



Tenant Solidarity

News and Information from the Tenants Union of Washington

August 2013



TU members march for immigration reform this spring

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You're Invited

Tenants Union Summer BBQ

Hosted with Community Partner Got Green?

Sunday August 11th, 2 - 5 pm

Jefferson Park on Beacon Hill

3801 Beacon Ave S, Seattle, 98108

Picnic Shelter #3 at the Northeast corner behind the fire station, near intersection of Beacon Ave S & S Spokane St

- Meet and eat with members of the Tenants Union and Got Green, a grassroots social & economic justice organization in SE Seattle
- Be the first to get a free copy of the *Healthy Housing in Rainier Valley* education handbook!

Please RSVP or ask questions to Stina at (206) 722-6848 x 102 or stinaj@tenantsunion.org



TU members gather at a recent tenant organizing meeting to organize, educate, and celebrate

Director's Corner

Conservative Majority Pushes 12 Anti-Tenant Bills

The 2013 state legislative session will be remembered as one of the most hostile toward tenants' rights in recent memory. 12 anti-tenant bills were introduced in the state legislature, and taken together represented one of the largest potential roll backs of tenant's rights in decades. Collectively these bills would have stripped tenants of due process and made it easier for landlords to evict over arbitrary and excessive fees, hamper safeguards against carbon monoxide poisoning, empower landlords to arrest a tenant's guests or void verbal rental agreements, and much more.

Two state democrats, Rodney Tom (D-48 Medina), and Tim Sheldon (D-35 Potlach) decided to caucus with state Republicans, giving conservatives new powers to push a pro-business and pro-rental industry agenda. The rental industry did not let the new conservative majority go to waste and introduced everything they've ever wished for plus the kitchen sink.

Almost every bill originated from three Senators: Pam Roach (R-31 Auburn), Don Benton (R-17 Vancouver), and former Senator Mike Carrell (R-28 Lakewood). In response the Tenants Union carefully tracked the progress of these bills and mobilized our membership to call and send letters opposing these bad bills, as well as testified at numerous committee hearings to block their passage. Columbia Legal Services took a big part in lobbying decision makers, as well as the ACLU-WA and the Washington Low Income Housing Alliance.

(continued next column)



TU Executive Director Jonathan Grant shakes Governor Inslee's hand after the signing of FTSA Part II

Thanks to all of the letters and phone calls from TU Members and our allies all 12 bills were defeated.

While this is a good reason to rejoice, it can be expected many of these bills will resurface as long as there is a conservative majority. This reality may mean tenants and housing advocates take a more defensive posture to stop the advance of an anti-tenant agenda. The TU will continue to keep its members up to date in the next legislative session, and with our member's support continue the fight against rolling back our rights! ♦

Jonathan Grant



John Jones (standing) facilitates TU organizing meeting



Volunteer Profile John Jones

John Jones has volunteered with the Tenants Union for nearly two years. He first met the Tenants Union as a representative of Got Green? when he joined us to testify at Seattle City Hall for healthy housing. As a homeowner in Southeast Seattle, John is a valued ally of the TU. He began to attend campaign planning meetings for the Healthy Housing campaign in 2012 and the Fair Tenant Screening Act campaign in 2013. As a former leader with Washington ACORN, John contributes work planning and meeting facilitation. He can be found welcoming and orienting tenants to the TU website during walk-in counseling hours.

Congratulations and thank you for all your impressive and much-needed work, John!

Rising Rents and the Right to the City

By Lynn Sereda, TU Board Member

If you have been reading the real estate or business sections of the news, there are many blurbs about economic recovery and the “healthy housing market.” Foreclosures are slowing down, and fewer mortgages are “underwater”. What does this mean for the renter? Apparently this economic relief won't be trickling down to tenants anytime soon.

In fact it seems to be a losing battle for tenants whether the housing market is weak or strong. Rents never seem to get rolled back. They may stay at a certain level for awhile, but inevitably when the economy is said to be “booming” or “recovering”, it means that life gets more expensive for tenants.

When the foreclosure crisis was at its peak, owners who lost their homes became renters, meaning more competition for rental units. Now, according to several business blogs, Seattle has made the top ten list of cities where rents are increasing the most. The average one bedroom apt. is now \$1200 per month. Is this merely due to supply and demand?

While market forces do have some affect on housing affordability, gentrification is a global epidemic in most major cities, driven by the global economy which has resulted in human migration, stagnation of wages, and the increase of speculation by the wealthy, especially in housing. At the same time, rapid development in the city has attracted upward mobile suburbanites back to the city where they are either renting or purchasing high-end condos/apartments.

