

Street

BREEZE

A publication of WIND Youth Center



Winter/Spring 2008

Record and book stores join Broadway's Tower Corners

By Sharday Pryor and Brittany Purdy

Located in front of Tower Theatre and Tower Cafe, this fountain is one reason the corner of Broadway and Land Park is a popular city spot. Photo right: the Avid Reader's new home



Photos by Sharday Pryor

Many people know that the Tower Books and Tower Records stores located on Broadway for many years are no longer there. There is nothing to worry about. We might have lost two great landmarks, but we now have the Avid Reader bookstore and R5 Records. As *Street Breeze* reporters, we wanted to give our readers an inside look at these two new additions to the popular "Tower Corner," which also includes the Tower Theatre and Tower Café.

R5 Records

R5 Records' customer service was good, but it wasn't the best. As we entered the store, the staff was talking



about some inappropriate things. If a family had happened to walk in at that time, it would have created a bad scene. While we walked around we had to ask for assistance a variety of times. What I can say is the store has very good prices on its wide variety of CDs and DVDs. Within R5's many different genres of music,

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Roaming the streets of Russia: One girl's tale

My friend Tiera calls me Bom-Biscuit, but other than that I'm known as Russia.

I was born in Orsk, Russia in 1989. When I was five years old my dad died from Tuberculosis. My mom died when I was six from the same disease. I remember being scared, lost and confused. I didn't know if I should cry my eyes out or be happy that she would not be hurting anymore. After the doctors left, I went into the room where my mom was "sleeping" and noticed that the windows and the mirror were covered. Also, all the pictures were face down. That's when my grandma told me my mother will never wake up. I didn't cry. I didn't even look at her. I just

went to the kitchen and sat by the window looking out.

At that time, my brother was in jail. We sent a request for him to come out for my mom's funeral. We got no response, so we decided to keep my mom in my room for a day or so. She was in a coffin next to my bed. My grandma put a bucket of juice underneath the coffin because she believed that would keep the smell away. I didn't pay attention to the smell. At night I would go to sleep next to my mother, acting like she really was sleeping.

Then the day came for my mom to be buried. I still didn't cry. When we buried her, I remember the only thing we had to write her name in was in lipstick. After we buried her, everyone went to our house for a wake.

My brother never made it to my mom's funeral; he wasn't even there for my dad's. The thing that really sucked is my brother came out of jail a day after we buried my mom. When my brother found out what happened, he was so heartbroken that he got involved with heroin. Heroin took over his whole life. He gave up. He gave up on his own life, and most of all he gave up on ME.

At the age of six and a half, I realized that I was on my own—with no one there to love me or care about me. That's when I started to steal and stay out late at night. I would come home around 3-4:00 a.m., and no one got mad at me. I was my own boss and I loved it. At times I got lonely and scared.

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Poetry

A yelp for faith **Angenetta Shabazz**

I'm reaching out for you,
But you don't feel me.
I would cry but it falls on deaf ears.
I need a purpose, and you may be it.
I would love to be loved by you,
but you don't seem to be concerned.
I am not a quitter so I won't quit.
"Lord Jesus please give me a sign,
Telling me if all my effort is worth it.
You know my heart,
So you know my intentions."
Now I must end sending the best wishes
To my loved ones who will never see
If my intentions landed me you.
Oh yeah, I'm sending best wishes
For your lost loved ones as well.

P.S.
Please don't forget about me!!
Love always, yours truly.

I PRAY FOR YOU

Each night I pray for you
As I lay down to rest,
I ask God to keep you safe
And give you all the best.
I pray that you remain grounded
And hold to your faith;
For God has great things in store
For those who patiently wait
I hope you believe in love
And are able to love without fear,
I pray that you pray the same for me
And my existence. Yes
I pray this for you
my future companion,
but have I met you yet?

Tiera Avelino



A Little Poem

*I'll write a little letter,
I'll make it short and sweet,
I'll write it just for you,
I hope you keep it neat!
I'll write a little poem,
I'll write it just for you,
It will tell you all the things,
I want to do to you!
I'll keep a little secret
A soul I will not tell,
For if I tell, a soul
I will go to hell!*

Brittany Purdy

heart of pain

love is like the wind, it passes by
and leaves nothing behind
just passes through my heart
and wont let me enjoy the
feeling
the sensation of being cared for
by someone who really loves me,
desperate always
and all i end up with is a love
that never lasts long, my heart
is a heart of pain unable to love
someone longer than it wants to,
i always love, but does that
person love me?
questions are always painful
and difficult to take in
am i suppose to search the world
all my life? where will i go?
were will i search? i am tired
of searching and wondering
day by day. be all pain
and none of love?

