

The Portland Alliance Sponsors Northwest Film Center presents VOICES IN ACTION: HUMAN RIGHTS ON FILM October 6 to November 9 at the Portland Art Museum

# The Portland Alliance

Sun., Nov. 13: Greg Palast at the Bagdad Theatre! (Sponsored by The Alliance.)

**FREE!**

*O f , b y a n d f o r t h e p e o p l e . . .*

**VOL. 31 NO. 7 CELEBRATING 30+ YEARS OF SPEAKING TRUTH TO POWER SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER FALL FLING**

*"If any man tells you he loves America, yet hates labor, he is a liar. If any man tells you he trusts America, yet fears labor, he is a fool." ~ Abraham Lincoln*

## October 2011: Human Needs, Not Corporate Greed!

### The 99% Occupy Wall Street & the PDX Waterfront

A large majority of the American people consistently support the following agenda:

- \* Tax the rich and corporations
- \* End the wars, bring the troops home, cut military spending
- \* Protect the social safety net, strengthen Social Security & improved Medicare for all
- \* End corporate welfare for oil companies & other corporations
- \* Transition to a clean energy economy, reverse environmental degradation
- \* Protect worker rights including collective bargaining, create jobs and raise wages
- \* Get money out of politics

**The government, dominated by elite economic interests, is going in the opposite direction from what the people want.**

**The American people's agenda is our agenda.**

Photo of the Occupation of the Portland Waterfront by Peter C. Little



**October 6th, 2011  
10,000 Occupy  
Portland to support  
Occupy Wall Street!**

*Pledge*

*"I pledge that if any U.S. troops, contractors, or mercenaries remain in Afghanistan on Thursday, October 6, 2011, as that occupation goes into its 11th year, I will commit to being in Freedom Plaza in Washington, D.C., with others on that day or the days immediately following, for as*

*long as I can, with the intention of making it our Tahrir Square, Cairo, our Madison, Wisconsin, where we will NONVIOLENTLY resist the corporate machine by occupying Freedom Plaza to demand that America's resources be invested in human needs and environmental protection instead of war and exploitation. We can do this together. We will be the beginning."*

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### Labor Day Picnics 2011

We celebrated organized labor by attending union picnics this year!

Labor Day (Sept. 5) is a day of celebration, and there's no better way to celebrate Labor Day than to attend a traditional Labor Day picnic with family and friends. Here, with a strong assist from our friends at the Northwest Labor Press, is a listing of Labor Day 2011 events which occurred throughout Oregon.

#### BEND

Solidarity Day Picnic, Sunday, Sept. 4, at Pioneer Park in Bend. 12:30 - 3:30 p.m. Sponsored by the Central Oregon Central Labor Council. Contact Linda Bradetich at (541) 350-0965 or Steve Williamsen at (541) 678-0235 for more information.

#### EUGENE/SPRINGFIELD

John Lively Picnic Shelters, behind SPLASH at 6100 Thurston Road in Springfield. 12-noon - 4 p.m. Participants were encouraged to bring a side dish. SPLASH offered a swim

rate for picnic participants who wished to use the wave pool. This event was Sponsored by the Lane County Central Labor Council. Contact Cj Mann at (541) 913-0056 for more information.

#### MEDFORD

Tou Velle State Park, 8425 Table Rock Road, Central Point. 11 a.m. - 4 p.m. Donations were accepted and there was a \$5 charge for parking. Sponsored by the Southern Oregon Central Labor Council. Call Kathy McUne at (541) 664-0804 for more information.

#### NORTH BEND

Ferry Road Park in North Bend. 11 a.m. - 3 p.m. Sponsored by the Southwestern Oregon Central Labor Council. For more information, call Robert Westerman at (541) 756-3907 or e-mail at ibew932@frontier.com.

#### PORTLAND

Oaks Amusement Park in SE Portland. 10 a.m. - 5 p.m., with a brief program at 1 p.m. There was a designated section for every union. Scrip for beverages sold for 50 cents. Deluxe ride bracelets were \$9. The Oregon Pacific Railroad Shuttle Train transported people (\$2



per person roundtrip) to and from Oaks Park from 8:30 a.m. to 7 p.m. Parking as available at the Portland Opera, 211 SE Caruthers St., and in the vicinity of SE Ivon and 4th Street. The place was packed!

#### SALEM

Riverfront Park in Salem. 11:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. Sponsored by the Marion-Polk-Yamhill Central Labor Council. Cost: 2 food items per person. Call Judy Sugnet at (503) 362-7057 for more information.

#### THE DALLES

Sorosis Park Shelter in The Dalles. 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. Potluck. Sponsored by the Mid-Columbia Central Labor Council. Call Walt Denstedt at (541) 298-4783 for more information.

#### OREGON STATE FAIR

The Oregon AFL-CIO labor booth in the Central Canopy area continued to be staffed with union volunteers during the entire two weeks of the fair, including Labor Day. The booth is thankful for help provided on Labor Day. Contact Jim Gourley of the Steelworkers at (541) 206-9544 for more information.

## • A Few Words:

### The Libyan War and Libya After Gadafi

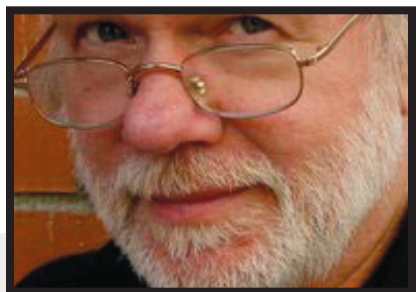


Photo by Peter C. Little

The pretense there was some "victory" of "rebels" in Libya is fine if you are wearing rose-colored glasses and prefer delusions. But facts remain.

The invasion, bombing, and attacks on Libya did not come from rebels. This aggression came from the British and French governments in a six month illegal war, using covert intelligence services, outside agitators, and US funds and equipment.

There is nothing to applaud in this immoral and fatal invasion. Regime change by force is illegal according to international law. Whitewashing this crime does not help the cause of any civilized nation which operates, at least ostensibly, according to the rule of law.

The NATO attacks, bombings, and invasions have been about regime change and transnational banking concerns. The invasion had little to do with humanity or human suffering.

This war of choice will come back to haunt us. Either the British and French, with support from the United States, will setup a puppet regime to deliver their demands... or NATO forces will withdraw and the nation will be embroiled in an extended bloody war between factions. This precipitous invasion was ill-advised, and will cost untold lives.

"Was there a better way to save lives? Yes, if given the chance. We know that President Lula da Silva (former president of Brazil) offered to lead a mediation mission to mediate a ceasefire. This was supported by Latin American countries, the African Union

and even the weak-kneed Arab League. Gaddafi had agreed to the idea of a ceasefire, including international forces, to observe it. This was turned down by NATO and their vassals in Benghazi. The African Union mission was humiliated in Benghazi and the Western media hosted discussions that ridiculed the AU initiatives. Peace was given no chance. Why? Because the agenda is regime change and not the protection of civilians." ~CHARLES ABUGRE, ~CounterPunch.org, July 29 - 31, 2011

More than 3000 Libyans have died on the ground. If not for this war, they would still be alive, the ground would be intact, Libyans would still have free college educations, there would be no humanitarian crisis, and the unemployed would still receive subsidies.

"Qaddafi may be a dictator but he is no worse than the likes of King Abdullah of Saudi Arabia or the now-deposed Egyptian dictator Hosni Mubarak or a host of others in the region. So why has the West picked on him? His real sins are to be found in his attempts to break loose from the global financial and political nexus headquartered in New York, London, Geneva, and Tel Aviv. This the West would not allow because it would undermine their exploitative policies and domination of the global financial markets, especially in resource-rich regions like Africa and the Muslim East. There is more to Libya than meets the eye, and it certainly has nothing to do with the

West's contrived concern for the well-being of the Libyan people. They are merely pawns in a much larger global game." <http://vineyard-saker.blogspot.com/2011/07/reasons-behind-west-attack-on-libya.html>

These realities are not something so easily ignored. In the real world, the UN did not sanction the war or the invasion. They sanctioned a no fly zone. The Portland Alliance speaks to loyal progressives, socialists, liberals, atheists, and politically enlightened reformers who want this nation and our leaders to live up to our values.

Alliance readers will not condone the misuse of public funds to perpetuate needless wars. These funds could and should be used to rebuild this nation so that all families can grow and prosper. Not just working families, but the unemployed, underemployed, disabled, discouraged, and disenfranchised. Sometimes explaining global

realities in local context is difficult and defining relationships between what happens in Libya, Iraq, and Main street, USA can be relatively complex. But certain qualities of justice are undiminished by complexity.

Many of us do not see political assassinations as "justice." We see them as a breakdown of the rule of law. What goes around, comes around. Today's progressives want social justice: for most of us this means a balance of both conservative values (conserving the environment and the constitution) and liberal American traditions which support social progress and jobs with justice. Peace, justice, and freedom begin with each one of us.

Criticism of misguided American policies is not Anti-American. Rhetoric cannot hide, shade, or disguise the truth. And speaking truth to power may set us free. Thanks for all you do. The Alliance has got your back.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### The Portland Alliance Community Meetings

**Sunday, October 9th:**  
Writers Workshop with Peer feedback on current work: novels writing, essays, poetry, etc. 4-9 or so pm at 5926 N Albina Will light the grill at 2pm.