In Seattle, where a great deal of housing has been built, especially the towering high rise condos in South Lake Union, the increased supply has actually driven rents up! That occurs because the rents of surrounding units increase as the development sets the market price of a particular neighborhood. In San Francisco, a city that Seattle is often compared to, the one bedroom rent now averages \$3,500! Low income people, especially people of color, have been driven out of the city.

This is a challenging time not just for tenants, but for housing advocates, and organizations of tenants.

Even in cities with rent control (rent control is prohibited in Washington State law), rent control itself is under attack.

From the view of many tenants, it is very unlikely that any of the new development (even development labeled as “affordable”) will actually benefit lower wage service workers, or seniors on a fixed income.

This is the time for tenants to find new strategies to create affordable housing. Despite the grim news, the TU is embarking on an exciting direction by the engagement of tenant leaders in discussions on how future strategies will emerge as the best way to combat the greed in today's housing market. ♦



Welcome New Staff

Operations Coordinator Elaine Agoot



Elaine joined the TU staff early July of this year. They are dedicated to social, economic, racial and gender justice and considers the issues of housing justice to be an intersection of all the above. Upon

graduating the Evergreen State College in Olympia, Elaine organized on the grassroots level for affordable healthcare and immigrant rights. They are also a member of ally organization Got Green and a part of the women's collective Pin@y Sa Seattle, which fights for the human rights of Filipino women around the world. Elaine provides the TU with administrative and organizational support. On their free time this Taurus loves spending time with family and friends. ♦

The Magic is in

Meet the members who are Union organizes and builds

By Stina Janssen, Housing Access Project
Community Organizer

With over 300 members

across the state of Washington, 1,800 tenant rights counseling sessions each month, and dozens of workshops and policy campaigns large and small fought for housing justice and dignity, the TU has been running at full speed for years. (Turn to page 10 for news on some of our most recent victories for tenants rights and visit our website, www.tenantsunion.org for a history of our campaigns.)

Now, we are taking a breath and looking carefully at not only what we've been doing, but how we've been doing it—and members are planning for how to do it even better.

Part of the TU mission states, “As a membership organization, the TU’s work is grounded in the strong conviction that *tenants must be the leaders of efforts to transform our housing conditions and communities.*” To improve the TU’s commitment to this mission, we developed a four-month planning process. In June it was approved by the Board, and in July, a Membership and Organizing Committee was formed and met for the first time.

The Committee’s goal is to improve the TU’s membership and campaign organizing model so that we have stronger relationships with more members, we are building our membership base to build our power, and our campaigns are structured to support more members moving into greater TU leadership to win concrete improvements in the lives of low income and working class tenants through strategic campaigns.



Stephanie Jones and Gary Perry

Corey Snelson

The Membership and Organizing Committee is comprised of two members who have been campaign leaders, two Directors currently serving on the Board, and two staff organizers. The committee will be assisted by two dedicated volunteers, Andrea Maxand and Michael Goldman, who are researching organizing campaign options. Members include: Jeri Gates (Section 8 Tenant Organizing Project, former Board of Directors), Stephanie Jones (Housing Access Project), Lynn Sereda (Section 8 Tenant Organizing Project, Board of Directors), Corey Snelson (Healthy Housing Campaign, Board President), Stina Janssen (Housing Access Project staff Organizer), and Eliana Horn (Section 8 Tenant Organizing Project staff Organizer).

Over the next three months, the committee will focus on doing 6 things: (1) evaluate the current membership and organizing models, (2) research and learn about the TU’s history and what other grassroots organizations across the U.S. have done to build power through grassroots organizing, (3) set long and short-term goals for the TU, (4) survey the active membership to collect members’ experiences,

the Membership

changing how the Tenants power for housing justice



Lynn Sereda

Jeri Gates

wishes, and suggestions, (5) prioritize possible TU campaigns, assisted by research volunteers, (6) create a proposal that must be reviewed and passed by the Board of Directors to take effect.

In July, some of the committee members will represent the Tenants Union at Activists Mobilizing for Power, a conference organized by Western States Center, where they will receive training in organizing, grassroots fundraising, and creative direct action techniques, and sit down with Oregon's Community Alliance of Tenants to swap stories and strategy. In October, the committee will share a report-back on their process and proposal at the TU Annual Meeting (see back cover for more details). We are so excited to embark on this process, and we look forward to sharing the fruits in October. See you at the annual membership meeting October 26th!