tiera avelino

Poetry

The Best
By Kayla Gastelum

*You're the best I ever had
But I don't want to go too fast
You just seem to let out your feelings
And if we make love now,
Then you'll never know that,
I just want to hold you
And I never told you
That I want our love to last
So let's not move too fast
I love you more than making love,
So tell me what you're thinking,
Am I more than just a fantasy,
Cause I'm hurting baby boy you see,
That I just want to hold you, that I want
This love to last, so let's not
Move too fast.....*

Love is More

Love is more than just a thing to me,
An unfoolish love you see.
All you want is a kiss or a hug
Or the affections of a hardcore thug.
You have to realize what love
Comes down to, or what the hell
You're getting yourself in to.
You know when you love someone
And all your emotions have just begun.
You get so scared and run,
And you know you just wanna have fun.
I remember when I was in love
I didn't know what I was thinking of.
I want to be in love again.
I can wait until it begins. I hope it'll never end.
I wanna know what love really is.
Maybe it's a slow dance, while you're in the mood
For romance, and take the biggest glance
When you have the best chance.
You know when you have deep emotions.
You hide them and let it go. But you realize
You have to tell and go with the flow.
If I knew what love was, I should know that
I don't need money, cause my love
Is sweet as honey.
Sometimes I want to mingle, even when I'm not
Single. Sometimes love is blind and it loves to play
With your mind. I don't have time to be played like
I'm a disposable toy, especially by a stupid boy.
Love is a beautiful thing. Just say What you really
mean. Don't be tough and rough,
Cause that's how relationships get messed up.
I can relate when I say that I pushed you away,
And you cheated on me, and it felt like a bee
Just stung the hell out of me.

Tiera Avelino

The One I Ran To

Why did you have to leave?
Was it really your time to go?
Are you happy up there?
I need to know,
Please tell me.
I miss you.
I miss running to you when things
went wrong.
I miss how you were always there for me.
I miss your smile.
Please tell me I'll see you soon.
Tell me everything's gonna be okay
Cause I feel like I'm slipping.
I wish this wasn't real.
I wish this would've never happened.
Is there any way I can go back to that day
Just to say goodbye to you?
I know you're in a better place.
But I just wish I could see you again.
You were the only one I trusted.
You were my friend, teacher and role model.
I miss you.

Angie Garcia

**MY CHILDREN OF
THE SNOW**

By Jasmine Tashelle Jackson

The wind cooled my eyes as I stood in snow.
Frost formed along the trees as I played
with my children.
The woods around me seemed to glow with the
warmth of their faces.
Small snow white faces formed in front of
me as I faked death.
Soft, warm hands poked me and pulled
on my clothes.
I jumped up to surprise my youngest.
They scattered and then grinned at me
from behind the trees.
The clouds overhead said King was home.

Featured Artist: Andrea Garza



Are you an artist? Do you write poetry, essays or stories?
 Do you take great photographs?
 If so, why not submit your work for
 publication in
 Street Breeze

Editorial Submissions & Policy

We welcome contributions. Articles, essays, poems and other writing or story ideas submitted to Street Breeze will be reviewed and considered for publication by the newspaper's editorial committee. We reserve the right to refuse any submission. Unpublished articles or photographs will be returned only if accompanied by a self-addressed, stamped envelope. Profanity of any kind will not be

considered for publication. Editorial submissions will be edited according to standard APstyle guidelines and newspaper policy. All letters to the editor must be signed. Authors who wish to remain anonymous should so state. Poetry and graphics will not be edited. They will be published as submitted or not accepted for publication.

Send submissions to:

Street Breeze

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 Sacramento, CA 95838

EDITORIAL CONTENT

Articles expressed in this paper are the views of the writers and *Street Breeze* editorial staff; furthermore, opinions articulated in *Street Breeze* are not necessarily the perspective of WIND Youth Services.

Welcome to Street Breeze

A publication of
WIND Youth Center
*Teen Voices Making a
 Difference*

Our mission is to create a first-class newspaper that informs and entertains other teens and young adults, as well as the community at large.

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*If you look
closely, you can see
Nanuke smiling*



Pit bulls

By Brittany Purdy

Most people think that pit bulls are born to be aggressive. But you can't pin aggressiveness on an innocent new born puppy or even an older dog. Like you and me, they have to be taught or abused to be mean. This is only my opinion. And although a lot of people might agree, our opinions can only go so far.

I happen to have a red-nose pit bull. His name is Nunuke. He is about seven years old. He is all white with brown spots. He is the most loving, caring dog I have ever seen or had. He isn't perfect, and there are a couple of things that just make you want to pull your hair out sometimes. Like he has selective hearing, and he is like a little kid. I guess that is why we love him so much.

There is only one major incident of aggression I can think of. It was probably about a year or two ago. My brothers and sisters and I were out front playing catch with Nunuke. There was an older man walking down the street. He had a hiking stick in one hand. He started to walk up on our lawn, with the stick held up. Nunuke didn't like it, so he ran at the man, barking. We all yelled and screamed for him to come back, and he did. He backed up towards us kids not taking his eyes off the guy. As we apologized, he was already walking off.

