

# Happenings On Hilltop

Hilltop Neighborhood

50 ¢  
Donation

Volume 2, Number 11

July 1992



# LET'S START THIS OFF WITH A BANG!

Once again, its time to look towards the heavens and celebrate one of the main causes for which this country was created; Independence. Our founding fathers knew all too well the cost of freedom. As we take time out of our busy schedules to light the grill, invite friends over and watch fireworks displays, let us take a moment to remember what all this means and those who gave their lives to offer this privilege to us today.

I must confess, it will be hard to top last months issue. We are still getting input back. If you'd like a copy, give us a call. We are also beginning our subscription drive, so fill out the form on the back and we'll get you started. We still need your financial support. So if you'd like to help out, please do so. Every little bit helps.

So, with these items out of the way, let's see what's Happening On Hilltop.

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If you are a business, or organization and would like to have Happenings on Hilltop for your customers, call Larry Norman at 272-8133. We will be more than happy to get you started. **Please note; the views contained in some of the articles in this newsletter are not necessarily those of the staff of Happenings on Hilltop.**

We have received a few calls concerning spelling accuracy and punctuation. Our staff is working towards producing the best newsletter we can. We appreciate your objective criticism and will continually work to eliminate spelling and punctuation errors. Thank you.

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## EDITORIAL

*By Preston Ward*

This month it was my honor to be asked to stand with my friends while they exchanged Love, Words and Rings of Marriage. The Bride was like my sister, we had talked about everything. And the Groom was my friend from service days.

As they stood, it made me think of what makes a good marriage or even relationship. I came up with three main values, which I wish to share with all.

First, Communication. There must be a good communication. If there are things which are going to make us feel those feelings need to be talked about. If one party has a bad day, talking it out prevents heartaches. Telling someone you Love them creates strong bonds.

Second, Trust. You have to trust one another, our friends, husbands, wives and children. To believe whatever you do or say and believe that was said and done to be true without question.

Third, Love (Like). To say you Love someone is saying you like them. Some might say you have to like before you Love. My best friend is my wife.

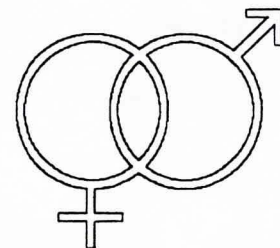
Now these main values are not in any order of priority. They are like links that keep us together, if one (out of six) link is missing or broke, we begin to have relationship problems. If two links are missing the relationship is almost lost. We have to fight hard to continue the relationship.

This works with everybody. This works for our neighborhood. I can say I like all my neighbors, although I may not have met everyone. I can say I trust my neighbors. With the help of Happenings on Hilltop, I can communicate with my neighbors.

Let me finish with this prayer:

Our Father, we thank you that you know and care for us completely. Help us to know each other's longings as well as words, intentions as well as acts, hopes as well as failures. May we never become insensitive to sorrow or another's need or narrow our concerns to ourselves alone.

Amen.



# THEY HAD SO MUCH MORE TO GIVE...

by A.A.P

We are living in an ever changing world. With the increase of gang violence over the last two and one half years, an ironic fate has begun to plague the lives of Black families everywhere. Cancer, Tuberculosis and Sickle Cell were the diseases of yesteryear that snatched away the lives of our elders in the prime of their lives, leaving our youth to the unfortunate task of burying their mothers, fathers and grandparents. Today, violence and hatred have been the prevailing disease that have contributed to the short lived existence of so many of our youth.

Many other elements such as poverty, lack of guidance and direction, even jealousy, sometimes play a determining factor in the destiny of our youth. Even the lack of Love and concern on the part of our loved ones has played a part. Hence, we should not close our eyes to the bitter fact that many of these young "men and women" die as children.

The answers to these concerns are simple, maybe too simple. Could it be that our society has gotten so technological that we can no longer see simple, basic solutions? Doesn't it make sense that if lack of love and concern are contributing to the deaths of our young people, then we should be more loving and concerned? If lack of opportunity and direction are factors also, shouldn't we provide them?

It is difficult to derive a "positive message" from the death of another. Maybe that message is that we should return a simpler mindedness in addressing the needs of our youth. Then we may see that the answers lie in age old truths of showing love and understanding to one another. Yes, simple-mindedness may just be the answer. The question is, are we smart enough to see this?