Want to share your thoughts about how we can improve members' experiences? To ensure you'll be included in our active membership survey, contact organizer Stina Janssen at (206) 722-6848 x102 or stinaj@tenantsunion.org. ♦

Gentrification Then and Now

By Jeri Gates, TU Member

In May I had the opportunity to speak on a panel with Lynn Sereda and Stina Janssen of the Tenants Union. The Sociological Theory class was taught by Professor Gary Perry at Seattle University. Looking through the eyes of college students was interesting. They were very attentive and focused on our experiences with gentrification. Professor Perry is a very down-to-earth person so it's easy to learn and understand the subject matter.

Gentrification is the so-called redevelopment or redemption of a low income neighborhood that displaces families or individuals by increasing rents or raising property values in the area, to price them out, forcing these families to somehow disconnect from their culture, churches, neighborhood schools, doctors, medical facilities, and comfort zones. The familiar faces become the unknown.

I grew up in the Madison Valley in Seattle where my grandparents owned a home for nearly 50 years, from 1952-1996. People came from other areas of the city and started to buy properties out from under families in what had been a predominantly African American community. People were priced out, the fences started going up, faces started to change and my old neighborhood vanished. This push-out followed me to East Union Street and now in the Rainier Beach area. This problem leaves me feeling frustrated and angry, and I might say even sad.

My final thoughts were these: We sit on golden eggs and gentrification will push you off the egg when they want the neighborhood to hatch. And that's gentrification then and now. ♦

TU Tenants Build Power Nationally

The TU travels to D.C. for the National Alliance of HUD Tenants Conference

In June, three tenant leaders from newly organized buildings from all over Washington State, three staff members, and tenants from Benson East – the first tenant-owned Section 8 property in the Northwest – traveled to Washington, DC to learn about organizing towards the preservation of Section 8 buildings from hundreds of other tenants from Section 8 buildings all over the nation. In addition to attending many great workshops, the TU participated in an accountability session with HUD, met with legislators, and marched on Apple, demanding they pay their fair share of taxes. Eliana Horn, Section 8 Tenants Organizing Project (STOP) Community Organizer received National Alliance of HUD Tenants (NAHT) Organizer of the Year award.

Here are reflections from TU members about their experiences at the NAHT conference:

One must know the structure and source of all that is and is not but could be available, in said arena for both our generation and the next, whether we realize it or not. One of the greatest returns on my journey to Washington DC was the motivating sense of potential for the opportunity to learn how



TU Member David McCoy, TU Organizer Terri Anderson, and TU Member Rachel Burnett in front of the White House

to make a contribution on some small scale to my immediate community by helping to build on the concept of the age old concept of the team, and in so doing to build on a new concept – to us, on the west coast – of tenant-owned housing, even HUD-owned versus merely HUD managed and therefore privately/corporately-owned housing, which would then allow me to possibly be part of a larger contribution to our society, particularly given that HUD and all of Section 8 housing seems to be on the dangerously downward spiral. Where setting out to improve your own life is a natural reaction to whatever circumstances you are presented with, good or bad, it requires a conscious action to embrace an opportunity to contribute to what can only be defined as a small but important step towards the ever and ongoing cultural evolution – not to be confused with the term "cultural REVOLUTION"! – that every society continually experiences. If that sounds somewhat overstated, one must consider one simple line – roughly quoted, as I've given up arguing with the laptop – spoken by our illustrious leader, Michael Kane, the Director of NAHT: "Perhaps we have been going about it all wrong. Treating each issue as a separate issue, rather than acknowledging that each is a part of a larger picture..." I nearly leapt out of my seat, with a laptop on the way to the floor as a result! That is what I had come to hear. And it's still ringing. And I have begun to share and to pursue opportunities to apply and to expand upon this new knowledge. Thank you for including me!



- TU Member Rachel Burnett, Vashon, WA

(continued next column)



TU Member David McCoy protests in Washington DC

The 19th Annual National Alliance of HUD Tenants (NAHT) Save Our Homes Conference was very educational for me. The workshops gave me the skills to help myself and others. Each workshop was 90 minutes long and they got me going and asking more questions than I came in with. My favorite workshop was “Telling Your Story: How to Turn Your Experience into a

Powerful Message for Change.” Everyone has a story of how and why they are in the spot they are now. You can tell your story and some will listen while most others will walk on. But, if you could tell your story like the presenter, Norah Dooley, Mass Mouth, from Boston Massachusetts, people would stand in the hot sun for hours until you were done and still ask for more. Everyone will have fifteen minutes of fame in their life; if you tell your stories and make them memorable, your fame will last forever.