Nunuke knew he was in trouble. He dropped his head and went straight into the house and laid down in the living room. My dad and mom yelled at him, and his punishment was that he was not allowed in the front yard for a while. Even though he was protecting us in a way, he had to know that it wasn't a good thing he had done.

That doesn't change any thoughts I have about pit bulls. I have never and will never judge a pit bull or any dog for that matter because of their breed or what other people say. You can't believe everything people say! Can you?

Game Play

Video Game: NFL Street Two

Player: Erick Purdy

NFL Street Two is about football. If you don't like football maybe this game will change your mind. It's all about making up these NFL teams. You can make the teams as big as you want. Nobody tells you you're doing it right or wrong. You make up the people and you create teams out of the people you make.

NFL Street Two is a good game, and it's tough. So when you first start you might want to put it on easy until you get used to—it's that fun.

The graphics and sound are normal. You can change the music on the game.

I played this game at my house, and I loved it. You have to convince someone to buy it for you

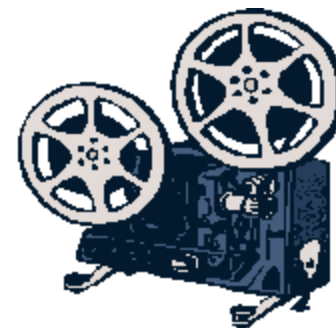
Game crazy \$14.99

Cinema

Movie: American Gangster

**Actors: Denzel
Washington, Russell
Crowe, Carla Gugino,
Dania Ramirez, Josh
Brolin**

Director: Ridley Scott



Reviewer: Timothy George

American Gangster is a movie based on two real-life people, a gangster and a cop. Well, it is really about a gangster, Frank Lucas (Denzel Washington), about how he got rich selling heroin, and about how the cop, Richie Roberts, played by Russell Crowe, sets out to get Lucas. You might say it's a classic story about good and evil. The movie takes place in Harlem during the 1970s.

I think *American Gangster* is a great movie about a gangster with some class. I liked seeing how much power this drug lord earned after starting out as a poor black boy who couldn't read or write. He was smart though.

The movie is good. I recommend it. But the ending leaves you wondering.

**** Out of Four

Cinema II

Movie: This Christmas

Starring: Chris Brown.

Laz Alonso, Columbus Short, Mekhi Phifer

Director: Preston Whitmore II

Reviewers: Anna Beallessio and Angelica Serrato

This movie takes place on Christmas, somewhere in the USA. It's a modern-day story of a family that gets together for Christmas and resolves their problems. It is about everyday life. There was no story, just family getting together to eat—too much eating. It was boring. It almost seemed like a reality show. If the movie makers had videotaped a day at the WIND Youth Shelter, it would have been better than the movie itself. The movie needed more drama, more action.

The best part of the movie was when Chris Brown woke up without a shirt and when he sang.

Do we recommend this movie? Noooooooo! It was a stinker
*Out of Four



He Says / She Says



**Advice
from
David and
Sharday**

Q: What do you do when adults criticize you too harshly?

Sharday: Listen to what they have to tell you. When they're finished, explain that they're being too harsh. Explain to them that they can still get their message heard while being soft and subtle.

David: Listen to what they say, then go away and let them cool down, or ask another adult to try to reason with them. Then go to your room and let off steam.

Q. I'm having trouble attending school due to some personal conflicts, what are my options?

Sharday: Speak to your school counselor or, depending on the conflict, speak to a police officer.

David: Talk to an adult about why you can't attend school.

Q. Why is it hard to find a job?

Sharday: There are many different reasons for many different people. But I think some people have either not finished school or are in positions where they find jobs but cannot come in at the time their boss or "would-be-boss" needs them to work.

David: It's hard to find a job because more than one person is applying and the manager does not always get back to you.

Q. You're being pressured to have an abortion, but you don't want to. What are your options and who can you go to for help?

Sharday: No one has the power to take away your rights. You have the right to decide for yourself if you think an abortion would be best for you. There are many organizations that can help you decide if abortion or adoption is right for you. There are also a lot of organizations that will help you prepare for the birth of your child as you prepare yourself to raise your newborn.

David: Abortions are not cool and not a good way to go. There is help out there and people that you can go to. Instead of having an abortion, you can give the baby up for adoption or give it to a family member until you get on your feet. There are counselors out there that can help you and family members that you can go to for help.

*Staff Note: If you need unbiased information about your pregnancy visit:
www.pregnancyoptions.com*



Eating Out With Kayla

Restaurant: Formosa Café

Quinine: Chinese

Guest Diner: Sharday Pryer

Where: Formosa Café

2424 Del Paso Blvd.

North Sacramento, CA

(Corner of El Camino Ave.)

