፣ ኒው ሆሊ እና ሬኒሮ ቪሲታ) በተጨማሪም በተወካይ ድርጅቶች ስር በአስተዳደር በኩል ስለሚኖሩት እኩልነትና ስለንብረቶች ክፍል ሃሳብ ይሰጣል።

ይህ ሬዲዮ ስርዓት ለአድማሮች ወደሚያስፈልገው ጽሁፍ ቤት ለተጨማሪ ማስረጃና ስለእያንዳንዱ ክፍልና ኮሚቴና ስለቢሮና የስራ ሰዓት መግለጫ ይሰጣል። ይህ በተለያዩ ቋንቋዎች የሚሰጠው ገለጻ የሚከተሉትን ቁጥሮች ከደውሉ ሊያዳምጡ

- ይችላሉ።
- 206-256-7001 — እንግሊዘኛ
- 206-256-7002 — አማርኛ
- 206-256-7003 — ካምቦዲያን/ ክህመር
- 206-256-7004 — ካንቶን
- 206-256-7005 — ማንደሪን
- 206-256-7006 — ራሺያን
- 206-256-7007 — ሶማሊ
- 206-256-7008 — እስፓኒሽ
- 206-256-7009 — ትግርኛ
- 206-256-7010 — ቪትናሚን

በእንግሊዘኛ ቋንቋ ችግር ያለባቸው ሁሉ የሲያትል ቤቶች አስተዳደርን ስልክ ቁጥር በመደወል በራሳቸው ቋንቋ የሚናገር አስተርጓሚ መጠየቅ ይችላሉ። በስራ ሰዓታችን ይህን የትርጉም ስራ ወዲያውኑ የነፃ ግልጋሎት እንሰጣለን። እነዚህ ሬዲዮ ስርዓት ሆነው ግልጋሎት የሚሰጡት በቅርቡ በአስፈላጊው የተወካይ ዌብሳይት www.seattlehousing.org የአውዲዎ ግልጋሎት መስጠት ይጀምራል።

ቋንቋዎችን ለማስተዋወቅ የሚያስችል ሬዲዮ ስርዓት መጀመሩን ገለጸ።

ባለፈው ወር የሲያትል የቤቶች አስተዳደር አስር ቋንቋዎችን ሬዲዮ ስርዓት ለማድረግ ለማስተዋወቅ መጀመሩን ገለጸ። ይህም የእንግሊዘኛና ሌሎችን ዘተኝ ጨምሮ ሲሆን እያንዳንዱም ቋንቋ የራሱ ቴሌፎን ቁጥር ያላቸው ናቸው። እያንዳንዱ ሬዲዮ ስርዓት ቋንቋዎች ስለሲያትል የቤቶች አስተዳደር መለስተኛ ፕሮግራም ገለጻ ይሰጣል። ስለቤት ሸጭር

ቋንቋዎችን ለማስተዋወቅ የሚያስችል ሬዲዮ ስርዓት መጀመሩን ገለጸ።

ባለፈው ወር የሲያትል የቤቶች አስተዳደር አስር ቋንቋዎችን ሬዲዮ ስርዓት ለማድረግ ለማስተዋወቅ መጀመሩን ገለጸ። ይህም የእንግሊዘኛና ሌሎችን ዘተኝ ጨምሮ ሲሆን እያንዳንዱም ቋንቋ የራሱ ቴሌፎን ቁጥር ያላቸው ናቸው። እያንዳንዱ ሬዲዮ ስርዓት ቋንቋዎች ስለሲያትል የቤቶች አስተዳደር መለስተኛ ፕሮግራም ገለጻ ይሰጣል። ስለቤት ሸጭር

Seattle Housing announces recorded introductions to its programs in English, nine other languages

Сообщения о программах Жилуправления записаны на английском и девяти других языках

Жилищное управление Сиэтла с прошлого месяца применяет новые записи на автоответчике, представляющие его программы на десяти языках, включая английский, каждая из которых имеет номер телефона для каждого языка.

Каждая запись даёт представление о программах

жилуправления: ваучерах для выбора жилья (8-й программе), государственного жилья для малоимущих и о программе жилья для пожилых; о трёх реконструированных Жилуправлением районах (Хай пойнт, Нью холи и Райниер виста); и о выборочном жилье по всему городу под управлением агентства.

Автоответчик направляет слушателя в соответствующий офис для дополнительной информации о каждой из этих программ и о районах, также сообщаются рабочие часы каждого офиса.

Для получения информации на английском языке звоните 206-256-7001 , на русском языке – 206-256-7006.

Люди, не владеющие свободно английским, звонящие в любой офис Жилуправления, могут попросить в помощь переводчика, говорящего на их родном языке. В рабочее время помощь переводчика предоставляется на месте бесплатно.

Эти записи скоро будут доступны как аудио файлы на вебсайте агентства www.seattlehousing.org.