This workshop was important because people’s stories are important. I can see how I will be able to use what I learned to help other tenants at Cheney Center Apartments to tell their stories. We will all use our stories and tell as many people as we can so we can work to preserve our Section 8 project based building in Cheney, WA.

I thank everyone at the National Alliance of HUD Tenants for putting together this conference. ♦

- TU Member David McCoy, Cheney, WA

To get involved in the Section 8 Tenants Organizing Project, see www.tenantsunion.org

STOP is a GO in Spokane

By Terri Anderson, Spokane STOP Community Organizer



The Tenants Union of Washington State has opened its first office in Spokane with the expansion of the Section 8 Tenants Organizing Project, or STOP, into Spokane County and eastern Washington.

STOP uses outreach, education and organizing to develop Section 8 tenant leaders to preserve long term affordability for multifamily buildings, affect change in Section 8 policy, and raise community awareness about the Section 8 program. There are over 3500 Section 8 project based housing units in Spokane County and thousands of tenants impacted by Section 8 policy at the local and national levels.

As the new TU Spokane STOP Community Organizer, I will be organizing tenants living in Section 8 project based housing who have received notice that the owner of the building is choosing to opt out of the program. She is developing the leadership of tenants at the Cheney Center Apartments. She is collaborating with Seattle STOP Community Organizer Eliana Horn to build a strong base of Section 8 tenant leadership across the state.

Spokane represents three legislative districts in the state legislature, and the expansion also enables the Tenants Union to expand our base of legislative support statewide. Spokane is a growing community and as it begins to attract a more diverse population, the Tenants Union will be there to empower tenants to influence policy that will make Spokane and eastern Washington a better place to live for everyone. ♦

Terri Anderson can be contacted at (509)464-7620 or terria@tenantsunion.org.

The Haves and the Have Nots

by TU Member
Garnett Brooks



My name is Garnett Brooks and I lived in the Adams Apartments in Belltown for approximately six years. I moved there to be close to my doctors, case management, and practical support services. The Adams Apartments were owned by a nonprofit. Like many other buildings in Seattle, their 40 year contract with HUD had expired which guaranteed affordable housing. They decided to sell our building to a for profit developer. They in turn served all of the tenants 60 day notices that our rents would be going up. My rent went from \$736 to \$1450 per month. I had 60 days to find a new home in a market where fair and affordable housing was being eliminated.

I was unable to find affordable housing in Seattle that met my needs. Many of my former neighbors had to make sacrifices with the limited housing options that were available. I know that at least one of them was left homeless. Luckily I was left homeless for only one week while waiting for housing. I finally found an apartment outside of Seattle. I now live 2.5 hours away from my doctors and my most important therapy classes.

On a bus the other day, a disabled veteran told me that he has been on a waiting list for housing for over three years. He was offered an apartment to live in, but they wanted about half of his Social Security check. He chose to remain homeless.

I have a friend that rents from a non-profit housing organization. He tells me that they still raise the rents more than the government is willing to help subsidize. This leaves him and his neighbors paying out more of the little money that they have. He says he has no cable, no cell phone, cannot get all of the medication that he needs, and sometimes goes without food.

In a country with so much wealth, it makes no sense to me that anyone should be homeless,

especially a disabled veteran. Too few people in this country "have" too much, and too many have "not" enough.

With the government cutting funding, fair and affordable housing being eliminated, the waiting list for section 8 vouchers being placed on hold, the possibility of current section 8 voucher values being lowered, and many housing authorities not giving vouchers out even when one has been freed up, it is so important for us all to work toward solving the housing problem we are facing. This is why when Stina Janssen asked me to share my experience, I spoke at a Seattle City Council meeting on fair and affordable housing in the South Lake Union neighborhood. When we are called upon to help, we must take a stand for what is right, and fight for fair and affordable housing for the elderly, disabled, low income, immigrants, and the veterans who put themselves in harms way so that we could enjoy the freedoms and luxuries we have... like a home. ♦