Tel:(916) 925-3942



Reviewer: Kayla Gastelum

When we walked into to Formosa Café, my friend, Sharday, and I immediately felt at home. There was relaxing music floating in the air. You could smell the food cooking, and you could tell that this place was going to be good. As we walked to the table, my friend and I were looking around and checking out the place. Sharday pointed out the big Koi fish tank. Those fish are amazing. I pointed out all the Chinese signs. This place is peaceful. It has a strong sense of culture. It makes you sort of fall in love with the Chinese culture.

Our waiter was very kind and generous. I ordered a special combination dinner for one, which was one egg roll, sweet & sour pork, chicken chow mien, and pork fried rice. The price was \$7.95, which is not bad for all that food. Sharday ordered prawns with cashew nuts. The price of her meal was \$9.45, which was also a good deal because her plate was huge. Our food didn't take long to prepare. The food did not arrive at the same time. It was delivered around five minutes apart. When we took the first bite of our food, it warmed us from inside out, and that's a good feeling.

The food was excellent. This café didn't have any negatives. I strongly recommend you check out the Formosa Café.

*****Out of five.

Essay

LOSS

By Brianna Broadway

I've been pondering how to except the logic of loss, as well as the emotion of it.

Logically, for my grandmother, Sarah Lee Williams, age 76, and the only mother I've ever known, surviving a stroke would've been devastating. She was very strong and independent, and her staying here would've been unfair, simply because I know she was tired and broken hearted, longing for the many loved ones she had lost in her lifetime. Inside, I know she yearned for peace, peace that

neither I nor anyone here in this world could have given her.

Yet, emotionally, I need her here with me. When I start to think about the reality of her absence, my heart feels as though it is really breaking. It seems unbearable, like I'll never be happy again. I often feel as though the only one who ever truly loved me is gone, so how might I survive without her? When it comes to the loss of a loved one, logic really has no comparison to the emotions one feels. The only thing that helps me is when I hear her say, "I'll be okay, baby."

Essay

MY BIOLOGICAL DAD

By Nathaniel Fineberg

It all started when my parents met up in college. My dad was playing college football, and my mom was doing color guard. He ended up getting my mom pregnant, and when he found out about it he left my mom. At the time, she was going to Trinity College to be a lawyer. Instead of finishing school, she dropped out and had me.

My mom went ahead and dated another guy for a year. While she was dating him, I and my brother (from this relationship) were staying with my grandmother and grandfather. My mom decided to marry this guy. He was the manager of Wal-Mart and decided that one day he would fall asleep on his job. So he did, which caused us to be homeless.

During the seven years of their marriage, he was abusive to me

and my mom, but not to my brother. He would hit me and my mom and do so much more, and I was too young to defend us. But this situation caused me to grow up right away. I would always be there for my mom and totally forget about my friends. She would talk to me and once I got old enough, I would defend her against whoever was abusive. So I had no child hood.

I and my brother decided to go and stay with my Aunt and Uncle. We stayed there until I was 13 years old. At that time, my mom wanted me and my brother back. My Aunt and Uncle wanted to have custody. They were told that they had to contact my biological father. They had to get his consent to have custody. He said, "I don't want anything to do with this

Nathaniel." But ever since then I have wanted to meet him.

When I came out to California I heard about this Website called reuniteusa.com, and so I checked it out. Contacting my dad can go two ways. He can say, Don't ever call me again. If he does, then that is fine. Sure, I will be upset, but at least I found him. That part of the puzzle has been missing for a long time. But if he does say yes then I would want some answers, like what was he thinking? Why did he leave? Besides being scared, why did he not try to find me? What genes am I mixed with? And so much more. I hope something good comes out of this, but then again I am ready for the worst.

Untitled

*You're
My friend,
My companion,
Through good times
And bad.
My friend,
My buddy,
Through happy and sad.
Beside me you stand,
Beside me you walk.
You're there to listen,
You're there to talk.
With smiles,
With pain and tears,
I know you'll be there,
Throughout the years!*

Brittany Purdy

Street Beat

Interviews About Town Interviews & photos by Street Breeze Staff

Question: What will you be doing in five years?



Mrs. Thackary
Age: Heavily guarded secret
Occupation: Teacher by day, pole dancer by night (joking)

Providing world peace.



Name: Soleai Rickwalt
Age: 15
Occupation: Student

I want to be a model or go to college and become a nurse.



Name: Natalia Gorbacher
Age: 25
Occupation: Fine Artist.

This. (She indicates hanging out at the coffee shop.)



Name: Nicole Kangas
Age: 25
Occupation: Coffee Shop Owner

Still running this place

If you judge a book by its cover, you lose



Here are two pictures of the same exact person. But when you glare at the first picture you probably get a bad vibe, and you really don't want to talk to her. When you take a look at the second picture you can see what she really is—the Cassy I know. She is 19. She is going to Sac State and is getting her life together.

