Nightwatch News

Blessed rest By Rev. Rick Reynolds



I worked briefly for a temp service – doing physical labor for minimum wage. One work place was in a foundry, stacking heavy ingots as quickly as I could. At the end of the day they were impressed. "Can you come back tomorrow?" they pleaded. I was pretty sure I wouldn't be able to move – at all – for at least 48 hours, so I declined the honor.

Our homeless friends' experiences are even worse. Sometimes they work, and don't get paid. They are hired to do the work no one else wants to do. They tell about working without a break.

One night at our Dispatch Center, one homeless guy was gooey with tar residue. His shoes were covered, as well as his pants and shirt. Without new clothes, no one would hire him again – even

as a laborer. We had to scrub the chair down after he left. He worked all day for a pittance, and then had to replace everything he was wearing.

It made me want to weep for him.

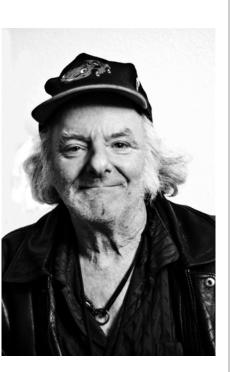
Lord, make us aware of those workers who help to build this city, but are not able to enjoy its benefits. Grant them your blessed rest.

Your support means Nightwatch can provide food and shelter for those who are working, and those who cannot. God bless. ullet

A senior smile By Marlene Poland Senior Housing Coordinator

We welcomed a sweet old man into Nightwatch housing. A smile played across his face. The months of sleeping on a mat in a shelter were over. He is no longer homeless. He now has keys in his pocket, and his own bed. What a relief!

Nightwatch is serving more seniors now than at any time in our fifty-year history. Seniors on fixed income can't keep up with Seattle rents. **Instead of grandma baking cookies, she's putting her things in storage and sleeping in her car.** Last year our shelter program served 395 different individual seniors, up from 254 just a few years ago. That is too many homeless seniors.



Thanks to your support, Nightwatch offers an alternative – safe, simply-furnished rooms, with shared kitchens and bathrooms. The 24 seniors become family for each other. They share stories, eat meals, take field trips, and hang out. **They have all experienced that moment of relief, when they are no longer facing homelessness**. They have all had that smile on their face at some point.

The rent at Nightwatch is affordable because people like you volunteer and give financially. You should join us. You just might see a senior smile! •



NIGHTWATCH

Serving the night community in the name of Christ

Volunteer Orientation Open House

The best way to learn about Nightwatch and the many volunteer opportunities. Thursday, June 1, 2017 7:30–8:00 pm RSVP or questions: info@seattlenightwatch.org

Memorials & Tributes

Memorials

Bill Branom Mary Branom Charley Bush Ginny Larkins Marie Davidson Lola Davidson Tony Domzalski Mark & Lisa Domzalski Pat Domzalski Michael Fendrich Marla Hoffman Ozie & Ora Gibson Hal Gibson Pete Gudger **Cheryl Gudger** Mary Ellen Ingersoll Jim & Jan Sullivan Paul Keating & all who died on the streets homeless Pam & Clay Herbst Patty Rose Kemp Lisa Connolley

Ron Kimble Carl & Heather Craven Al & Maxine Lobb John & Jody Fenlason Paul & Tina Miller **Daniel Martin** Linda Martin **Charlie Maslow** Lyle & Shelley Staley Mark McLaughlin Arnold Becker Paul Sakaguchi Sr. Stacie & Paul Sakaguchi Jr. May & Budd Seslar **Rick & Lorri Reynolds Rik Shafer** John & Ivy Conklin **Dick Shipe** Gary & Theresa Shipe Jane Shipe Louise Solemslie Allen Solemslie

Mary Speltz Greg & Kate Speltz Neal Stoddard Joy Lauderbaugh Don Tekawa Ron & Sharon Hirata Zollie & Sylvia Volchok **Tony Volchok** & Cindy Monsen Glenn & Shirley Weed Bud & Trudy Forbes Andy & Ramona McBeth Jim & Cynthia Weaver Gilbert Weiss John Weiss & Corry Venema-Weiss Mary Wooldridge Holly Boone

Tributes

Adam's twin babies Jim & Joan Barlow Mim Crouse's 90th birthday John & Jody Fenlason Deacon Larry McDonald Carol & Eric Paulson Mike Potts **Catharine Fletcher** Eva Rose Lisa Connolley S. Everett Fire Dept. & First Responders George & Carolyn Rippee Greg & Mary Speltz Robert Petersen Paul Staley Harvey & Geri Nelson

Shopping List

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

- Deodorant
- Lotion
- Shave cream
- Hand sanitizers
- Multi-vitamins
- Cough drops
- Pain relievers
- Kleenex packs
- Toothbrushes
- Toothpaste
- Bulk drink mix

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

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

Remembering Gene By Ann Sakaguchi

Eugene Vance came to live at Nightwatch the year after I started. He was 70 years old at the time and needed someplace to live so he would not become homeless. I knew him for almost 13 years. I will remember him.

Our tenants stay as long as they can pay the minimal rent and manage living on their own. This is not always easy for people over 62. Over the years, we've seen many come and go. Sometimes they find a better subsidized apartment and improve their situation. We are happy for them when they move, and we

welcome them when they return, whether it's just a visit or they move back because they missed us. But with time, illness overcomes our beloved seniors, so they require more care than we can provide.

Gene was a charming, intelligent and respectful gentleman, from the East Coast. He served honorably in the Korean War, and fell in love with Seattle. He had done a lot of living and was a great story-teller. He rolled with most anything; through it all, he entertained us with this wit and wisdom. As the years went by, he adapted to the changes in our Senior Housing program and made friends, who became like family. For our part, we walked alongside him, as his body aged. Gene made a home for himself at Nightwatch.

The last years were hard for Gene. Health issues piled on top of each other resulting in countless doctor and ER visits. His strongest desire, always, was to come home to his own place, to be where he had known happiness.

Truth be told, his room at Nightwatch was nothing fancy. There is one window. The bathroom is down the hall. Why was this humble place so important to Gene?

I think it was community. His friends were here. His family could visit him here. We were here to encourage him. And you were here with us, through your financial support, making it possible for Gene to live here.

Eugene Vance passed away on April 27, 2017.

Rest in Peace, beloved Gene. We miss you.