Welcome New Staff

STOP Organizer Eliana Horn



Eliana is the Seattle Community Organizer for the Section 8 Tenants Organizing Project. Eliana is doing building-based organizing throughout King County and has coordinated the TU's expansion into building

east of the mountains, in Spokane County. Eliana hails from New York City and brings her knowledge of New York City housing policies and issues to the TU. In New York, she fought alongside tenants to make it illegal to use Single Room Occupancy buildings as hotels, and worked alongside Brooklyn residents to ward off gun violence and gentrification. Eliana hopes that through their work, Washington will see more tenant-managed and tenant-owned properties in the coming years. Eliana is the proud recipient of the 2013 Organizer of the Year Award from the National Alliance of HUD Tenants. ♦

Fair Tenant Screening Act Part II Passes

Tenants win crucial protections for survivors of domestic violence

By Jonathan Grant, TU Director

The Tenants Union of Washington State worked closely with the Washington Low Income Housing Alliance to usher in critical reforms to the tenant screening industry in order to protect domestic abuse survivors. A strong coalition including Solid Ground, Columbia Legal Services, Northwest Justice Project, and the Washington State Coalition Against Domestic Violence built on the progress made from the past legislation when Part I of the bill successfully passed. After difficulty in recent years to pass a comprehensive bill advocates made a strategic decision to push the bill in smaller pieces, which has now worked two year in a row.

What does this most recent policy change do? When a survivor of DV requests a protection order from the court against their abuser, it becomes a public record. In 2004 the legislature passed a bill making it illegal for landlords to use an applicant's status as a domestic violence survivor against them when considering their rental application. During that process, the rental industry used their political power to remove a section of the bill that would have prohibited the inclusion of domestic violence information in a tenant screening report.

In effect, while it was illegal for a landlord to use a survivor's protection order record in screening decisions, it was still legal for a landlord to see the record on a tenant screening report. In many respects, survivors were not much better off than they had been prior to 2004: a landlord could still deny a survivor housing based on a pre-textual reason; for example, claiming another applicant had applied first, or for no reason at all.

The Fair Tenants Screening Act (FTSA, SB 5568) ended this hidden but still occurring discrimination by prohibiting the disclosure of a survivor's domestic violence status on a tenant screening report. Senator Don Benton (R-17 Vancouver) was the loudest voice questioning the need for the legislation; however his protests were met with strong



Housing advocates with Governor Inslee at the bill signing

tenant testimony voicing the need for greater protection against discrimination. Many thanks are owed to Senators Steve Hobbs, David Frockt, and Jeanne Kohl-Welles for their strong leadership.

The Tenants Union's Housing Access Project Community Organizer, Stina Janssen, met with over 120 tenants who had experienced an unjustified eviction or some other tenant screening barrier to organize around passing a more robust version of the bill that would have addressed misleading eviction records. While this was not included in the final version of the bill, TU members and tenant leaders called and wrote their legislators to ensure the passage of the FTSA to end the re-victimization of domestic violence survivors when they seek safe housing. Given the hostile environment this legislative session, it has proven to be a remarkable accomplishment! ♦

SEATTLE TENANTS ASK MAYORAL CANDIDATES WHERE THEY STAND ON ISSUES IMPACTING TENANTS!

Read the results at www.tenantsunion.org

News in Brief: Recent Victories for Housing Justice

Celebrating the successes of the TU and tenants across the state

Kirkland Bans Income Discrimination

In a close 4-3 vote the City of Kirkland passed a law prohibiting discrimination against a person's source of income, such as a Section 8 voucher. The TU participated in public meetings to advocate for the change, and organized with Kirkland Section 8 tenants to testify at the hearing. Moving testimony was made by Section 8 tenants **Paul Morris**, **June Banahan**, and **Katherine J. Porter**. This effort followed after Archstone Properties systematically terminated the tenancies of all their Section 8 tenants in the Cities of Redmond and Bothell, which prompted Redmond to pass a similar ordinance in 2012. Now Seattle, Bellevue, Redmond, Kirkland, and Unincorporated County are protected by these critical civil rights. Thanks to all the Kirkland TU members who wrote letters!

TU Submits Amicus Brief in Crucial State Supreme Court Case

The State Supreme Court heard a crucial case (*Encarnacion v Hundtofte*) on a tenant's right to remove a wrongful or misleading eviction record. Currently tenants have no way to remove the record even if the tenant wins! The Northwest Justice Project (NJP) is leading the case, and the TU submitted an Amicus Brief in support of the tenant. The oral arguments occurred in June, with NJP attorney **Eric Dunn** and Housing Justice Project attorney **Rory O'Sullivan** arguing for the tenants. The TU received pro bono counsel from Garvey Schubert Barer from attorney's **Victoria Slade** and **Rob Spitzer**, as well as Columbia Legal Services attorney's **Merf Ehman** and **Nick Straley**. Our brief was so compelling that the opposing counsel attempted to have it stricken from the case, but fortunately the Justices did not grant the motion. We will keep you all in the loop as the case progresses!