### Tuesday, October 11th:

TPA Board Meeting (Delayed from Sept.) June Key Delta Community Center Welcomes us! 7-9 pm at 5940 N Albina

### Sunday, October 16:

Standing Editorial Committee: Writers Meeting & BBQ... Out back! 2-8 pm at 5926 N. Albina

### Monday October 24th:

Copy Editing Party For November Issue 7pm -? pm at 5926 North Albina

There will be food, bring some to share!



"I encourage everyone who has supported the Alliance in the past to do so once again. I also encourage those who value the newspaper but never subscribed to show your support at this critical time."

Sincerely, Dave Mazza,  
Former Editor (2000-2007)

**15 September 2011**  
Open letter to  
President Wim Wiewel  
[president@pdx.edu](mailto:president@pdx.edu)

Portland State University

Dear President Wiewel:

First, please accept this letter in the spirit of respectful dialog and critical inquiry.. It has come to our attention that Portland State University will be hosting Condoleezza Rice on October 19, 2011, as a speaker. We the undersigned are writing to express profound concern and to ask a few clarifying questions. Dr. Rice has many wonderful accomplishments to her credit, but she has some tremendous downsides as

*Please see Letters on page 3*

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### Marla the media mutt says...

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HUMAN RIGHTS ACCOU

### EDITORIAL GUIDELINES ▶

Letters to the editor should be 400 words or less. Include address and phone number to verify authenticity. E-mail is preferred. All material may be edited for clarity, style, and space considerations.

### DEADLINES<sup>4</sup>

- ▶ Articles, Letters to the Editor, & Advertising: 14th-19th of Month
- ▶ Calendar Announcements: 19-21st

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well. These are our concerns:

- Dr. Rice, according to several legal experts, may face charges of war crimes and crimes against humanity at some date in the future for her roles as National Security Advisor and United States Secretary of State in the Bush administration. Some hold that the only reason she has not been charged by the International Criminal Court to date is that the U.S. has refused to join the vast majority of nations on Earth in signing and ratifying that treaty (indeed, it was the administration she was part of that officially 'unsigned' that treaty, which would have subjected all US citizens, irrespective of power positions, to international law of war and human rights).
- We may besmirch our PSU name by hosting her and may send the wrong message to our students and to the community, a message that PSU is unconcerned about possible criminal conduct of an important government official, past or present.
- Some members of Portland's peace and justice groups are expressing dismay that our town's university would invite someone who is widely considered both an architect of the arguably illegal invasion of Iraq and someone who helped formulate and defend policies, such as extraordinary rendition, that resulted in torture and illegal detention of people.
- Some PSU students or graduates were amongst those detained, sometimes for months, by the US government, simply as members of identity groups targeted following the tragic

events of 9.11.01. Those violations of civil liberties remain a trauma for many of these PSU students and alumni.

- Many of our international students are going to be hurt by this, many of our professors will be aghast, and the larger Portland community will include

**“Dr. Rice, according to several legal experts, may face charges of war crimes and crimes against humanity at some date in the future for her roles as National Security Advisor and United States Secretary of State in the Bush administration.”**

a great deal of opposition, stated or not. There are, then, multiple issues involved here, some minor and some quite serious.

- Is Dr. Rice being paid to come? By whom? If so, how much?
- Will the PSU administration reach out to the international student community to explain this invitation?
- Will Dr. Rice be available to professors and community leaders for any special dialog/truth and reconciliation/restorative justice sessions?
- Will there be a respondent of some stature who can offer alternative views when she delivers her keynote, since her stature is both considerable and

contentiously controversial? Perhaps Dr. Rice is interested in dialog with those who seek to understand how the inner circle of an administration can be so radically wrong about such an important matter as invading another country or permitting torture—just as there were many studies done on the Bay of Pigs decision-making fiasco. We would happily work to help assemble such a group—and we would further commit to helping moderate any such discussion to assure its adherence to best civil dialog practices. We look forward to your response. Respectfully,

Tom H. Hastings, Anne Trudeau, Cristy Murray, Ann Huntwork, Jane Gordon, Robert M. Goss, Terri Shofner, Gene Wilcox, Roberta Hunte, Nancy Ellen Rawley, Stephanie Van Hook, Genny Kortez, Dick Hill, Jo Ann Hardesty, Patrick Hiller, Kerry Bassett, Christina Hulbe, Joy Henry, Peter Bergel, Kathleen Barnaby, '84, Rob Gould, Moira Keller, Zuazana Molkanova, Leah Bolger, CDR, USN (Ret), Wim Laven, Shannon O'Hurley, Mike Caruso, Angela Sasek, Allison Huerter, Leslie O'Donoghue, Amanda Smith Byron, Timothy Martin Flanagan Tracy Borlaug, Elena Rivier, Martha Perez, Myrlaviani Rivier, Alexandra Bradbury. Linda Richards, Arisana Kim Tolemei, Charles Busch, Cristopher Baum, Michael Munk, Dale Hardway, Kate Kangas, '11, Edie Kite, Malcolm J. Chaddock, Karen Boyer, Ty Olson, Swapna Mukhopadhyay, Pamela Allee, Linda McKim-Bell, Bruce A. Krug Marion Ward, Nancy Erickson, Troy


Horton, Tad Beckwith, Reg Keddie, Mark Waller, Dannelle Stevens, Robert M. Schneider. Ray Jubitz, Harvey Thorstad, PhD, Cdr. USNR (ret.), The Portland Alliance, & Whitefeather Peace House

1 Some links, with brief annotation, to germane information:  
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=O59Y6JLxXY&feature=related> (Professor Alan Gilbert of the Josef Korbel School of International Studies on the topic of "Should Condoleezza Rice stand trial for war crimes?" from May 2nd, 2009.)  
<http://www.wilpf.org/files/PeaceAndFreedom/sPeaceAndFreedom-2010Spring.pdf> (p. 18, an article by a world nongovernmental group, registered as a participant in the UN and whose leaders have included Nobel Peace laureates, with a historically strong record, predating WWI, of robust and credible public involvement promoting peace)  
<http://www.bushtoth Hague.org/> (Shows the official charges filed by International Law professor Francis A. Boyle at the ICC against the US officials named responsible for torture, including Dr. Rice)  
<http://www.globalresearch.ca/articles/COH309B.html> (Article by past President of the National Lawyers Guild, law professor Marjorie Cohn, on the Bush officials'—including Dr. Rice—reactions to indictment of war crimes by a Belgian court)  
<http://www.globalissues.org/article/490/united-states-and-the-icc> (This is an article about the International Criminal Court and the US history of signing and then unsign-

Letters Continued Page 4


From *New Yorker* Cartoonist and Creator of *Too Much Coffee Man*:

# Shannon Wheeler's One-One-One-One



(One-Hundred-and-One One-Panel Cartoons, a One-Man Show)  
**Oct 6 to Dec 1**  
**PCPA, 1111 SW Broadway, Portland**

Shannon Wheeler showcases his original art drawn for *The New Yorker*. One-hundred-and-one cartoons will be on display and for sale. More information: [www.tmc.com/tmcm/on-exhibit](http://www.tmc.com/tmcm/on-exhibit)  
 Opening party on First Thursday, October 6, 2011 6pm-9pm



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# Global Perspectives!

## Has Black Anger Ended?

Black Press International Business/  
Economic Feature By William Reed

The worst abuses of the Jim Crow era have been eliminated, but the moral outrage inspired by a personal encounter with bigotry remains the most powerful vehicle for conveying the injuries and indignities of racial inequality.



In the days since the great civil rights awakening, a revolution has occurred across America. Uptight suburbanites who couldn't imagine socializing with, working for or marrying a "Negro," have given way to a new and different generation. That process has cleared the way for a generation of

**"Younger Blacks are more likely to believe that they can personally overcome institutional racism because there are ways to get around it"**

"Black Believers" who fully accept that America means what it says when it promises to treat them fairly. Are these young African Americans naive about racism or basically more confident than their elders? Now, from a venerated and best-selling author on American life comes a tremendously important book about one of the most significant issues in the history of our republic - America's race relations.

The book, *The End of Anger* by Ellis Cose offers a fresh, original appraisal of our nation at this extraordinary time, tracking the diminishment of Black anger and investigating the "generational shifting of the American mind." Weaving material from myriad interviews as well as two large and ambitious surveys - one of Black Harvard MBAs and the other of graduates of A Better Chance, a program that has offered elite educational opportunities to thousands of young people of color since 1963 - Cose offers an invaluable portrait of contemporary America in which all agree that life is different for

an African American than

it is for a White American. Cose says that what is different is the perception of discrimination in terms of their life possibilities. Younger Blacks are more likely to believe that they can personally overcome institutional racism because there are ways to get around it that their parents didn't have, and their grandparents could not even imagine. Cose sketches a picture of consistent historical and generational change in which growing optimism among Blacks is a natural response to waning racial bigotry among Whites. In *The End of Anger*, Cose names each generation to reflect improving race relations: the Black "Fighters" of midcentury America were succeeded by the civil rights "Dreamers" of the late 20th century, who are now sharing power and prominence with the "Believers" of the new millennium. Cose's collection of intergenerational interviews provides tangible evidence of the improvement in racial dynamics over the past

*Anger continues on Page 23*

## Obama's Bush League World: A Pilotless Drone?

by Tom Engelhardt,

### Is the Obama National Security Team a Pilotless Drone?

George W. who? I mean, the guy is so over. He turned the big six-five the other day and it was barely a footnote in the news. And Dick Cheney, tick-tick-tick. Condoleezza Rice? She's already onto her next memoir, and yet it's as if she's been wiped from history, too? As for Donald Rumsfeld, he published his memoir in February and it hit the bestseller lists, but a few months later, where is he?



