

Nightwatch News

September, 2016

SMH

By Rev. Rick Reynolds



In internet slang SMH means "Shaking My Head." It's what we instinctively do when we learn something that is inconceivable.

Last week, I was with a lovely group of community-minded people in a suburban setting. The average age was probably 75 - and I may be low, because there were a bunch in their upper 80s. They were a very appreciative audience for my talk about homelessness.

I told them about the previous night on the street. We took ice cream bars to a homeless camp. One

of the homeless guys was a white collar worker. He said he will have his own place on the first of the month. "But it sure won't be in this neighborhood," he exclaimed. "Those places over there," he gestures toward the south - just a few blocks away from the camp. "Those places cost \$2,000 for a one-bedroom."

I told this story to the octogenarians the next day. The average apartment in Seattle now rents for \$2,179 a month.

All of a sudden, a room full of old people were "SMH." In unison. It's just unbelievable.

Lord, hear our cry on behalf of our homeless friends and neighbors. Save, oh Lord! ●

Nightwatch needs your financial support—keeping people sheltered, housing homeless seniors, and providing for basic needs. Thank you!

What an adventure!

By Lisa Connolley

I gave notice this month to the beloved Operation Nightwatch. Allergies and health issues are inviting me to move in a new direction.

The next morning on my way to work, I saw a woman I recognized from my dozen plus years with Mary's Place. She was having a psychotic episode, coming towards me, shouting obscenities, stepping into traffic.

She approached me saying "blah, blah, blah, stupid white girl!" At arm's reach, she glared at me, paused, and said, "Oh, sorry, you fed me once when I was hungry." She continued her angry rant up the street.

I am so grateful for all my years of service with homeless and poor people. Unlike that unnamed woman on the street, I will remember the names of our Nightwatch seniors. I will remember their gifts, graces and idiosyncrasies. Nightwatch is a very personally close place, with only 24 senior residents to get to know in two and a half years, and so many wonderful adventures. I will remember the dozens of volunteers who brought joy with their talents, and the staff who pour heart and soul into their work. I came here for the mission and the people, and I wasn't disappointed. Thank you everyone for this wondrous stop on the journey of life. ●

We will all miss Lisa, and look forward to great things for her, and for us. Thank you Lisa, for pouring yourself into the lives of our senior tenants!



NIGHTWATCH

**Serving the night
community in the
name of Christ**



**Please join us for our
Hero of the Homeless
Luncheon 2016!**

Tuesday, October 11
Seattle Center
Fisher Pavilion

- or -

Saturday, October 15
Bellevue
Presbyterian
Church

More info and RSVP at:
Seattlenightwatch.org/hero
Hero@seattlenightwatch.org

**Volunteer Orientation
Open House**

The best way to learn about
Nightwatch and the many
volunteer opportunities.

Thursday, Sep 1, 2016
7:30–8:00 pm

RSVP or questions:
info@seattlenightwatch.org

Memorials & Tributes

Memorials

Kenneth Covey
Marilyn Anderson
Marie Davidson
Lola Davidson
Tony Domzalski
Mark & Lisa Domzalski
Pat Domzalski
Marie Erickson
Judy Hurley
Don Everson
Jack & Merle Patterson
Byron Forbes
Bud & Trudy Forbes
Keith & Kay Forbes
George & Carolyn Rippee
Pete Gudger
Cheryl Gudger
Malvern Higgins
Linda Martin

Henry Hoffman
Marlyn Hoffman
Don Kimble
Dean Kimble
Ron Kimble
Heather & Carl Craven
Al Lobb
John & Jody Fenlason
Albert & Velma Miller
Vern & Marilyn Lolley
Robert Burry Pelzel
Donna Rodda
Dick Shipe
Gary & Theresa Shipe
Jane Shipe
Stephen Shipe
& Marta Pasztor
LuElla Snow
Lisa & Jim Lady

Louise Solemslie
Allen Solemslie
Mary Speltz
Anna Strahan
Glenn & Shirley Weed
Andy & Ramona McBeth
Carolyn & Curtis Neitsch
George & Carolyn Rippee
Jim & Cynthia Weaver
Gilbert Weiss
John Weiss
& Corry Venema-Weiss
Leonard Woodgate
Carolyn & Curtis Neitsch
Mary Wooldridge
Holly Boone

Tributes

Sharon & Pat Dennis's 50th Anniversary
Sally Lower
Gerry Goff
Harvey & Geri Nelson
Sharon Green
Robert Petersen
Mary Nichols
Cammy Hendrix
Mike Potts
Catharine Fletcher
Arlene Weigand
Kathy Higbee
Wonderful staff
Yukio & Julianne Kumasaka

Relatives

By Ann Sakaguchi

I am blessed with family. Not just immediate family, but extended family too, like siblings of in-laws and cousins of cousins. This summer has been full of family gatherings, with lots of fun and food. I won't lie; sometimes, some of us don't get along. Sometimes, someone is oddly missing at these gatherings. It's family; we pray for healing of the hurts and for reconciliation.

Our seniors and homeless guests have family, too. They may be estranged or maybe just lost track of each other or maybe they are homeless, too. At Nightwatch, we're in the business of helping people.

When Walter moved into our building, he'd been staying alone for years at the Mission. He'd lost touch with his relatives, who live in the deep South. With only their names and their last known residences, our Housing Coordinator began to search for Walter's family. Located in Florida, they sent a plane ticket for Walter to visit his ailing mother, who was in a nursing home at the time. This contact led to Walt's son finding him too. Father and son reunited after many years, before son was transferred away by the military. Nightwatch helps people.

And then there's Edward. He remembered his cousin as a young man, who he had last seen decades ago. When his cousin was located, 83 year-old Edward was astonished to see that his cousin had become middle-aged. Cousin now checks up on Edward regularly. Nightwatch helps people.

Is there someone in your family you're wondering about? Is someone wondering about you? Sure, for many, many reasons, it's not always easy, but we're still family.

Thank you for being part of the Nightwatch family, through your prayers, your participation, your financial support. ●

Your support now will help us get caught up from the summer doldrums. Thank you!



Shopping List

Please help by collecting these items for us to distribute to our homeless friends and tenants (travel sizes are preferred):

- Deodorant
- Lotion
- Lip balm
- Shave cream
- Hand sanitizers
- Sunscreen
- Cough drops
- Pain relievers
- Kleenex packs
- Toothbrushes
- Toothpaste
- Kitchen towels—new or gently used
- Bulk drink mix

For more information about these items please contact:
liz@seattlenightwatch.org

For a variety of other needed items, please check out our

Amazon Wish List:

<http://tinyurl.com/zjo64fd>

Shelter Dispatch Center & Senior Apartments

302 14th Ave. S
Seattle, WA 98144

Contact us:
PO Box 21181
Seattle, WA 98111

206-323-4359 Administration
206-860-4296 Senior Housing
206-329-2099 Shelter Dispatch

Info@seattlenightwatch.org
www.seattlenightwatch.org



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