TU Member Markeletta Wilson Holds Screening Company Accountable



TU Member Markeletta Wilson tells her story at a press conference

RentGrow, Inc. is a large tenant screening company that was routinely denying people housing based on out of date information. The law forbids considering information older than 7 years. TU Member **Markeletta Wilson** was illegally denied housing from a decades old minor drug possession charge by RentGrow. Rather than accept the wrongful denial, Markeletta fought back and with the assistance of ACLU attorney **Vanessa Hernandez**, who filed a class action lawsuit against the company to put an end to their illegal practices. The TU worked with the ACLU to set up a press conference and solicit additional plaintiffs to join the class. The case is ongoing, but already RentGrow is revising its business practices, ensuring tenants receive fair consideration when seeking a home. ♦

Letter from the Board President

Greetings TU Members!



Thank you again for voting me onto the Board of Directors at last year's Annual Membership Meeting. In April of 2013, I assumed the role of President of the Board of Directors for the TU a position that I was incredibly honored to accept! It has been an amazing ride

coming from living in substandard housing, through volunteering on the Healthy Housing for All campaign, speaking in front of legislators and telling my story to the media, to getting a Rental Registration and Inspection Ordinance (RRIO) passed through Seattle City Council, and now serving this amazing organization as the Board President.

The Board of Directors has been busy at work looking at how to make the organization grow, prosper, and work better for you, the tenants of Washington State! We are making concrete efforts to learn everything we can about policy initiatives, community organizing, membership building, and are planning some really fun fundraisers, in the hopes that we will be able to extend the reach of our programs, broaden our base, and focus our organizing to win concrete changes in the lives of tenants.

If you haven't become a member of the TU, if you need to renew your membership, or if you haven't donated to the Tenants Union in a while, please give an amount that is meaningful to you — it really does take the whole Tenants Union community and your money-power to keep running our hotline and organizing work every day!

This work is personally fulfilling for me, and I am very excited about the future of the Tenants Union, however, none of it would be possible without your generous support.

Please join me in being a member and a donor to the TU, and stay tuned for more opportunities to help the TU grow and prosper as we move forward for housing justice in Washington! Sincerely,

Corey Snelson

TU Board President, Shoreline, WA

JOIN THE TU, RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP, OR MAKE A DONATION

by visiting www.tenantsunion.org
or contacting Organizer Kylin Parks at
(206) 722-6848 x 109 or kylinp@tenantsunion.org

Welcome New Staff

STOP Organizer Terri Anderson



A tireless advocate for issues affecting the underrepresented communities in Spokane, Terri organized affected members of the Spokane community for the unanimous

passage of a city ordinance to mandate independent investigations of police misconduct. Terri has organized to address the affects of years of uranium mining on the Spokane Indian Reservation, and has worked for racial equity in higher education. Terri's life as a first generation American, fourth generation Washingtonian, a person of color living in Spokane, a tenant, and as an advocate as well as her passion and commitment to social, economic and environmental justice drives her work to make Spokane a better place for everyone to live and make a difference. ♦

TU EVENT CALENDAR

Save the Date

TU Summer BBQ with Got Green

Sunday August 11th, 2 - 5 pm

Jefferson Park on Beacon Hill
3801 Beacon Ave S, Seattle, 98108

Picnic Shelter #3 at the Northeast corner

TU Annual Membership Meeting

Saturday October 26th
Seattle Location TBD

For news and updates see
www.tenantsunion.org

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Save the Date — TU Annual Meeting

Saturday, Oct 26th • Seattle Location TBD



*TU Member Berhane Worku
rallies in Washington DC*

Spread the Word! On Saturday October 26th tenants from across Washington will converge in Seattle to demonstrate tenant power.

This year's annual membership meeting is a full day packed with workshops, conversations, a campaign kickoff, art and music, and, of course, direct action.

Whether you're interested in learning more about your rights, thinking through how to organize your building, participating in planning out tactics and strategy to push tenant issues forward, or just being in conversation with tenants across Washington, you are invited to participate in the TU's membership meeting.

And you'll get to vote in new board members as well as recognize the important contributions your comrades have made to fulfilling our vision of housing for all.

Watch www.tenantsunion.org or contact Elaine Agoot at (206) 722-6848 x 103 for details!