And can anyone be surprised? They were wrong about Afghanistan. They were wrong about Iraq. They were wrong about Saddam Hussein's weapons of mass destruction. They were wrong about what the U.S. military was capable of doing. The country imploded economically while they were at the helm. Geopolitically speaking, they headed the car of state for the nearest cliff. In fact, when it comes to pure wrongness, what weren't they wrong about?

Americans do seem to have turned the page on Bush and his cronies. (President Obama called it looking forward, not backward.) Still, glance over your shoulder and, if you're being honest, you'll have to admit that one thing didn't happen: they didn't turn the page on us.

They may have disappeared from our lives, but the post-9/11 world they had such a mad hand in creating hasn't. It's not just the Department of Homeland Security or that un-American word "homeland," both of which are undoubtedly embedded in our lives forever; or the Patriot Act, now as American as apple pie; or Guantanamo which, despite a presidential promise, may never close; or all the wild, overblown fears of terrorism and the new security world that goes with them, neither of which shows the slightest sign of abating; or the National Security Agency's surveillance and spying on Americans which, as far as we can tell, is ongoing. No, it's scores of Bush policies and positions that will clearly be with us until hell freezes over. Among them all, consider the Obama administration's updated version of that signature Bush invention, the Global War on Terror.

Yes, Obama's national security officials threw that term to the dogs back in 2009, and now pursue a no-name global strategy that's meant not to remind you of the Bush era. Recently, the White House released an unclassified summary of its 2011 "National Strategy for Counterterrorism," a 19-page document in prose only a giant bureaucracy with a desire to be impenetrable could produce. (Don't bother to read it. I read it for you.) If it makes a feeble attempt to put a little rhetorical space between Obama-style counterterrorism and what the Bush administration was doing, it still manages to send one overwhelming message: George W. Bush, Dick Cheney, et al., are still

*"Drone" continued on Page 19*

## Populist Dialogues

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## More Letters to the editor of The Portland Alliance

*Letters, continued from Page 3*

ing the treaty that has established the ICC as a permanent inter

national institution with jurisdiction over all signatory nations).

[http://www.huffingtonpost.com/coleen-rowley/american-faust-from-condi\\_b\\_393618.html](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/coleen-rowley/american-faust-from-condi_b_393618.html) (This is a review of a documentary made about Condoleezza Rice called *American Faust*. The reviewer is a former FBI agent who agrees that Rice clearly gave directives to torture suspects during interrogations.)

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YQUiuB0aFG4> (Ten-minute documentary film excerpt that examines the role of Bush administration officials, including

Dr. Rice, in issuing knowingly false statements about Iraq during the period justifying that invasion, between Oct 2002-Mar 2003.)

\*\*\*\*\*

Dear Professor Hastings,

Thank you for your recent letter regarding Dr. Condoleezza Rice's upcoming appearance at the Simon Benson Awards Dinner. Please share my response with the faculty members, students, and others who signed your letter and any others who are interested.

The Simon Benson Awards Dinner

is an annual event sponsored by the private non-profit Portland State University Foundation at the Oregon Convention Center that brings together the greater community to honor local philanthropists who support the community and the university, to celebrate the successes of Portland State and to raise private money for important university goals, such as student scholarships. The event features a well-known public figure each year to speak. Past events have included speakers from both major parties across the political spectrum, such as Madeline Albright, Colin Powell, Mario Cuomo, and Robert Dole.

The Foundation selected Dr. Rice to be this year's speaker largely because of her personal story. Her parents in Alabama were educators, and through her own education and career achievements, she rose to become the first African American woman to serve as U.S. secretary of state. She returned to Stanford University after the 2008 election, where she is a political science and economics professor and a public policy fellow at the Hoover Institution. At Stanford, she was appointed chief academic officer in 1993, the first female and youngest provost to hold that position in Stanford's history. She

*Letters continued on page 10*

# Dr. King: The Monument, The Legacy, and Today's Wars

By William Loren Katz

## The Pentagon and the King Legacy

This weekend it has taken a hurricane to postpone the dedication of the long-awaited monument to Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. in Washington -- the first time a man who is not a president, not a white man and not a war leader has been so honored on the Mall. Major corporations contributed to this monument, so the question is how will Dr. King be presented to the American public and remembered by children. One clear viewpoint was offered this January 13th when the Pentagon commemorated Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day with [an address by Jeh C. Johnson](#), the Defense Department's general counsel.

In the final year of his life, King became an outspoken opponent of the Vietnam War, Johnson frankly told a packed auditorium of Defense Department officials. However, Johnson hastily added, today's wars are not out of line with the iconic Nobel Peace Prize winner's teachings. "I believe that if Dr. King were alive today, he would recognize that we live in a complicated world, and that our nation's military should not and cannot lay down its arms and leave the American people vulnerable to terrorist attack."

Really? Dr. King's first anti-war speech, "Declaration of Independence from the War In Vietnam" delivered on April 4, 1967 at the Riverside Church in New

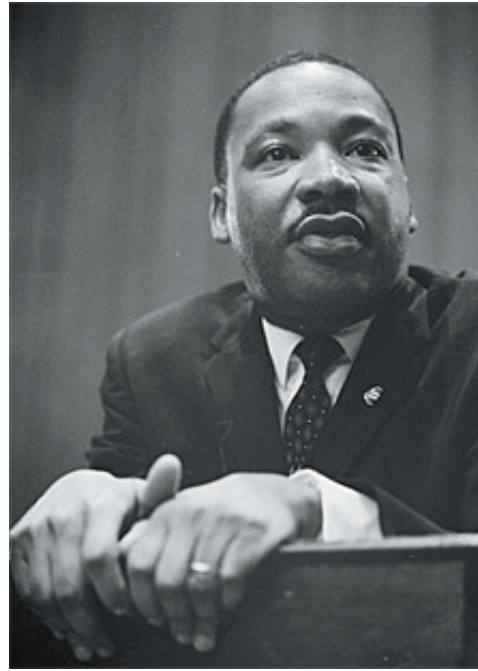


Image from the United States Library of Congress' Prints and Photographs division under the digital ID ppmc.01269.

York City, is not only eloquent and passionate but also carefully reasoned and as uncomplicated in its message as its title. Dr. King knew his call for U.S. withdrawal from Vietnam would bring

challenges to his leadership and moral purpose from his enemies, many of his friends in the civil rights movement, and lead to increased FBI harassment. He was denounced by the New York Times, the Washington Post as well as his usual foes. He had dared to speak at a moment when U.S. officials from the president down warned that communism's triumph in Vietnam would lead to victories across Asia and beyond, and had made Americans as fearful of communism as they are of today's terrorists.

But King was resolute. "A time comes when silence is betrayal," King said. He minced few words, referring to "my own government" as "the greatest purveyor of violence in the world today." Has much changed today when the U.S. boasts the largest military budget in history, one larger than all other countries around combined? The United States still has bases on every continent, and its armed forces fight in and occupy Iraq and Afghanistan for longer than it fought in World War II. Weekly we hear the government contemplates air strikes against Iran's nuclear building sites, or even an invasion.

Dr. King called for withdrawal from Vietnam. Had he lived, would he not have also called for a withdrawal from Iraq and Afghanistan? Would he have

**"In the final year of his life, King became an outspoken opponent of the Vietnam War"**

failed to see parallels that are as obvious as they are frightening? Early in his address, Dr. King pointed out that "our leaders refused to tell us the truth" about our war in Vietnam. Can we ever forget that the U.S. attack on Iraq was initiated to destroy weapons of mass destruction that never existed, and retaliate against Saddam Hussein and Iraq that had no part in the 9/11 attacks on the United States? In the name of Iraqi freedom our leaders ordered the torture of prisoners, and promoted democracy by supporting corrupt leaders who lack popular support. The people of Vietnam, King said, "must see Americans as strange liberators." In Afghanistan today those who suffer from drone attacks directed from afar, and from other deadly searches for terrorists, do not see us as liberators. They see a distant power occupying and oppressing innocent civilians, and see the United States as

*Martin continued on Page 10*

October 2011 Continued from Page 1

## LABOR DAY & OCCUPY WALL STREET!



By Kevin Zeese -

### Three hundred million Americans can take control of the economy and country

The Roman philosopher and statesman, Marcus Tullius Cicero said "Freedom is participation in power." By that standard Americans are not free. We do not participate in power. We do not even have power over our own economic lives, our elected "representatives" ignore us and listen to the moneyed interests sending the United States in the wrong direction on issue after issue. The American people know better, would govern better and need to participate in power.

