

Happenings On Hilltop

Hilltop Neighborhood

Volume 2, Number 9

May 1992



MAY-DAY, MAY-DAY!!!

By: Larry Norman

That's right folks, it's May! This is such a wonderful time to be here in the Pacific Northwest. There are a number of tulip and daffodil festivals throughout the state along with a number of spring time events. If you get a chance, why not take the kids to Northwest Trek or Point DeFiance. If you really feel like some fun, head up to Seattle and visit the Seattle Center or the Waterfront.

Here in the local Hilltop Area there are a number of things going on also. Many landscaping and home projects are getting underway (that reminds me, my yard is a sight!). This is a good sign because generally when people spend the time and effort to beautify their property, the entire community can not be far behind. Give yourselves a well deserved pat on the back!

One thing to remember; there are many elderly or disabled residents who can not work on their yard. If you know someone on your block, why not take a couple of hours one day and make someone happy by cutting their yard or giving them a hand with a small project. If there are larger projects that need addressing, get together with some other neighbors, identify the specific job and see if maybe the Hilltop Action Coalition can help. One of the main focuses for HAC this year is Community Beautification. So give them a call at 597-4808.

Last months issue received tremendous response. Many of the responses were from people who live outside the Hilltop area. Most said they weren't aware that so many positive things were going on in this area. Surprise !!! Let us continue to see ourselves and our community in a positive light so that others may see the difference as well. P.S. We could sure use some donations to pay for paper and printing costs!!! PEACE.

Happenings on Hilltop can be found at the following locations starting the first week of each month:

Location	Address	Location	Address
Safeway	11th & Sheridan	7-11	19th & K Street
A.M./P.M.	19th & K Street	Kentucky Fried Chicken	6th & Sprague
Maytag Laundromat	6th & Sprague	Pinches Deli	6th & Division
K Street Bar & Grill	11th & K Street	Lucky 7	9th & K Street
Sam and Terry's Barber Shop	17th & K Street	Bob's Bar-B-Q Pit	911 So. 11th Street
UTRA	1023 So. K Street	Your Fish House	1814 So. K Street
MLK Center	1424 Tacoma Ave. So., Suite A	Silver Screen Video	2024 #G 6th Ave.
* Northwest Dispatch	1108 South 11th Street		
University of Puget Sound, Cafeteria		Tacoma Community College, Cafeteria	
* Indicates new arrivals.			

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.

So without further ado, let's get rolling and see what's HAPPENING ON HILLTOP!!!

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SPECIAL NOTES:

* A world of thanks to Jack Price and the Ted Brown Music Company for helping make dreams a reality for the youth on Hilltop!!!

* A warm welcome to Lieutenant Phil Gainey, the new Sector 1 Commander for the Tacoma Police Department.

EDITORIAL

by Larry Norman

Over the past few years I have had the opportunity to meet and work with many people who have had a strong desire to assist others who are less fortunate than themselves. Whether the motivation came from a religious conviction or just a personal commitment, it has been encouraging to see so many beautiful people from all walks of life, from all races and backgrounds helping Hilltop to see and realize her potential.

While I submit these acknowledgments to the many volunteers and organizations who have pitched in, attention must also be given to those residents who live in the area and reap the benefits, yet choose not to participate. Since the beginning of this newsletter, we have attempted to give Hilltop residents opportunities to get involved. We have made opportunities available for children as well as adults to make a difference, yet only a fraction of the Hilltop community makes the effort to make a difference.

I can only speak on what I see and hear or the conversations I have with people. Many Hilltop residents come to me expressing displeasure with the City, the Police Department or even other residents. Yet when I ask if there is anything they would be willing to do to resolve the issue, they usually become offended, as if it were my job to solve their problems.

As many of you know by now, there is practically nothing I won't do to assist someone. I do however reserve the right to differ with an individual if he or she is not willing to participate in the resolution process themselves. Granted, our society has done everything to perpetuate the situation of dependency and co-dependency. We have all but stopped handling our own affairs. There is an agency to handle just about anything, if the price is right. Often times, the price is relinquishing our ability to do and think for ourselves.