- 206.256.7001 ቋንቋዎችን ለማስተዋወቅ የሚያስችል ሬዲዮ ስርዓት መጀመሩን ገለጸ።
- 206.256.7002 ቋንቋዎችን ለማስተዋወቅ የሚያስችል ሬዲዮ ስርዓት መጀመሩን ገለጸ።
- 206.256.7003 ቋንቋዎችን ለማስተዋወቅ የሚያስችል ሬዲዮ ስርዓት መጀመሩን ገለጸ።
- 206.256.7004 ቋንቋዎችን ለማስተዋወቅ የሚያስችል ሬዲዮ ስርዓት መጀመሩን ገለጸ።
- 206.256.7005 ቋንቋዎችን ለማስተዋወቅ የሚያስችል ሬዲዮ ስርዓት መጀመሩን ገለጸ።
- 206.256.7006 ቋንቋዎችን ለማስተዋወቅ የሚያስችል ሬዲዮ ስርዓት መጀመሩን ገለጸ።
- 206.256.7007 ቋንቋዎችን ለማስተዋወቅ የሚያስችል ሬዲዮ ስርዓት መጀመሩን ገለጸ።
- 206.256.7008 ቋንቋዎችን ለማስተዋወቅ የሚያስችል ሬዲዮ ስርዓት መጀመሩን ገለጸ።
- 206.256.7009 ቋንቋዎችን ለማስተዋወቅ የሚያስችል ሬዲዮ ስርዓት መጀመሩን ገለጸ።
- 206.256.7010 ቋንቋዎችን ለማስተዋወቅ የሚያስችል ሬዲዮ ስርዓት መጀመሩን ገለጸ።

Nha Cấp Phát Gia Cư Seattle Housing Authority thông báo là có những lời giới thiệu được ghi âm về các chương trình bằng tiếng Anh và bằng 9 ngôn ngữ khác

Trong tháng vừa qua, Nha Cấp Phát Gia Cư Seattle Housing Authority cho xử dụng lời ghi âm giới thiệu về các chương trình bằng 10 ngôn ngữ, tiếng Anh và 9 ngôn ngữ khác, mỗi ngôn ngữ được truy cập vào số điện thoại riêng biệt.

Mỗi lời ghi âm nói tóm tắt lời giới thiệu đến các chương trình của Nha Cấp Phát Gia Cư Seattle Housing Authority, chương trình Nhà Ở với tín chỉ, chương trình nhà ở cho người có lợi tức thấp, và chương trình Nhà Ở dành cho người cao niên; nói đến 3 cộng đồng đã được

tái thiết bởi Nha Cấp Phát Gia Cư Seattle Housing Authority (khu HighPoint, New Holly, và Rainier Vista) và nói đến những khu gia cư được quản lý bởi đơn vị Impact Property.

Những phần ghi âm hướng dẫn người nghe đi đến ngay các văn phòng để biết thêm thông tin của chương trình nhà ở, các khu vực nhà ở, và cho biết giờ mở cửa của các văn phòng.

Có thể gọi vào các số điện thoại có phần ghi âm các lời giới thiệu bằng các ngôn ngữ như sau:

Tiếng Anh: 206-256-7001
 Tiếng Amharic 2 0 6 - 256-7002
 Tiếng Khmer: 206-256-7003
 Tiếng Quảng: 206-256-7004

Tiếng Tiều: 206-256-7005
 Tiếng Nga: 206-256-7006
 Tiếng Somali: 206-256-7007
 Tiếng Mễ: 206-256-7008
 Tiếng Tigrinya: 206-256-7009
 Tiếng Việt: 206-256-7010

Những người gọi điện thoại cho Nha Cấp Phát Gia Cư Seattle Housing Authority mà không nói được tiếng Anh, có thể yêu cầu người thông dịch bằng ngôn ngữ của mình. Trong các giờ làm việc, có cung cấp thông dịch tại chỗ và miễn lệ phí.

Sắp tới đây, các lời ghi âm này cũng được đặt sẵn trên trang mạng của Nha Cấp Phát Gia Cư Seattle Housing Authority, www.seatthousing.org

ከገለጸው በኋላ የሲያትል የቤቶች አስተዳደር አስር ቋንቋዎችን ሬዲዮ ስርዓት ለማድረግ ለማስተዋወቅ መጀመሩን ገለጸ። ይህም የእንግሊዘኛና ሌሎችን ዘተኝ ጨምሮ ሲሆን እያንዳንዱም ቋንቋ የራሱ ቴሌፎን ቁጥር ያላቸው ናቸው። እያንዳንዱ ሬዲዮ ስርዓት ቋንቋዎች ስለሲያትል የቤቶች አስተዳደር መለስተኛ ፕሮግራም ገለጻ ይሰጣል። ስለቤት ሸጭር

ከገለጸው በኋላ የሲያትል የቤቶች አስተዳደር አስር ቋንቋዎችን ሬዲዮ ስርዓት ለማድረግ ለማስተዋወቅ መጀመሩን ገለጸ። ይህም የእንግሊዘኛና ሌሎችን ዘተኝ ጨምሮ ሲሆን እያንዳንዱም ቋንቋ የራሱ ቴሌፎን ቁጥር ያላቸው ናቸው። እያንዳንዱ ሬዲዮ ስርዓት ቋንቋዎች ስለሲያትል የቤቶች አስተዳደር መለስተኛ ፕሮግራም ገለጻ ይሰጣል። ስለቤት ሸጭር

No Somali or Tigrigna translations

The Voice did not receive the translations in Somali or Tigrigna before press time. We apologize for any inconvenience this may have caused, and will work to resolve this issue in the future.