When you dispassionately review the reality of the U.S. economy, it is a depressing state of affairs that screams out for Americans to get up, stand up and shout: "we can do better than the political and economic elites." The opportunity to stand up is here: October2011.org.

This article focuses on the domestic policies that are destroying the most powerful economy in history, but war spending, which makes up more than half of discretionary federal spending, is one of the root causes of the economic collapse. Nobel Prize winning economist, Joseph Stiglitz writes: "Today,

America is focused on unemployment and the deficit. Both threats to America's future can, in no small measure, be traced to the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq." He and Linda Bilmes calculated America's war costs three years ago conservative at \$3 trillion to \$5 trillion -- these costs have escalated since then.

Domestically the brutal failure of government is evident in the way working Americans are treated. The high levels of unemployment are not the only story; four decades of stagnant incomes and decreasing share of the gross domestic product going to workers are long term trends; the fragility of peoples' personal finances, record foreclosure, high student debt and the lack of control over our economic lives all show the need for an economic transformation to a new, democratized economy.

Unemployment is persistently high. Roughly 31% of U.S. workers experienced unemployment or underemployment at some point in 2009. President Obama has never put forth a real jobs program instead preferring to tinker with corporate tax breaks -- a proven non-solution now resulting in zero job growth. The official unemployment rate greatly underestimates unemployment because it has been used as a political tool and has been changed over the years, e.g. in 1994 the government stopped counting discouraged workers who have given up looking for employment. At a time when an all-time high number of Americans are "not in the labor force" this manipulation of data has a dramatic impact. An apolitical analysis of unemployment, that counts the total number of people in need of employment, results in a current unemployment rate of 22.5%, an all-time record total of 34 million people are currently in need of work.

Source: Shadow Stats.

There are many examples of high

unemployment, underemployment and people dropping out of the labor market, but one that got my attention most recently was a report from the Bureau of Labor Statistics, reporting that an astounding 51% of youth are unemployed:

"In July, the employment-population ratio for youth -- the proportion of the 16- to 24-year old civilian noninstitutional population that was employed -- was 48.8 percent, a record low for the series... (The month of July typically is the summertime peak in youth employment.)"

Fifty-one percent of youth unemployed and even more underemployed is a very dangerous situation for the future workforce as it comes at a time when students are leaving school in greater debt than ever before. A recent report by Moody's Analytics found record borrowing by college students who are graduating without jobs. In an economy where people had power we would see free college education rather than cuts in Pell Grants and rapid tuition increases at state colleges.

In a Labor Day report, the Economic Policy Institute demonstrates that unemployment leaves long-term scars on families and communities. The pain caused by persistently high unemployment is not limited to workers who are currently unemployed but extends to the broader workforce and the country in general through lost wages, income and wealth, as well as higher poverty.

As one example of many, in California one in four families had trouble feeding their children, indeed 68.6% of students in schools in Fresno County and 65.6% in Los Angeles County were eligible to receive free or reduced-price meals in 2010. Nationwide, the National Academy of Sciences released a report that concluded 52,765,000 Americans, 17.3% of the population, lived in poverty in 2009. And, for children, census data shows a total of 15.5 million American

**"President Obama has never put forth a real jobs program instead preferring to tinker with corporate tax breaks -- a proven non-solution"**

children lived in poverty in 2009 -- 20% of all children. According to a 2011 report from the Children's Defense Fund, "every day in America 2,573 babies are born into poverty." All of these levels of poverty have worsened in the last two years since the Census Report, so they are underestimates.

The economic collapse resulted in the average U.S. household wealth declining by 28%. This represents a loss of \$27,000 per household -- in households that make less money today than they did back in 1971. Currently, at least 62 million Americans, 20% of U.S. households, have zero or negative net worth. Indeed, a majority, or 64%, of Americans don't have enough cash on hand to handle a \$1,000 emergency expense, according to the National Foundation for Credit Counseling.

An August 2011 report by the National Employment Law Project concludes jobs created since the recession of officially ended are reducing worker income: 73% of the jobs created since the supposed recovery began have been low-wage jobs, where workers make between \$7.51 (the national minimum wage) and \$13.52 an hour (\$15,621 to \$28,122 a year for full-time). In contrast, 60% of the layoffs were in mid-wage jobs that made between \$28,142 and \$42,973 per year.

An important reflection on Labor Day is: are we seeing the death of the middle class? Are we in what Marx described

*On the Mend continued on Page 16*

# National Perspectives

## Kucinich Korner...



**Kucinich Defends Boeing Workers; Calls for Defeat of 'Legislative Pardon' for Management Violation of the National Labor Relations Act**

"Congress should want Boeing to succeed but not by undermining its workforce which is the best in the world."

Washington D.C. (July 21, 2011) -

our colleagues against each other, but it pits the Congress against all workers by essentially striking any remedy for egregious violation.

This legislation undermines the rights of American workers to defend their right to organize, to defend their right to collective bargaining, to defend their right to strike, to defend their right to decent wages and benefits, to defend their right to a retirement and to defend their right to a safe workplace.

"It diminishes the standing of all workers. It is a bill that is bad for business because the essential relationship of cooperation which is needed in our economy between business and labor is destroyed by stopping a remedy. It accelerates an adversarial relationship. It sets a precedent for Congress to intervene in other regulatory matters of this sort.

stoppages. That is bogus.

"This was caused by mismanagement of the 787 project where the Dreamliner was subject to a vendor system that was spread around the globe, because of a vendor system that was out of control because of poor quality controls within that vendor system, because of parts that didn't fit and the U.S. workers didn't have anything to do with it.

"This is managers scapegoating workers in order to try to duck questions by their investors. We really have to look at what we are doing here; Boeing has wanted to put the blame on the workers for delay and development of its Dreamliner. This is a question of Boeing management, and I have to say that this Congress should want Boeing to succeed but not by undermining its workforce which is the best in the world.

"We need an American First manufacturing policy where the maintenance of aerospace, steel, automotive, and shipping is deemed to vital to our national security and we need to protect American workers along with that by protecting their basic rights to enforcement of the National Labor Relations Act. This law devastates their right to recovery.

"We should be concerned about protecting American jobs, protecting America's basic industries and protecting America's basic workers. We should be concerned about taking a stand for America on this, and I say that this legislation isn't mindful of that and we need to strike it down."

###

Lakewood Office | 14400 Detroit Avenue, Lakewood, Ohio 44107 | Phone (216) 228-8850 | Fax (216) 228-6465

Parmatown Mall | 7904 Day Drive, Parma, Ohio 44129 | Phone (440) 845-2707 | Fax (440) 845-2743

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*Dennis Kucinich is a Progressive Representative from the State of Ohio*

wake of Osama bin Laden's death. Every day, the warfare wallpaper inside the mass-media echo chamber is a bit more familiar, blurring the public vision into more drowsy acceptance of perpetual war.

Years ago, U.S. military spending climbed above \$2 billion per day. Some of the consequences can be understood in the context of words that President Dwight Eisenhower uttered in April 1953, during a speech that began by addressing "the chance for a just peace for all peoples" and ended with the word "peace."

In the speech, Eisenhower declared: "Every gun that is made, every warship launched, every rocket fired signifies, in the final sense, a theft from those who hunger and are not fed, those who are cold and are not clothed. This world in arms is not spending money alone. It is spending the sweat of its laborers, the genius of its scientists, the hopes of its children. ... This is not a way of life at all, in any true sense. Under the cloud of threatening war, it is humanity hanging from a cross of iron."

Maybe, as a former commanding general, Ike felt some freedom to talk like that. But in the current era, trapped within the "war on terror" matrix, Washington's political framework leaves very little space for serious talk of peace.

When war ("on terror") is touted as the embodiment of eternal vigilance, war must be eternal -- and in that case, why bother to talk much about striving for peace?

So, peace might be a good goal to recommend to some others -- but if the United States is terrorism's biggest target and most powerful foe, then this country is the last place that should expect, or seek, peace.

In the process, the warfare state pins a multitude of hopes on war -- with a perverse acculturated faith that it will right wrongs, avenge cruelty, straighten the crooked, cleanse the fetid, prevent violence. Countless times, those delusional hopes have boosted the spirals of suffering. But who's counting?

In one of Kabul's poorest neighborhoods, when I spoke with a group of about twenty very poor women in the late summer of 2009, I asked what they needed most of all. Their unanimous response translated as one word: "peace."

But at the top of Washington's hierarchy, the yearning is very different. The nation's decade-long war effort in Afghanistan, where it costs \$1 million to deploy one U.S. soldier for one year, is a grisly symptom of chronic war fever. More enemies are easy to find, and even easier to make.

A country that's committed to being at war will treat the real potential for peace as an abstraction.

*Norman Solomon is the author of a dozen books and was the director of the National Citizens Hearings for Radiation Victims in 1980. He has written about health and environmental effects of the nuclear industry. For two years ending in late 2010, he served as co-chair of the Commission on a Green New Deal for the North Bay. And he is now running for congress.*

**"Younger Blacks are more likely to believe that they can personally overcome institutional racism because there are ways to get around it"**

Kucinich today called for the defeat of a 'legislative pardon' for Boeing management and called on his colleagues to focus on creating an American First manufacturing policy that would protect America's manufacturing jobs as well as American workers.