## FOCUS ON BUSINESS

### MORRIS-BATES MORTUARY: PROVIDING CARE FOR OUR LOVED ONES

by A.A.P.

Only six months ago, Phil Morris (owner and operator of MorrisBates Mortuary) came to the Hilltop area via Seattle. Mr. Morris, the father of four sons and a native of Texas, established the business with his mother, Hazel Bates 24 years ago and they have been providing quality funeral service ever since. Since moving here to Hilltop, Mr. Bates is all too aware of the concerns which face this community. Already, he has performed the services for two young people who lost their lives through violence. This exposure has prompted Mr. Morris and his staff to play a active role in healing our families and young people.

I asked Mr. Morris his thoughts and advice. As a man of compassion and a member of the community (Hilltop Merchants Association), he maintains a vision that is consistent with being involved and making a difference.

(Continue on page 5)

# IMAGING SYSTEMS/H.D. BAKER/MCDONALD-KLEIN: MAKING A DIFFERENCE

by Larry Norman

For too long, the saying “business as usual”, has meant not getting the job done. That saying has also taught most folk to keep business at a distance because business is out to “make a buck” at our expense. How refreshing it is to meet and work with people in business who have a sincere desire to get involved and help to the best of their abilities.

Take the three companies mentioned in this article. No, they didn’t ask for any special recognition. No, they didn’t offer to support our work if we could give them a tax right-off. The fact is, they just CARED.

There are a number of reasons businesses generally don’t get involved with charitable or worthy causes. Businesses who make contributions are generally swamped by every organization around, soliciting their support. The other major factor is our current economy. With recession and depression looming on the horizon, investors and businesses alike are shoring up, hoping to weather the financial storm.

I found that even my own optimism was overshadowed by the actions of these three businesses. Many of us will sympathize, even empathize with another persons state of affairs. But when asked to lend a hand... It is so true that actions speak louder than words. I was taken back by how receptive not only the salespeople were, but the entire staff and owners. I got the feeling that these were businesses built on the “family-owned” principles which saw our country through the World Wars and the Great Depression.

Neighbor helping Neighbor, that’s what business used to mean. By the actions of the people I’ve met, I think we’re heading in that direction again.

So from the staff of Happenings On Hilltop and the community, I wish to thank the following individuals:

Bruce, Rick and all the office staff at Tacoma Imaging Systems.

Tom and Ramona in Seattle at McDonald-Klein Business Machines.

Karen, Lance, Al and the entire staff at H.D. Baker Business Systems.

Your support gives those of us who are about the task of making a change for the better, another reason to get up tomorrow and do it again. Armful’s of thanks and may you all live long and your businesses prosper.

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If you wish to submit an article to the Hilltop Newsletter, you can mail it to:

**Happenings On Hilltop**

C/O Preston Ward

1809 So. 25th St.

Tacoma, WA 98405

Or call Larry Norman

Please send your comments and suggestions!!! Please have your articles in by the 15th of each month.

Note: Pictures and Art work can now be put in our newsletter. We will try to return your work as soon as possible.

Q.- Why did you come to Tacoma, having established a successful business back home?

A.- Because I saw the need for it. There are several other Funeral Homes within the city of Tacoma. I felt that Morris-Bates Mortuary could better assist the needs of the local community. Having been in the Funeral business all my life, and being Black myself, I feel I can identify better with the needs and concerns of those families who come to me.

Q.- Is it possible that in a time of such suffering, we can derive something positive, so that our brothers and sisters deaths may not be in vain?

A.- To die a wasteful death means no one benefits. For some though, to attend the funeral of an acquaintance, to witness the pain that it creates for victims loved ones, perhaps may allow that individual to see the futility in such a way of dealing with one another and possibly move that person to make a change in their own life. So for some, yes it does help to realize our mistakes and seek a change”.

Q.- It is not uncommon these days to find children giving birth to children. Do you have any advise for our young mothers and fathers of today who themselves, may have been left at an early age to fend for themselves?

A.- Not too long ago, people brought children into this world out of Love. Today that is not always the case. For whatever reason you have become a parent, know this:

you have an obligation not only to provide that child with the basic necessities of food and clothing, but also to provide guidance, love, and direction, not just through the formative years, but beyond. This child may someday be able to make a contribution in life. Don't let your child grow up by themselves. Teach your child by example. You must rear and mold that child the best you can”.