Cassy is one of the sweetest, most loving people sent to this earth.

Morale of the story: *Don't judge people by the clothes they wear or the way they present themselves. Try to get to know them and know the real them. They just might end up being your closet friend.*

Brittany Purdy

Essay

Leading our country

By Angenetta Shabazz

The definition of leadership is having the ability to lead. Leaders are courageous, level headed, strong willed, and responsible. I feel I am more than capable to lead. I am a 21-year-old woman who feels like I can run this country with a little help. I know I have to be 35 years old to be even considered, but I feel like with some more knowledge of how the country is run I can be on top of the world.

I am neither a fan nor a critic of George W. Bush, who is the leader of the United States of America. I would love the opportunity to be in his position. I don't see Bush with that much power. Everything he does is monitored and given a yes or a no by Congress and his advisors. We the people of the United States are responsible for who leads us after Bush is out of office, and whether or not the war is going to be over. War is a constant thing, so if we end it now then those we are fighting may come back and retaliate.

Remember this is all my opinion, but since we started something as a country we should finish it as a country, no matter how we feel about Bush or the war.

I hope I gave you something to think about.

Music



Album: *You Nasty*
Song: *2 B****es*
Artist: Too Short

Reviewer: Kayla Gastelum

I selected this album because Too Short is a great artist, but his lyrics are degrading to girls. Here goes a part of the song called *2 B****es*.

*Pimp n***** don't pay a dime
I'm f****in 2 b****es
at the same time.
Then I hit the studio, and I
write a rhyme. I call it 'Tramp
Hoes Aint Hard to Find.'*

In pretty much all of his albums, he degrades girls.

When I first heard this song I was offended by it because it made me feel like I was something not to be proud of. It made me feel bad about being a girl, if some famous person is going to degrade me. Not just me, I'm talking about all girls.

I interviewed Freddie Bryant, a teacher at the WIND Learning Center, and this is what he had to say about Too

Short's music, "I think people have the right to pick who they listen to. I believe that the words are harsh, but he's not talking to one person in particular."

Freddie has a good point, because you don't have to listen to Too Short if you don't like him.

I also interviewed Lacey Meers, an outreach/case manager at the WIND Center. This is what she had to say on the subject, "One night I was riding in the car with my boyfriend when the song '2 B****es, by Too Short, came on the stereo. He started singing the song, and I turned the song off. I told him I used to really like Too Short, but now I just like his beats, not his lyrics that degrade females." I agree with Lacey. She's very straight up and other girls can relate to what she is saying.

Too Short is a great artist to listen to. But I'm giving you a heads up about this album.

**** Out of Five Stars

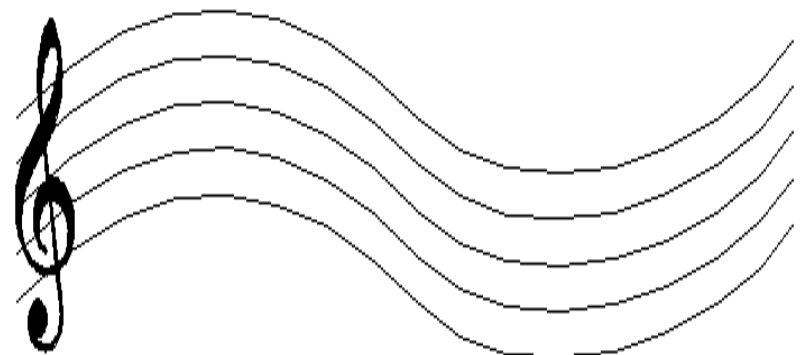


PHOTO SHOOT

Sutter's Fort

Would you like to live a day in the life of historical figure John Sutter at his home in Sutter's Fort?

This is a replica of a bedroom where pioneers could sleep when they took refuge at the fort.



This weaving room is a place pioneers could weave their clothes and bedding.

Firepits (below) were a must for purifying water, cooking and keeping warm.



The kitchen shown below was a place to cook and eat meals.

Sutter's Fort, established in 1840, is part of the California Parks system and is open to the public. Living history days are held five times a year. For more information, call (916) 455-4422



Photographer, Sharday Preyer. Captions by Martisha Martin and Lacey Meer

Fiction

The Life of Unique

Born to a basketball player and a video dancer,
She was the most beautiful little thing anybody ever seen.
But who would have thought her pride n joy
would be taken

By her own stepbrother, John. She was only five. Didn't do
Nothing to him but get out of school at the wrong time.

He wanted to have sex, but didn't none of the
Girls think he was cute. So he rather took his little step
Sister gift. The gift that she should have kept until
She was ready. Now she scared to come home,
Thinking she was a hoe worth nothing
but less then a penny.