"We would not be here if Boeing had not violated the National Labor Relations Act and punished its workers for lawfully protected activity. The punishment that workers received was moving jobs from one area of the country to another.

"This bill represents an extraordinary intervention in an ongoing legal process. We have to ask, is Boeing seeking this? Is Boeing seeking a legislative pardon for its violation of the law?"

"Boeing workers only had three strikes in twenty years and on issues of great consequence; health care benefits, pension benefits. One strike was because they wanted to spend more time with their families on weekends; they didn't want to be forced to work on the weekends. Let's talk about family values here.

"We know that Boeing executives have said that moving the Dreamliner to South Carolina was due to strikes happening every three to four years and that the decision was made in order to reduce Boeing's vulnerability to delivery disruptions caused by work

"This bill is wrong on so many fronts. It interferes with an active case where the employer has already been found by the NLRB (Acting General Counsel) to have openly violated federal law. It gives that employer a legislative pardon. It destroys the very concept of equal justice before the law and equal protection of the law. It is an attack on the First Amendment rights of workers to free speech and it destroys their right to a legal remedy. It has Constitutional questions that involve the Fifth and the Fourteenth Amendments. It tramples on the rights of workers who, consistent with their rights under the National Labor Relations Act, who have legally protected right to strike and they are punished for it, punished by having their jobs moved out of state.

"Now this legislation doesn't just pit workers in South Carolina against workers in Washington State, and pit

## Media Beat

BY NORMAN SOLOMON



### The Search for War

In times of war, U.S. presidents have often talked about yearning for peace. But the last decade has brought a gradual shift in the rhetorical zeitgeist while a tacit assumption has taken hold -- war must go on, one way or another.

"I am continuing and I am increasing the search for every possible path to peace," Lyndon Johnson said while escalating the Vietnam War. In early 1991, the first President Bush offered

the public this convulsion: "Even as planes of the multinational forces attack Iraq, I prefer to think of peace, not war." More than a decade later, George W. Bush told a joint session of Congress: "We seek peace. We strive for peace."

While absurdly hypocritical, such claims mouthed the idea that the USA need not be at war 24/7/365.

But these days, peace gets less oratorical juice. In this era, after all, the amorphous foe known as "terror" will never surrender.

There's an intractable enemy for you; beatable but never quite defeatable. Terrorists are bound to keep popping up somewhere.

A permanent war psychology has dug a groove alongside the permanent war economy. And so, we hear appreciably less about Washington's ostensible

quest for peace.

Right now, we're told, President Obama is wrestling with the question of how much to reduce U.S. troop levels in Afghanistan. It's a fateful decision, and we should pressure members of Congress and the White House, pushing for military withdrawal and an end to the air war.

But, just as the reduction of U.S. troop strength in Iraq allowed for escalation in Afghanistan, a search for enemies is apt to be inexhaustible. When Uncle Sam's proclaimed global mission is to prevent other countries from being used as a base for a terrorist attack on the United States, the Pentagon's combat tasks are bottomless.

Whether or not the "war on terror" buzz phrase gets official use, the tacit assumption of war without end is now the old normal, again renewed in the

## King's Legacy Immortalized by Monument

By YUGEN FARDAN RASHAD  
**Gentrification Illuminates Journey to Equal Access**

My intent here is to acknowledge ground-breaking research in the past few years on the impact of gentrification. We reference published works that document indifference, dislocation, generational poverty, and health disparities among vulnerable populations. Yet, as a society, we don't have to rest on failed policy, hurt feelings, and poor judgment.

The works cited here challenge us to tease hope to move forward from local histories. We refer to research and findings published by community-based organizations and an insightful from the *State of Black Oregon, Urban League of Portland; Communities of Color in Multnomah County*. This is an unsettling profile: by the Coalition of Communities of Color, Also *Bleeding Albina: A History of Community Disinvestment, 1940-2000*, written by Karen J. Gibson, associate professor of urban studies and planning Portland State University and the *North Williams Traffic Operations Safety Project*, that facilitates community input about a way to make traveling on North Williams Avenue (between Wielder and Killingsworth) safer and more comfortable for all users. The latter project endeavors to include voices from the impacted community about ways to reduce and/or manage



education, health, and home ownership.

These information streams meet at the intersection of how the topology of our discourse supports moving beyond the transparencies of indifference towards a better vision and a desired outcome of equitable access to resources and opportunities for vulnerable populations.

The fundamental questions about

**“The fundamental questions about human and individual rights these documents raise are essential”**

conflicts that arise between cyclists, drivers and public transportation on Williams Ave following gentrification.

Public input that began over the summer winds down, with recommendations for street changes. Professor Gibson (*Bleeding Albina*) revisits Portland's sorted history of migratory patterns of blacks caused in part by redlining: denial of loans for home purchases or improvements; and segregation. An Unsettling Profile deals with the question of how little change has happened following the lessons learned from a lurid history of dysfunctional race relations and discriminatory practices. *State of Black Oregon* compiles data on the progress made by blacks in areas of wealth creation, employment,

human and individual rights these documents raise are essential for governments and the private sector to learn where to begin, and how to effectively eliminate discrimination and racism. In example: These formal studies have facilitated understanding: the distinction between prejudice and racism and the difference it makes when an employer or decision-maker keeps personal opinion, and social responsibility – separate. This is why we celebrate the progressive thinking these documents encourage. They generate discourse about how we can be a better society.

But this is easier said than done. The convergence of socially-responsible community champions, evidenced by

these writings, creates a narrative with the power to change hearts, minds, and hence our direction. Our journey is now acknowledged to be more important than our destination.

When Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. said he may not get there (*The Promised Land*) he showed an understanding of the terrain, of the journey, the mission, and the dream. Over our life spans we make lucid his apostolic predictions. A more perfect union we are not, yet. The vision deliberated by Urban League of Portland, Communities of Color, and Professor Gibson underscore the important role documentation plays in our advance. These documents are leverage to measure incremental change and practice. Even while the adage nothing new under the sun is off-repeated, the authors challenge us to re-imagine our society through our willingness to empower a common vision that continually illuminates the journey without a destination. It's when we stop things become stagnant. But through our advance toward equity and justice everything is new.

*Yugen Fardan Rashad: Country boy with jazz sensibility; splits time living in secular, spiritual, and art worlds. Serious making it about the 'other,' and encourages people to live outside comfort zones, experience life more broadly, & contribute mightily to community life*

## The Corporate War on Public Service Unions and Education

by Max Linden-Levy

On Saturday evening, August 20th, the Freedom Socialist Party and Radical Women of Portland, in conjunction with celebration of Women's Rights Day, sponsored reports on the July, 2011 Save Our Schools conference and march in Washington D.C. Laura Mannen, a bilingual elementary teacher, feminist and active education unionist from Forest Grove; and Steve Hoffman, shop steward at North Seattle Community College for the Washington Federation of State Employees presented their personal reports and responded to questions from the nearly fifty attendees.

The crises in the public service unions and education, which both speakers agreed was essentially three leveled, was the decline in union membership due to a lack of awareness, particularly on the part of new teachers, about the benefits of collective bargaining in creating and maintaining quality education in public systems; the lack of aggressive action on the part of Union leadership in confrontations with both State and Federal governments in education issues; the establishment of the charter school concept which is regarded as a combined assault by corporate interests and government on public school systems and the educational unions that help to maintain those systems.

Both speakers felt that the charter school was perhaps the most significant and immediate danger. In essence, a charter school is a private for profit institution formed under the umbrella of a public board of education and



Photo by Max Linden-Levy

benefiting from public funding – thus drawing funds away from the public system -- while not, after establishment, being responsible to the local board that created it and not being bound by either contracts or compacts previously established by the public board. Charter systems have their own boards. Often, under certain initial contractual agreements, the corporate provider may control up 50 percent of the seats on the school's board. While any student in a given district may apply to a charter school, such schools are able to pick and choose which students they will accept. Charter schools are not bound by the public district's responsibility to provide special needs education nor are they bound, except in very general ways, to a specific curriculum. Under "No Child Left Behind" charter schools have become test preparation factories the only aim of which is to meet NCLB requirements in lieu of more comprehensive educational standards. As well, charter schools make a point of not employing union affiliated educators thereby effectively deleting

collective bargaining as a way in which professional teachers can hold school systems to higher educational standards. Charter schools, both speakers agreed -- are a useful tool for local boards intent on cost cutting through sacrifice of instructional positions -- were nothing more than franchise structures requiring no particular expertise in education, only the funds to buy in.

The second issue discussed by Mannen and Hoffman was the effectiveness of union leadership at both the local and national levels. Both speakers felt that leadership had let down the rank and file with a failure to be assertive. It was noted that the conference and march on Washington D.C. was entirely the effort of individual rank and file union members as well as concerned parents who paid their own way and were not acting under the sponsorship of the national organizations. With such slogans as: "Save our schools, end corporate rule;" "Banks got bailed out, schools got sold out;" and "It's poverty, stupid!" upwards of ten thousand marchers made their concerns known to the White House, The Department of Education and Congress, all of which, regardless of party, have been unresponsive. As one of the speakers at the conference remarked in regards to both political parties, "They're both wings of the same pigeon, and it's crapping on us."