Q.- Let's be more specific. Can you suggest (using your own family as an example) some ideas?

A.- 1. Try to spend as much time as you can with your children.

2. Have a sense of humor. Laughter and love are just as addictive as any drug.

3. Encourage your children to come to you whenever they have a problem.

4. Encourage your children to do things for themselves. When I was 10, my father passed away. I learned at a young age the pride that came with doing things for myself, earning my own way.

5. Finally, I would encourage you to take your young to church, don't send them.

Throughout my own children lives, I have tried to follow these basic ideas, and can honestly say with great pride that they continue to have their minds focused in a positive direction.

Q.- What might you suggest to a young man who has an “ax to grind” and wants to call a person out. How can they come together and work out their differences without using guns or knives?

A.- I suggest you try and meet each other, alone, in a neutral place to try and create some dialogue. Try and discuss why your advisory is so hostile. Be patient and make a sincere effort to talk. It doesn't require any character to be violent, but it does to sustain yourself. If you try to understand each other and realize that we need one another to survive, you might find that you both have some common solutions to the problem.

## FOCUS ON THE FAMILY

### WHEN KENNY TALKS, PEOPLE LISTEN

by *Larry Norman*

If you've ever driven down South K Street and noticed a big white bus parked in front of a house on the corner of 20th Street, that's where Kenny lives. No, Kenny doesn't drive the bus, he can't. Although Kenny is home everyday, you won't see him walking in his yard, he can't.

At six years of age, Kenny should be in school with lots of friends and plenty of activity to build a strong and healthy mind and body. But most of Kenny's friends are adults, care-givers. Kenny attends "Special Education" classes which his family members feel are grossly inadequate.

I met Kenny and Victora Willis, his grandmother at Safeway. What caught my eye was Kenny's elaborate chair. There was almost every type of "assist" device imaginable on this child's wheelchair. Just to survive another day, Kenny has a Tracheotomy, he is Ventilator Dependent, he has to somehow deal with seven different types of Muscular Dystrophy and he receives his meals through a Gastro-ostomy Tube.

Emotionally moved, I asked Victora if I could do a story for the newspaper about Kenny. She was glad to oblige.

A few days later, a friend and I paid a visit to Kenny's house. We were greeted by a huge Great Dane named Spencer. Peeping through the front door, I could see a large hospital bed in the living room along with all of Kenny's essentials. "We don't have the room to put him anywhere else. I rent the house and can't do any remodeling", said Victora. "We need a bigger house."

Victora began to explain the history of how Kenny and she came to live on this corner in Hilltop. A native of Tacoma, Victora didn't have a problem moving to Hilltop with Kenny. The problems came from agencies and care givers who felt it a bit too risky to venture down to Hilltop to assist Kenny. "Kenny's Doctor is up in Seattle. We have to transport him regularly by Cabulance, but they too are bowing out stating that Kenny requires too much technical assistance to transport. What Kenny and I really need is our own transportation."

Transportation indeed. The large city bus in front of the house is a huge reminder of just how far things are out of focus for Kenny and Victora. Imagine trying to go to Safeway and finding a parking spot with a city bus, or maybe going to Wright's Park for a picnic? One begins to question the reasoning behind sending aid to foreign countries when there is so much need here in our own back yard.

Through it all, Victora has kept her spirit up. When asked what she needed to keep Victora happy, she replied "I like to play cards, but I don't have many visitors. If I have my cigarette's, pop and someone to spell me from time to time with watching Kenny, I'm fine."

Fellow Hilltop Citizens, can we not spare the necessary resources and time to assist a family in need? Are our problems so overwhelming that we cannot see a need as big as a city bus? We don't have to go to church every Sunday to do something positive, something that God can smile about. We just need to allow ourselves

to be moved by situations and just DO THE RIGHT THING.

If you would like to help out Victora and Kenny, why not call 383-2096. I would suggest that you just stop by, but Spencer might not know you, so please call first! Oh yes, this story was about When Kenny Talks... Well, Kenny has difficulty speaking because of all the life support. However, as my friend and I were leaving, Kenny put together would sounded and felt like "I LOVE YOU". Just goes to show you, it's not what you say, it's how you say it.