There will always be a need for people, groups and agencies to help and assist those who are in need. Our morality demands it. At some point though, we must take our turn at being the helper instead of always the helpee. It is actually very healthy for us to help someone else. We want to balance the giving and the taking.

If you are one who has been giving so much of your time that your own personal life is suffering, you, it is well deserved. If you are one who has been receiving assistance financially or spend some time refilling the community chest. If you don't have funds or resources do just fine. Believe me, if your willing, someone can sure use whatever help

take some time for otherwise, why not to donate, your time will you can give.

It's all about choice. We can choose to be seen as a proud, that regardless of how much is given, never really learns how as much as a community decision. Take a look in the mirror GIVER or a TAKER?" If you see the latter, why not GIVE something to help our community and himself. Give me a that will make both of you happy!

resourceful community, or one to walk. It's an individual choice and ask that person "are you a the TAKER an opportunity to do call and I'm sure I can find something



PEACE.

FAMILIES

by Lakiesha Young

A family is a mixture of all different people.

We're man made structures, so of course we make mistakes.

We have wibbles here and wobbles there but many lines are straight.

A family is made out of love and not out of hate and filled with many open gates, to welcome all folks.

Families are people we call in time of need.

We call on the big giant roots that have sprouted from the seed.

But to make a strong family there has to be love. We send precious praises to the great Lord above.

AFRAID TO ASK!!

by Preston A. Ward

Today I found out that my neighbor had been robbed. This is very upsetting, knowing someone right next door to you is being victimized. The thing that bothers me the most is that they were not home, they had some emergency come up to put my friend in the hospital. Had I known this, I would have kept a better eye on their property. As it was, some low life took things from them. Maybe it was for drugs, maybe it was for food. You never know.

My neighbors are very good people. I would step out of my way to assist them. They now know that anytime they need me, they can call.

I now tell all my neighbors, don't be afraid to ask someone to watch your yard, your car, your house. If we can not trust our neighbor, then who else can we trust?

If you know that your neighbor is not home (maybe they work at night, or are gone away), watch their stuff. Call the police if you see something. Lets work together to make Hilltop the safe, trusting place we are proud to call home!

Love ya All

FRIENDS AND FAMILY SAY FAREWELL TO "SAMIE" YOUNG SR.

by Larry Norman

If you have been around Hilltop for any length of time, chances are you knew Samie Young. On Tuesday, April 28, Samie returned to his maker in the presence of many friends and loved ones. Samie has left many of us with reason to be grateful just to have known him.

Samie gave the Hilltop community a beautiful wife, two sons, five daughters, eleven grandchildren and a sense of family that many thought had ceased to exist here on Hilltop. All you had to do was drive down Wilkeson street and you knew there was something special going on at the Young's home. The extended family evolved around the patriarch of the Young's Clan. On any given day, you would see grandchildren, nephews, nieces, daughters, sons and a host of friends making their daily pilgrimage to Mr. Young's home.

I personally have come to love and respect Mr. Young for all the insight and inspiration he has given me. Many times, I felt like giving up, trying to make a difference in this community or became frustrated about the responsibilities of being a father. Mr. Young would patiently listen and then, with the softness and understanding of one who has been there, tell me of a situation that was similar in his life and how he overcome it.

The night before Mr. Young passed on, I visited him. His family, always gracious, allowed me as much time as I wanted. I told Mr. Young that it was o.k. to leave now and that he should be proud of the family he had raised. Everyone was going to be alright. Mr. Young squeezed my hand. Before I left, I kissed him on his forehead and told him I loved him.

I came over the next morning with my son. I had already told him that Mr. Young had "gone to be with God". My son did not seem worried at all. He merely asked if I would accompany him in the room where Mr. Young lay. Once inside, my son stared at Mr. Young for a moment, looked at me, said good-bye and kissed him on the forehead. He too, had a special relationship with Mr. Young. He too, had been taught by a man who loved us all.

I only shed a few tears after I saw Mr. young, but not because I will miss him. He will always be part of me. He always stressed that I should continue the work I was doing here on Hilltop and that he was proud of me. I looked at his beautiful family and knew that I would always have a glimpse of him in each one of their smiles or the twinkle in his grandchildren's eyes.