**“Homelessness is on the rise, as thousands of Americans have lost their housing and jobs in recent years.”**

In the end, both Mannen and Hoffman noted that the failure of leadership was in great part responsible for the decline in union membership as new teachers coming into the profession failed to see any professional benefit in union membership.

The speakers did see very positive lessons learned as a result of the SOS march. In particular the effectiveness of rank and file, grass roots activity in forcing local leadership to respond more aggressively or be replaced. In many instances small groups simply organized around their leadership. An example given was the response of teachers in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. After a massive layoff, rank and file rallied community support for demonstrations and protests. Later the same tactics were used in Madison where the local union president refused to respond. That individual is no longer the president of the Madison union. In as much as, the speakers felt, all public service unions are under attack nationally, the experiences of the educational unions would be seminal in the survival of public service unionism as a whole. As Mr. Hoffman remarked in his closing, "Listen up class, teachers will show you how to kick some ass!"

# Interview with Scott Westerman!

## A Portland Police Bureau Officer Recently Fired for Multiple Road Rage Incidents

**"When that happens to them then? That's when they need to go. They start to forget what they were hired to do, which was to enforce the law; not become the law. And when you become the law? Time to go!"**  
 ~Don Dupay

September 12th 2011  
 Theresa Griffin-Kennedy

Since the date of my interview with PPB Sgt Scott Westerman, June 17th 2011, Westerman has been terminated. This termination took place September 9th by PPB chief Mike Reese, with input and approval by current Mayor Sam Adams. The termination came only six days after I finally completed the transcription process and uploaded the interview to my website.

The day of Westerman's termination, Chief Reese explains the various rules and laws violated by Westerman's conduct. Reese went on to say "I have determined that Sergeant Westerman did violate the above directives and that termination of his employment is the appropriate level of discipline." It is curious that it took over 18 months to arrive at a decision coming only days after my interview with Westerman was made available for public viewing.

My impression of Scott Westerman was positive. He appeared honest, thoughtful, direct and truthful. I understand that he will aggressively pursue a review of his termination, with the police union, in the hope of being reinstated as a Portland Police Sgt.

Here are some excerpts from the interview, so readers can arrive at their own conclusions.

2:00 pm June 17th, 2011,

Portland Oregon. Starbucks on SW Clay--Park Blocks.

Crime, police, public perception, and cultural stereotypes cause strident debate. Individual perceptions, bias, facts, and fiction can be conflated when we dissect relationships between police, everyday people, and community activists. Whether we support or condemn the active role of police in communities nationwide, it is critical to understand the officers who serve.

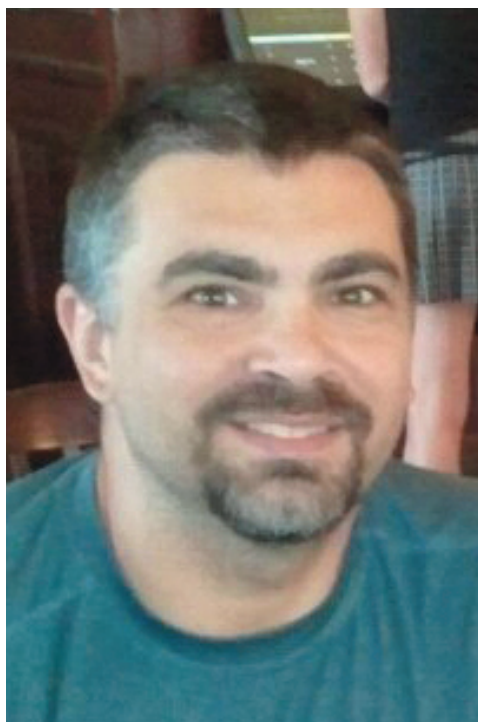
In my 4th law enforcement interview, I spoke with Portland Police Bureau (PPB) Sgt. Scott Westerman about his police work. His honest self-examination provides important perspectives on how our officers deal with the stresses of the job and the superhuman expectations of the public.

... Sargent Westerman provides a special window with this interview. His opinions and perceptions provide critical resources for us to consider.

TK: I know the last year has been terrible for law enforcement.

SW: Yes it has!

TK: It's just been unbelievable, it's been



really sad.

SW: Well, you know it's interesting, you know, to go on a side note here but ...Kendra James? The young lady who wasn't complying with the officer and then tried to run him over, but more importantly James Jahar Perez? Here's a guy who was reaching into the center console of his car and the officers are both telling him "Stop, stop, stop!" and they're imploring him--Jason Sery is imploring him--"Don't do this! Stop, stop, stop!" and the guy starts to come back up in a fashion that was threatening, he's looking over his shoulder and he's doing things. And the officer Jason Sery ends up shooting James Jehar Perez before he sees a gun. And he did exactly what we were trained to do.

TK: That was last year right?

SW: No, this was like six, seven years ago.

TK: Oh, okay right, right, right.

SW: He did precisely...well, no--that was the other one--that was Ron Frashour who did the same thing to Aaron Campbell. But that is precisely what we are taught because we are given so much training on if you wait until you see a gun, you could be dead! So we have all of this training. The public doesn't know this because they...they believe the movies and things like this. It's ironic to me how so many people believe that their profession is not portrayed well in the movies but they believe everybody else's profession is! I mean--it's hilarious!

TK: Right.

SW: So, here's two situations where the officers did precisely what they were trained to do. The person is not complying, clearly they know they're police officers! Clearly they're being told what to do and clearly they're not doing so and then they reach!...for an area where there could be weapons! And they're doing exactly what they're not supposed to be doing and the officers are imploring them "don't do that!" right? And then bad things

happen. Both of them turned out to be unarmed and the public gets in an uproar. "Oh my God, how could these things happen?" But then you look at what happened at the Lloyd Center with Officer Chris Burley. Here you have it captured on iPhone video! This lady is video taping a traffic stop and the officers who do the stop of a gang member--I think he was a gang member up on Lloyd Center.

TK: I saw that.

SW: Well, in the video, what do you hear on the video? You hear the officers screaming... "He's reaching for something--he's reaching for something--he's reaching for something!" Not one of those officers open fire. Why not? Their training told them to. Their training told them to shoot that guy. They waited. What happens? An officer almost got killed. He got shot! That's a tangible thing but nobody wants to talk about that. Why not?! I don't understand that! Why aren't we talking about that? Why aren't we having public service announcements and stuff that say--well because it's not the public's job to understand police procedure! It's the public's job to understand that when a uniformed officer is pointing a gun at you? That is not the time to argue! In court, when you're suing them later, when they did something wrong, that is the time to argue. That's why we have the system set up the way you have it and...that's gone and I don't know why! So...

...TK: Can you explain any significant changes in police training that has an impact on civilian deaths?

SW: Yeah, I could tell you that CIT training I think has helped. The crisis intervention training for the mentally ill. I think that's helped because it's given most police officers who had no knowledge whatsoever of what mental illness was--I mean when you think about the general public and mental illness it's--you know they think Charles Manson! Crazy! They don't think schizophrenic who thinks that the world is after them or paranoid schizophrenic who thinks that the world is after them!--who while driving their car thinks that the oncoming vehicles license plates just changed and turns head on to them to kill them because they're thinking they're the bad guy. Or the different things that have happened with the police officers--like the lady in Eugene who just shot and killed the officer in Eugene--who she thought--he was a bad guy type thing. That's the mental illness that most people think of. Well, the training on how to deal with the person who is mentally ill in regards to some of the other things that are out there and how they'll react and how they'll behave? The training on how to deal with distraught people who have just lost everything so to speak--but also the taser training. I mean, I'm sorry but our drop in our deadly force encounters has directly resulted to those two trainings. I believe that whole heartedly. Uh the

more options...

TK: Recently, federal investigators have come to Portland to investigate various accusations of PPB officers using excessive force and engaging in racial profiling. What are your thoughts in this development and do you believe this investigation is valid or has any merit?

SW: Um, I don't know if you saw my post on Face-book--I think you might have because I think you might commented on it but somebody else--I think Karl McDade actually quoted it and I said "you know what? If I had any belief that it was going to be an objective investigation I would say absolutely! Bring it on!"

TK: Oh yeah. I remember that.

SW: Absolutely! Bring it on! Because here's my thought process. Any objective investigation would bring forth the areas that need to be fixed and the areas that are being done well. Regardless. Because every tactical situation--every single tactical situation out there will have things that could have been done better. That's a fact! I mean things that have happened and its like we didn't expect that to happen but we're thankful it did because that was so much better for us. And yep, this could have been done better--this could have been done different--this type of thing. So, having an outside investigator come in and do this? If there wasn't a political motivation behind it? I would be all for it but because of some of the political aspects especially the political realities of this administration and our city government for that matter--There's always going to be that question as to whether or not this is a legitimate review. If in fact it is an objective review? I am confident that any deficiencies that are there--if there are any--will be addressed. And if there aren't then they'll be addressed by saying look we just did this...for example that PARC report way back when? The PARC report was that Police Accountability Resource Center group that came in to talk about our deadly shooting investigations. Their investigation--they came up with some really weird things that we should be doing but they were pretty objective. But in the end, they said "you know what? We haven't seen any situation where we've had wanton use of force! Nothing! We've not seen anything in all the shootings that we've reviewed--in all the uses of force that we've reviewed--we haven't seen any evidence of disparate treatment or anything like this." And this is a group that is hyper critical of the police bureau and other facets. So, if we have that kind of a review?... bring it on! Let's do it! Let's show everything! Because if it's going to be objective then it can only be helpful.