Seeing him every day, never saying sorry.
What about how her life and her body would change?
John didn't care but to get what he wanted. But guess
What? He didn't just stop at one time.

He raped little Unique every time
He had 2 watch her.

She would try her hardest to hide in closets,
Under beds, even in the bathroom, but he kept getting her.
He would say

If she told anybody he would tell their parents,
that Unique was being bad,

And she would get a whooping—not by one parent but both.
So she did whatever he said.

Unique had dreams every night, scared he would get her in
Her sleep. She thought she did something wrong,
Like this was a punishment. She was Unique,
Now she nothing but trash, not even that.
She felt like her name should be Dirt.

She couldn't trust anybody.

Unique felt like everybody would

Try 2 have sex with her.

Why would someone want

To have sex with a little girl?

Don't you wonder sometimes, too?

THIS STORY IS NOT TO SCARE ANYBODY.
IT'S TO TELL GIRLS WHO HAVR BEEN THROUGH THIS
THAT IT'S OKAY TO TELL SOMEONE, AND THAT
WHAT HE DID TO YOU IS NOT OKAY.
THIS IS THE STORY OF UNIQUE PARKER.
SHE HAS GROWN FROM HER PAIN.
SHE WANTS TO BE A LAWYER FOR KIDS
WHO HAVE BEEN RAPED
AND ALSO FOR CRIMINALS.

TIERA AVELINO

If you or a friend are being abused and need help,
call Children's Protective Services
(916) 875-5437

WIND YOUTH SERVICES

WIND *Circle of Care* an exciting proposal.

America's lack of medical coverage and the difficulty securing timely health services is a well-documented crisis. This is also a critical issue facing WIND and our kids. While many WIND youth are eligible for Medical coverage, the real challenge is being able to navigate all the eligibility issues to get timely care and follow-up services. This lack and difficulty in securing services has been one of WIND's identified critical issues for the past several years.

During this time, we have been fortunate to develop key support and crisis care from the Mercy Clinic at Loaves and Fishes, Sutter Health, and Kaiser. However, we have lacked a stable and consistent circle of medical care attuned to the special needs facing homeless children. Over the past several months, we have been working with a team of dedicated doctors from the CARRES Center and Pediatric Department of the UCD Medical Center to develop a collaboration that will meet the needs of our kids. Planning for this collaboration is still in the primary stages, but we are hopeful about these initial developments. As part of this effort, WIND, one of 40 projects in the nation, was invited to submit a proposal to the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. Although we have not yet been approved by the foundation, we have received commitments of support from Sierra Health Foundation, Kaiser Foundation, Pacific Coast Builders Foundation, Sure West Foundation, and the

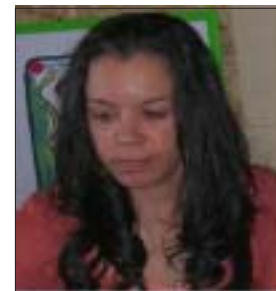
John Burton Foundation for Homeless Children.

There are several elements in our proposal, beyond the possibility of medical services for our kids, that are exciting. One exciting aspect would be the creation of a web-based medical record that each youth would have control over and that could be used any place in the county. For example, a WIND youth could receive medical services from a UCD doctor, who would document the medical information in the record. A year later, that youth could provide a doctor in Seattle with access to the record. This system was developed for farm workers who move around the county and who, like homeless children, have critical health needs. Another of our hopes is to provide each youth with a health screening to identify potential health issues and to develop an individual treatment plan. The emphasis would be on prevention and access to care. Each youth would receive the medical intervention they need; we would worry about the appropriate coverage.

While this is still in the planning stage and we are anxiously waiting to hear from the Robert Wood Johnson people, we have already begun to work with the UCD doctors. As we move forward, we will begin posting more information on the WIND Website.

Bob Ekstrom
Executive Director

Getting to know you



**An interview with Tasha Norris,
Director WIND Day Center
and WIND Shelter**

Q: Tell our readers who you are?

A: I am Tasha Norris, an advocate for children and families.

Q: If you were an animal, what animal would you be?

A: A collie dog because they sniff out everything.

Q: How does it feel to be called Mama Tasha?

A: I feel honored to be Mama Tasha.

Q: What do you do at Wind and how long have you been here?

A: I am the director of the day center, the school, and the shelter going on six years.

Q: What's your motivation for working with at-risk teens?

A: I hate the term *at risk*. It gives a negative vibe and doesn't capture who my children really are. I am passionate about my kids and truly believe in them.

Q: What would people be most surprised to learn about you?

A: My favorite show is Sports Center, and if I had the time I'd take salsa lessons.