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## ATTENTION!!!

Now you can advertise in Happenings On Hilltop! If you are a church, business, organization or an individual, if you want to get the word out about your program, service, or what have you, let us help you. A 3X2 column block is \$40.00 per month, or \$5.00 per line per month. If you need special graphics for your advertisement, call Offspring Enterprises at 383-1252.

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## QUOTES

Here are a few quotes to help you along with your day. A Few of them are from local residents.

Your home is where you sleep. Your community is where you live. -Mark Milligan

Don't worry about swallowing your pride. It has no cholesterol.

The surest way to mishandle a problem is to avoid facing up to it.

To err is human; to blame it on somebody else is even more human.

Everything is funny as long as it happens to someone else. -Will Rogers

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### THE WORLD HAS NEED OF YOU

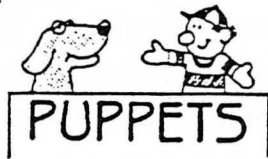
*By Evelyn Whitell*

If it's ever so small the part you take,  
The world has need of you.  
Be it big or little the effort you make,  
the world has need of you.  
If it's only a thought you give by the way,  
If it's only love's word you pause to say,  
It's a part that nobody else can play,  
So the world has need of you.  
By your smile you can change another's life;  
By a word you can bring peace out of strife;  
Then lift your head and never say die;  
Count every blessing, stop every sigh.  
Get busy... don't let a chance slip by.  
For the world has need of you.

# Sidewalk Super Club

... for children three years and older,  
each week through the summer at a location near you

**SPECIAL TREATS**

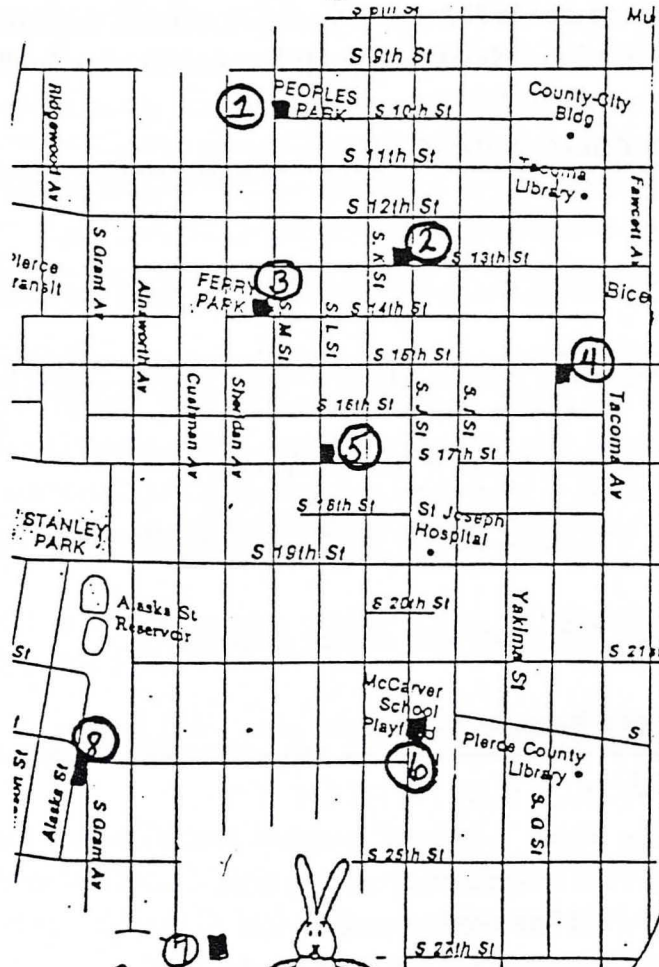


**STORIES**

Starting Tuesday June 23rd  
and Wednesday June 24th  
Look for us  
every Tuesday and Wednesday  
at the following locations  
thru August 25



1. Tuesdays, 10 A.M. Vacant lot behind People's Park, the corner of 10th & "M".
2. Tuesdays, 11 A.M. AME parking lot at the corner of 13th and "J".
3. Tuesdays, 1 P.M. Ferry Park, Sheridan & 14th
4. Tuesday, 2 P.M. Corner of 15th and "G", Behind the "G" Street Shelter