The full interview: <http://www.theportlandalliance.org/westerman> / Theresa Griffith Kennedy is a Portland Oregon writer, poet, & tutor with a BS in both Criminal Justice and Arts and Letters. Her contact information is [kennedyt@pdx.edu](mailto:kennedyt@pdx.edu)

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# VIEWPOINTS & COMMENTARY

## No Guts, No Second Term

By Tom H. Hastings

The Tea Party could have been a tiny afterthought, ridiculed or ignored by the many Republicans who switched to supporting Barack Obama.

President Obama could have been riding high on approval ratings that virtually guaranteed his re-election in 2012.

These two things would have been logical sequelae to his brilliant first term if his first term had featured serious political courage instead of mere charismatic speechmaking. Barack Obama, so far, is a coward, unfortunately, and unfit to really lead. He might have made a fine president in an easy era of prosperity and fat surpluses, but he is a poor choice when it comes to choosing a champion, someone who will fight for the people instead of caving in to the likes of John Boehner, Mitch McConnell, Lindsey Graham and the other crackers. Indeed, Barack Obama could have shown the world how to eclipse the job growth rate of Texas under Rick Perry only by making the environment cleaner, not dirty like Perry, and by improving health care, not making it inaccessible like Perry, and by strengthening education rather than cutting it and dumbing it like Perry.

How? How could our first black presi-



dent have possibly achieved all those things in the aftermath of a Bush war-making spending spree that wasted so much of the gas from the tank?

Well, he would have needed to come in swinging, ready to fight, politically, for the people, instead of ready to compromise. I teach in the field of Conflict Resolution and the basic negotiating lesson here is that you always compromise on those items which can be shifted around until everyone gets a fair deal, but you never compromise on basic ethical principle. Barack Obama could have had the principle that the welfare of the people comes before the welfare of the owner class. He could have assembled a scrappy team that knew how to frame legislation that would be radical in its shifts toward

**“Can Obama grow a backbone...?”**

benefiting average working people. There are historical precedents, of course, and he could have used them and improved them.

Barack Obama inherited a major economic mess, created for the most part by the Bush regime. When Franklin Roosevelt inherited a disastrous economy created by Republican lack of governmental regulation, he made bold new policy that put millions to work building infrastructure still enjoyed by all Americans and everyone who visits, from park lodges and trails to beautiful bridges. Roosevelt didn't do that by turning over \$ trillions to the same financiers who had created the Great Depression. He created government programs that put people to work, making the most of the skills they already had and teaching skills to young ones.

The [Civilian Conservation Corps](#) operated from 1933-1942 and focused on providing work for some 2.5 million young unmarried men, on [projects](#) that conserved and developed natural resources on public lands. The [Works Progress Administration](#) operated from 1935-1943 and provided about eight million jobs, focusing on the goal of one job per family where they had been unemployed for a long period. Updating these sorts of programs to

reflect our current gender mores, population growth, and infrastructure needs would be a hard sell to a Republican Congress. But Barack Obama is going to to have a harder sell to the vastly hurting and disappointed America electorate if he can't make those sorts of hard sells to other politicians.

Roosevelt gave folks what they needed. His base was so huge he couldn't lose, even though corporate officials dreamt of his ouster. His radical executive moves provide a blueprint and that blueprint has so far been ignored by Obama. His paradigm is closer to Rumsfeldian--privatize everything that the government does in order to massively enrich the owner class--than Rooseveltian, which angered the owner class and saved working families.

Can Obama grow a backbone and save anything at his late date? Stranger things have happened, but so far all his moves have been classic cave-ins to bullies. We usually elect people who will stand up to bullies. We thought he would and, so far, we have been wrong. We'll see how this plays, starting with his upcoming speech. It will either be a revolutionary departure from his corporate bailout model or it will fall flat in failure, and his fate will be sealed.

Tom H. Hastings ([pcwtom@gmail.com](mailto:pcwtom@gmail.com)) teaches in the graduate program of Conflict Resolution at Portland State University and offers his personal views here.

## Real Class Warfare The Great 1934 Longshore Strike!

**Tuesday, October 11th at 7:30 pm in the Rialto Poolroom & Bar at 529 SW 4th Ave, in Portland. Free and open to the public, Must be 21 or over.**

On May 9, 1934, thousands of longshoremen along the West Coast walked off the job, beginning an eighty-two-day standoff between the International Longshoreman's Association (ILA) and waterfront employers.

In Portland, the strike split the city between sympathetic citizens who

supported the workers, offering food,



shelter, and transportation, and the "silk stocking mob" of leading businessmen determined to break the strike (including Henry Corbett, Amedee Smith, and

Henry Cabell) who formed the Citizens Emergency Committee and hired vigilantes to break the strike. Governor Julius Meier asked President Roosevelt for federal troops to put down an "insurrection" and "civil war." Down the Columbia River today at the port of Longview, the militant union that emerged from that strike, the ILWU, is engaged in a major labor struggle with a Portland employer of "scabs."

Michael Munk, political scientist and local expert on radicalism in Oregon, sets the stage for one of the most important strikes in 20th-century

Oregon and examines how the determination of thousands of men and their supporters in 1934 influenced the shape and strength of unions in the years to follow.

Michael Munk is a writer, political analyst, researcher and historian, & author of *The Portland Red Guide*. *The Red Guide* was recently updated!

visit the new photo gallery on Michael Munk's website:

[www.michaelmunk.com](http://www.michaelmunk.com)



*“Ironically, she doesn't even drink.”*



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# Who are Sisters of The Road & Why They Matter!

by Alliance Staff

Since 1979, Sisters Of The Road (SOTR) has been an essential part of the Old Town/Chinatown neighborhood.

Sisters offers a space to build community, empower everyday people, learn from one another, dine with dignity, and organize for justice and human rights.

## Sisters' Mission

Sisters Of The Road helps build authentic relationships and alleviate hunger and isolation in a nonviolent atmosphere with gentle compassion. This human touch nurtures the whole individual, while the SOTR seeks systemic solutions to reach the roots of homelessness and poverty and help end these tragedies forever.

## Sisters' Philosophies

Sisters is rooted in nonviolence: At Sisters they say "no" to any form of humiliation including physical, emotional, and verbal violence. Nonviolence requires that Sisters stop violence in a nonviolent way, using love and respect to promote the safety and well-being of all. The creation of a

**"Sisters of the Road walks the talk with humility, compassion, and integrity. Please open your hearts and support their mission."**

nonviolent environment begins with relationships: we call each other by name and care for and respect one another. Sisters provides resources for nonviolence.

Dining with dignity means that Sisters provides the community with a safe place to enjoy a meal and also is committed to serving healthy food that has been sourced thoughtfully. This public service is a vital part of the food movement happening in Portland, ensuring that access to safe and nutritious food is everyone's right. Sisters feels we cannot afford to let our neighbors go hungry.

Gentle personalism: The term "Gentle Personalist" was coined by Catholic Worker Movement co-founder

Peter Maurin, to refer to a community-minded sensibility. Maurin wrote:

"Through words and deeds he

[sic] brings into existence the common unity, the common unity of a community."

Systemic change: Systemic change usually doesn't occur because the current system wakes up one morning and decides to change. At Sisters, their experience has provided evidence that their community (people who experience homelessness, poverty, and oppressions at the hands of the current socioeconomic system) ARE the catalyst for changes needed. Those who suffer from the current system can become the peace they seek: the outside force working to end oppression. In spite of too frequently being met with resistance and oppression together we can make a difference in the current system.

Anti-Oppression: We actively and continuously work to create a community in which all people are welcome and valued. We create a community where all people have access to the support and resources needed to live and thrive. Sisters interrupts racism, sexism and other forms of oppressive actions and language. Sisters is committed to recruiting and supporting people

with diverse backgrounds for all positions in Sisters' community.

About Their Logo: The Cafe was anonymously christened when a circle containing three Xs (the hobo symbol for good food and hospitality) — was chalked on the pavement outside the restaurant door. This symbol became Sisters' logo, and represents more than three decades of building long term, stable and mutually supportive relationships.

And the Portland Alliance has always considered sister to be a critical partner in speaking truth to power.

Sisters of the Road walks the talk with humility, compassion, and integrity. Please open your hearts and support their mission. Or if you are hungry for food or company, come on down and



## Martin continued from page 5

doomed to fail as earlier foreign invaders.

"The madness of Vietnam," Dr. King said in 1967, will "totally" poison "America's soul." He told how U.S. involvement in Vietnam "eviscerated" its war on poverty begun by President Lyndon Johnson, and instead had its "funds and energies" and "men and skills" drawn into a war "like some demonic, destructive suction tube." What happens to "America's soul" as the U.S. budget spins out of control, joblessness and hopelessness reaches proportions known only during the Great Depression?