A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO OUR ONGOING STREET BREEZE SUPPORTERS

Soroptimist International of
North Sacramento

The John Burton Foundation

Intel Corporation

Bob Ekstrom
Bernice Hazen
Ginger Joyce
Carolyn Reiners
Oliver Stanton
Rolf Zschoernig

Westamerica Bank

John O. Bronson Company
Junior League of Sacramento
River Cats Foundation
Sacramento Bee Book of Dreams

Ronald McDonald House
Charities of Northern CA

Opinion

Stop Animal Abuse

By Soleai Rickwalt

Animal abuse should not be allowed! Animals have feelings, moods and everything else. There should be no reason to abuse an animal.

If you have an animal that you abuse or don't want, then you can take it somewhere else. There are other people who would take care of it. There are many people who would even adopt it or foster it until somebody adopts it.

When you abuse an animal it doesn't do any good for you. People get arrested for abusing animals. For instance, take the case of NFL star Michael Vick, who was recently arrested and convicted for his part in a dog fighting ring and for killing pit bulls. Vick will serve about three months in prison.

Animals are just like us. Maybe there are some differences, but think—if you were an animal, would you want to be abused?

Think about it and don't do it!

Walls

Im lost out here
 Seen so many bodies outlined
 In chalk out here
 Can't just say anything
 Gotta watch how I talk out here
 Gang bangers killin each other
 Slangin rocks out here
 Police trippin instead of getting
 The killers they getting the people
 Who jaywalk out here
 If you aint from the gutta
 Just pass through
 Don't stop out here
 My mom went to the store
 But never came back
 She got lost out here

By: Quoin Barker

Avid Reader and R5 Records call Tower Corners home

From Page 1

they have hard rock, rock, alternative, classical, soft jazz, gospel, R&B, and so much more.

Avid Reader

When we walked into the store, we were greeted by a kind gentleman behind the counter. The store has a very calm and relaxing atmosphere and seems to accommodate children, young adults and adults equally. It has everything, from reading glasses, eye glass frames, magazines, health books, journals and more. Its customer service, prices and atmosphere were great! We recommend this store to everyone.

Fortunately for Sacramento, when you see a movie at Tower Theatre or eat at the Tower Café, you can top off your night with a new book or new CD from two great stores.

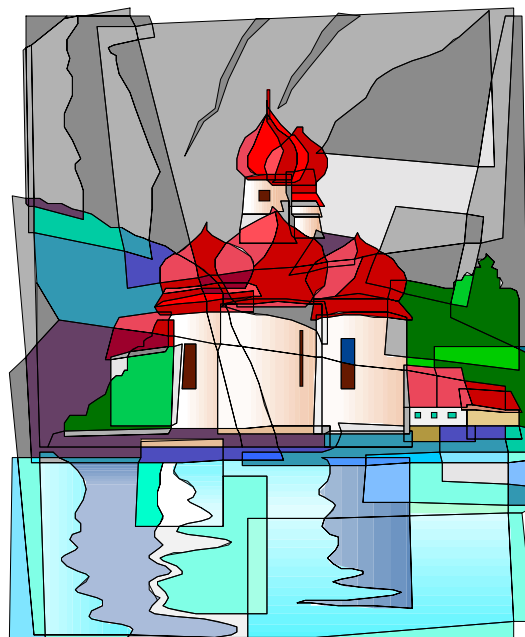
A child's life in Russia

From Page 1

But my brother wasn't there to listen.

When I was on the streets I had a friend. We would always chill together. One cold winter day we were hanging out by the swamps when a car drove by and someone inside shot him. I was so scared that I ran all the way home without stopping. He was only 13 years old and was the only one who really talked to me and let me cry on his shoulder. But now he is resting in peace, and he is out of his misery. I loved that boy like my brother, and I miss him every day. He will stay with me forever in my heart.

There were times when my brother provided food for me, but most of the time I fed myself. When I didn't have food I would go to my neighbors and ask, or I would steal. There would be days when I didn't eat at all. At night my stomach would growl, but I could not help my hunger.



Around my brother I was not allowed to cry or ask questions. I was my

own adult. I remember that our apartment was always full of people and every day there were new faces. The smell of the air was unnatural. It was a bitter-sweet smell. Sometimes my brother would take me with him to hide drugs when he bought them. That way if the cops stopped him he would have nothing on him.

When I was around nine or 10, the cops took me to an orphanage. The first orphanage was like a prison. There were bars on the windows, and they locked you up when you went to sleep. I was there for a month or so. After that, I went to a different orphanage. The second one was pretty chill. When I was 10 ½, I was adopted by an American gentleman and a Russian lady. So here I'm seven years later. That's not the entire story, but that's where I make my cut.