Samie Young and his family are real life examples of the moral character that exists here on Hilltop. It has been an honor to know and love Mr. Young. I only hope that I can make a fraction of the impression on a young man as Mr. Young has made on my son and I. Hopefully I will have accomplished something worth while with my life. To Mr. Samie Young and his entire family I say Thank You for all that you have given us.



SOAP AND SUPPORT HELP CLEAN UP THE HOOD

by Larry Norman

On April 11, five young people along with Commander Whitehead (KFOX radio) and the local Safeway Store on 11th and M street, braved adverse weather to pull off a successful car wash to help raise money for the youth programs on Hilltop. Although the weather refused to cooperate, the residents were out in full force.

Music was provided and many shoppers stopped by to give moral support for the efforts of the group. In all, \$86.00 were raised. Considering that it rained off and on during the entire car wash, the participants were pleased with how people really came out to support the kids. Safeway manager Erin Ford asked if the group could come back and do another car wash. Many workers at the store made donations (thanks).

Commander Whitehead has wanted to get involved with turning things around on The Hill for quite sometime. He has been working with a group called the Hilltop Merchants Association who also supported this effort. Phil Morris (Morris-Bates Mortuary) another member of the Association came out to have his car washed and even participated in washing cars. "This is great what people are doing up here. These are the type of projects we want to support", says Phil.

While it is clear that things are not going to change overnight here on The Hill, activities such as this car wash demonstrate the desire by both residents and organizations to make a difference. Further car washes are planned as well as other youth activities that include camping and field trips, remote control car races, music and talent shows to name a few. If you have children between the ages of 6 and 18, call Larry Norman at 272-8133. Let's make it fun to be a kid again. Special thanks to Commander, Erin, T-Money, J-Bird, Justin, Bert, Tiffany, Phil and all the supporters who had their cars washed or gave moral support.

PRAYER & PRAISE GATHERING A SUCCESS

by Larry Norman

On April 18, People's Park was the sight of an event that can be described as "Wonderful". The Women's Prayer Connection, along with Faith In Action held a gathering where some 250 people turned out. The theme was to "Help Your Community To Become All God Wants It To Be".

I spoke with Sister Laura Neal who was present. "We were hoping for 500 people to show up. It wasn't the number of people, but the spirit of the people present that mattered. When it was over, many people asked when we would do this again".

Plans are currently underway to return to the park every Saturday. The time is tentatively set for 12 noon to 1 P.M.. Sister Neal is optimistic that her group will play an active role in regaining the Hilltop Neighborhood through active involvement with community residents in projects such as this. She is also hoping that more churches and residents will begin taking "Gods ministry" to the streets.

Programs such as this should be supported by all persons of good will, no matter what conditions exist in their lives. They say that prayer changes things. We have prayed for our leaders, world peace, our children and any number of good causes. Surely the Hilltop Neighborhood deserves our prayers, don't you think? To all who participated in the gathering, Thank You and God Bless!

CAUTION: IT'S SPRING

by Scott Perks

It's that time of year when flowers are blooming, the grass is growing and birds are singing; the beautiful things in life. However, it seems that from now through fall the drug dealers and thieves also appear in greater number. BE AWARE - keep your dead bolts locked when you leave home, take down the tag numbers of cars you are not familiar with cruising your neighborhood and also note the description of suspicious people so you can have this information for the police. The Tacoma Police Department is doing a very fine job but they can't do it alone. They need our help with neighborhood watches and to back them up in court in order for our streets to be safe for our families. Catalina Apartments is dedicated to taking back our streets and making Hilltop a safe community for all of us.

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

Hilltop Newsletter

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.

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

Hey Kids



Saturday, May 9 is.....

SUPER CLUB T-SHIRT SATURDAY

EVERYONE COMING TO SUPER
CLUB WILL RECEIVE THEIR
OWN SUPER CLUB T-SHIRT.
YOU WON'T WANT TO MISS
THIS SATURDAY

BE LOOKING FOR THE BUS
AROUND 10:00 A.M.

**SUPER CLUB, 1717 S. PUGET SOUND,
TACOMA, WA 98405 (206) 756-5300**



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