5. Wednesday, 10 A.M. Backside of People's Center 17th and "L".
6. Wednesday 11 A.M. McCarver Elementary, 22nd & "J"
7. Wednesday, 1 P.M. Apts. at Sheridan & 27th
8. Wednesday, 2 P.M. Vacant Lot, 23rd & Alaska

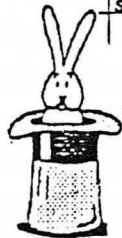
**GAMES**

LOOK FOR  
**PASTOR JEFF**  
&  
**THE BRIGHT GREEN SUPER CLUB TRUCK**

Why the Super Club?

Super Club is designed to develop wholesome values, Christian faith and good citizenship in the lives of the children of Tacoma. During the summer months the Super Club comes to the children with the Super Club Truck. When school begins in the fall we bus the children to the gymnasium of Life Center at South 18th and Union Streets. For further information on our program, please call 756-5300 and ask for Pastor Jeff.

**PRIZES**



**MAGIC**

**SKITS**  
**FUN!**





Happenings on Hilltop  
Classified Section

This is NEW our classified section, yes that's right, we now have a classified section for ALL. If you wish to place an in our newsletter, here is our rates.

Rates

Advertisement:

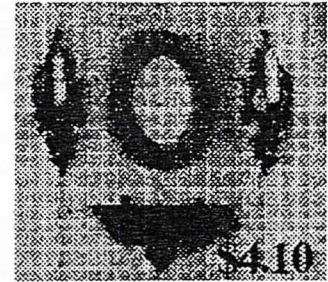
\$40.00 per 3x2 square/mo. \*  
\$38.50 per mo. if paid qtrly  
\$36.00 per mo. if paid annual

\*If you don't have an advertisement already, we will be glad to design one for you. Our rates are \$2.00 per square inch. Contact Preston at Offspring Enterprises, 383-1252 .

Your Ad here  
for \$40  
18 point Times  
14 point Helvetica  
12 point London  
10 point Calligraphy  
9 point

To Order send the coupon below

COUPON			
Name _____	Item	QTY	Price
Address _____	A		\$4.10
City _____ State _____ Zip _____	B		\$13.95
Telephone ( ) _____	Sub Total _____		
Send check or money to, Payable to Offspring Enterprises	7.8 % for WA Sales Tax _____		
Offspring Enterprises	S&H \$1.50		
Dept. HillAds	Grand Total _____		
1809 So. 25th St.	<input type="checkbox"/> I am interested in Sub Wholesaler		
Tacoma WA 98405	Kit, Please send me information.		
Allow 4 to 6 week deliver			



A

A. Baroque mirror, shelf and candle set. Plastic. Retail at \$8.95. With this order you pay only \$4.10, that's over 50% off

B. Three Elephants on a see-saw in the park. Porcelain. 5 1/4 high, 4 1/2 diameter. Tune: It's A Small World. Retail at \$29.95 With this order you pay only \$13.95, that's over 50% off



B

**Offspring Enterprises**

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computer programs.  
Graphics design  
This newsletter is one example of  
our work.  
Call 383-1252 for details.  
Ask for Preston

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SUBSCRIBE !!!**

Now you can have Happenings On Hilltop all year. It's the easiest way to keep informed about your neighborhood without leaving home!

For a donation of just 6.00 a year.

Send check or money order to:

**Happenings On Hilltop**  
1809 South 25th Street  
Tacoma, Washington 98405

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

## Important Phone Numbers

Here are some important phone numbers to help you in the event that you are experiencing problems.

Cut them out and keep them Handy.

**EMERGENCY (POLICE, FIRE) - 911**

**Crack Hotline - 475-CRAK**

**Hilltop Action Coalition - 597-4808**

**Safe Streets - 272-6824**

**Crime Prevention - 591-5883**

**Abandoned Autos - 591-5926**

**Refuse Department - 591-5544**

**Recycling Department - 565-5955**

**Larry Norman (Editor) - 272-8133**



Editorial Assistant: Preston A. Ward, Sr.

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**The purpose of this newsletter is to provide inspiration, information and direction to the residents, organizations and businesses on Hilltop.**