The End

Teen Resources

California Youth Crisis Line
1-800-843-5200

National Runaway Switchboard
1-800-621-4000 (24-hour)
Confidential message center

Suicide Prevention
24-Hour Crisis Line
(916) 368-3111

WIND Youth Center
Homeless and At-Risk Youth
Ages 12-20
300 Ahern St. (916) 443-8333
Drop-in hrs: Mon-Fri 8:00-4:30 p.m.
Saturday 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
Breakfast and Lunch, Clothing,
Case Management, Laundry/
Shower Facilities, Access to Shelter

Social Security
1-800-772-1213
Drug & Alcohol Programs
Clean and Sober Program
@Loaves & Fishes
1321 North C Street
Open 12-Step Meetings
Mon-Fri 10 a.m. All Welcome
919-496-0331

Alcoholics Anonymous
(916) 454-1100

Narcotics Anonymous
(800) 600-4673
(916) 732-2299

Diogenes Youth Services
1-800-339-7177
Services for runaway, homeless,
abandoned abused and neglected
youth, including crisis resolution,
counseling, support groups, health
education, emergency shelter and
transitional housing.

Health Care
A&B Street Clinic
443-6972
Health care and dental services

Loaves & Fishes
1321 North C St. 446-3345
Anonymous HIV testing and
general care for homeless
people with urgent needs

Sacramento Life Center
Toll Free (877) 605-5433
930 Alhambra Blvd. Ste 210
1224 Coloma Way, Roseville
Free pregnancy test, ultrasound
counseling, support

Mental Health Services
Genesis
(916) 669-1536 1321 North C St.
A Mental Health Program of
Loaves & Fishes
Counseling, supportive
groups, psychiatric
assessments, medications,
social services connections. 18
and over. Under18 check with
WIND Youth Center for
referral.

**Mercy Clinic @Loaves &
Fishes**
1321 North C Street
Anonymous HIV Testing
General Urgent Care
Parenting Support
Teen Success Program
(916) 446-5037 Ext 138
Weekly support groups for
parenting teens

The Birthing Project
1900 T Street
(916) 442-2229



Parenting Support, cont.
Chicks in Crisis
(888) 208-8086
(916) 441-1243
Parent Skill Survival
Adoption Services
Teen Pregnancy
Parenting/Cooking Classes
www.chicksincrisis.org

Sacramento Crisis Nursery
24-Hour Stress Line
(916) 394-2000
Respite care for parents in
crisis.

Birth and Beyond
(916) 875-BABY
Teen birth control and
substance abuse.

Sacramento Regional
HIV Info Hotline
1-888-259-4HIV

Capital Health Center
(916) 874-5302/1500 C St.

Planned Parenthood
201 29th Street
(916) 446-6921

.....Where to find us.....

Sacramento

Sacramento Public Library
Central Branch
9th & I St.

Café Soleil
9th & I St.

Café Connection
1007 L St.

Bean Tree
10th & L St.

Ambrosia
1030 K St.

Gunther's Ice Cream
2nd Ave and Franklin Blvd.

The Effort
1820 J St.
The Bread Store
18th & J St.

Noah's Bagels
19th & J St.

Glass McClure, Inc.
2700 J St.

Pieces Pizza
1309 21st St.

Weatherstone Co
812 21st St.

Infusion Café
17th & K St.

Capital Garage
15th & Capital

Newsbeat
1005 L St.

Beers Books
915 S St.

Lunas Café
1414 16th St.

Tower Theatre
Broadway & Land Pk. Dr.

The Avid Reader
Broadway & Land Pk Dr.
R5 Records

Broadway & Land Pk. Dr.
Uncle Jed's Barber Shop
34th St. & 3rd Ave.

Underground Books
2418 24th St.

Starbucks
34th St. & 3rd Ave.

Franklin Career Center
7000 Franklin Blvd.

Urban League
3725 Marysville Blvd.

La Familia Counseling Center
5523 34th St.

Naked LadyLounge
15th & Q Streets

Del Paso Boulevard
Skating Iceland
Ferreira Gym
Sammy's Family Restaurant
Del Paso Library
Cafe Refugio
Konnection Christian Bookstore
Sacramento Metropolitan
Arts Commission
Lil Joe's
Casa Grande Market
The Plantation
Calvery Christian Church
Sacramento Community Clinic
QTs Beauty Connection
Carol's Books
Formosa Cafe
Taqueria Zapotlanejo

Broderick Christian Center
West Sacramento

Cordova High Student Union
2239 Chase Dr.
Rancho Cordova

Youth Legal Clinic

Discuss your legal rights and options

- ♦ School: Suspensions, Expulsions and Student records
- ♦ Foster Care Youth
- ♦ Runaway Teenagers
- ♦ Criminal Charges: Light Rail Tickets, Probation, etc.
- ♦ *Plus* other issues you want to discuss

When: Every 4th Friday each mo. 9 a.m. until Noon
Where: Wind Youth Center
Who: Jeffery C. Cuneo

What: Confidential discussions with a licensed attorney
Michael Mahon
Attorneys at Law