Dr. King emphasized how the Vietnam War was "devastating the hopes of the poor at home" and "sending their sons and their brothers and their husbands

## The King Legacy is Celebrated with Monument

to fight in extraordinarily high proportion relative to the rest of the population." In 2011 a volunteer army draws even more heavily on the poor, those without jobs, men and women losing hope of finding meaningful work. Dr. King said then "I could not be silent in the face of such cruel manipulation of the poor." Would the man who organized a Poor People's Crusade before his assassination be silent now?

Toward the end of his address at the Riverside Church, Dr. King said: "Somehow this madness must cease. I speak as a child of God and brother to the suffering poor of Vietnam and the poor of America who are paying the double price of smashed hopes

**Dr. King said then "I could not be silent in the face of such cruel manipulation of the poor."**

at home and death and corruption in Vietnam .... The great initiative in the war is ours. The initiative to stop must be ours."

Was not Martin Luther King, Jr. reaching beyond Vietnam when he warned of "approaching spiritual death" and called for "a significant and profound

change in American life and policy" and insisted "we as a nation must undergo a radical revolution of values." Was he only speaking of Vietnam when he said, "War is not the answer?" We the people have to make sure it is not the Pentagon version but the real legacy of Dr. King is acknowledged and celebrated. We owe that to future generations.

William Loren Katz, author of forty books on American history, is currently a visiting scholar at New York University, his university affiliation since 1973. His website is [williamkatz.com](http://williamkatz.com). Dr. King's entire Riverside Church speech can be heard at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Q5VhCvrEcPY...> or it can be read at: <http://www.americanrhetoric.com/speeches/mlkatimetobreaksilence.htm>

## Letters continued from page 4

also has authored numerous books, has a Ph.D. in political science and 10 honorary doctorates and serves on several boards that include the Aspen Institute, Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts and Boys and Girls Clubs of America. Dr. Rice also has long been involved in youth programs, co-founding an after-school academic enrichment program for East Palo Alto families. I'm told she will discuss the transformational power of education in her own life at her address at Simon Benson, which is not only the greater theme of the event but also our greater mission at Portland State.

Part of that educational mission is to value robust debate and be open to ideas across the political spectrum. That's the underpinning of a Liberal Arts education at a public university. As you know, academic freedom is not a political popularity contest.

I'm reminded of what Columbia University President Lee Bollinger said when he was criticized for allowing Iran President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad to speak at a campus event in New York four years ago: "In

**"Will there be a rebuttal to her keynote? No; this is a fund-raising event, not a political debate."**

the moment, the arguments for free speech will never seem to match the power of the arguments against, but what we must remember is that this is precisely because free speech asks us to exercise extraordinary self-restraint against the very natural but often counterproductive impulses that lead us to retreat from engagement with ideas we dislike and fear. In this lies the genius of the American idea of free speech."

Let me address your questions:

Is she being paid to speak? Yes, Dr. Rice is being paid by the Foundation, and the payment is confidential per her contract.

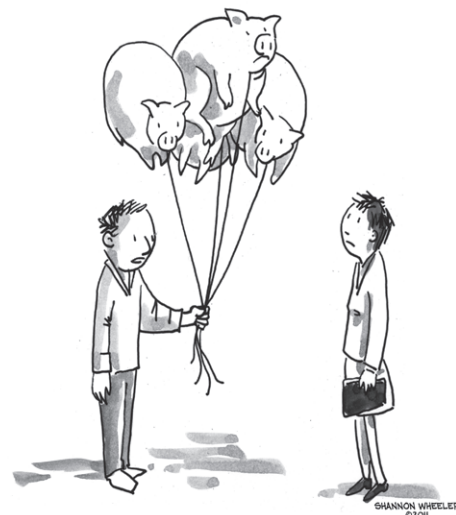
Will PSU administration explain the invitation? Yes, we try to respond to questions and concerns from students, faculty and community members as they arise.

Is Dr. Rice available for a dialogue with Professors and community leaders? My understanding is that she is speaking at the end of the event and is not involved in any campus appearances beyond her speech under the terms of her contract. We have requested that she make herself available to questions from the

Oregon news media prior to the event, and we're working out the details of a potential news conference with her booking agency.

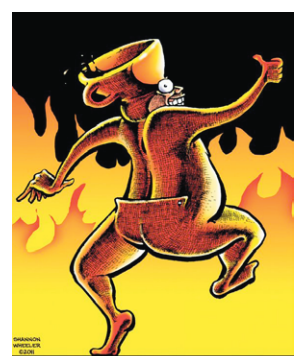
Will there be a rebuttal to her keynote? No; this is a fund-raising event, not a political debate. However, we are working with her to take some written questions submitted by the audience as part of a Q&A at the end of her speech. Thanks again for your letter. Respectfully, Wim Wiewel, President

If you would like to submit a letter to the editor, please send it to [editor@theportlandalliance.org](mailto:editor@theportlandalliance.org) or mail it to 5926 N. Albina Avenue Portland, Oregon 97217-2210 We post some letters online at: [www.theportlandalliance.org/letters](http://www.theportlandalliance.org/letters)



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# PROGRESSIVE DIRECTORY of Social Change Groups in PDX

## Oregonians for Alternatives to

**the Death Penalty** The death penalty does not prevent crime and should be abolished. Oregon has penalties that provide alternatives to state killing. The death penalty is costly. Innocent people are sentenced to death and sometimes executed. These killings are disproportionately the poor and minorities. OADP promotes research, education, and discussion of issues relating to the death penalty. For information on the death penalty in Oregon and nationally, and to find out about meetings and events go to [www.oadp.org](http://www.oadp.org). e-mail [info@oadp.org](mailto:info@oadp.org) or write to P.O. Box 361, Portland, OR 97207.

## Pacific Green Party: Oregon's

**Green Party:** Turn Green and join the fastest growing political party in Oregon, the United States, and the entire world. Oregon's Pacific Green Party offers the best hope of our lifetimes to break the corporate-controlled Republicratric duopoly and create a loud, clear, and unapologetically progressive voice in government. Help us build that peaceful, just and ecologically wise society your heart desires. In Portland call 503-772-3164 or visit [www.PacificGreens.org](http://www.PacificGreens.org). We need you as much as you need us.

## Peace and Justice Works /

**Portland Copwatch** Peace and Justice Works (PJW) has been actively educating and demonstrating for peace since 1992. PJW promotes non-violent conflict resolution on local, national and international levels. Iraq Affinity Group, addressing the U.S. invasion and occupation, meets monthly, usually second Tuesdays. Portland Copwatch, focusing on police accountability, usually meets first Mondays. Other issues include former Yugoslavia, School of the Americas. General meetings 3-4 times a year. Contact: PO Box 42456, Portland, OR 97242; 503-236-3065. Copwatch incident report line: 503-321-5120; e-mail: [pjw@pjw.info](mailto:pjw@pjw.info), [info.copwatch@portlandcopwatch.org](mailto:info.copwatch@portlandcopwatch.org); web: [www.pjw.info](http://www.pjw.info).

**Polyamory Circle** is an informal gathering focusing on extended families, inclusive relationships and intentional community. Everyone is welcome to participate in our discussions. Meets 3rd Monday each month 7:30 pm. Call Larry 285-4848 for location+info.

## Portland Central America

**Solidarity Committee (PCASC)** formed in 1979 and is the oldest Latin American solidarity organization in Oregon. We mobilize opposition to U.S. military and economic intervention in Latin America and Mexico, and support cross-border struggles for peace, justice and self-determination. In Oregon, PCASC advocates for workers and immigrant rights and educates the Portland community about the economic and political impact of U.S. policies upon Latin Americans, Mexicans, and the U.S. through the Cross Border Labor Organizing Council (CBLOC). We build solidarity between workers in Portland and Latin America. 2249 E Burnside, Portland, OR 97214. 503-236-7916. e-mail: [info@pcasc.net](mailto:info@pcasc.net).

## Portland Chapter of OWL

Mid-life and older women working locally and nationally to improve the status of ALL



women as they grow older: income and health security, affordable housing, ending discrimination and violence against women. Open to all women desiring these goals. Don't wait for retirement, it may be too late. Come and join us, call 503-721-0848. National OWL Web: [www.owl-national.org](http://www.owl-national.org).

**Portland Community Media:** PCM is a non-profit organization whose mission is to promote broad participation in civic and cultural life by encouraging effective use and understanding of community media. We teach affordable classes in digital television and multimedia production, and program daily for cable television channels 11, 21, 22, 23, 29 and CityNet 30. Check our website for more information! 2766 NE MLK Jr. Blvd., Portland, OR 97212; 503-288-1515; [www.pcmv.org](http://www.pcmv.org).

## Psychologists for Social

**Responsibility** ([www.psysr.org](http://www.psysr.org)) is an organization whose mission is to use psychological knowledge and skills to promote peace with social justice at the community, national, and international levels. Portland-area psychologists and counselors have recently formed a PsySR affiliated group. Our goal is to address issues connecting poverty, mental health, and human rights. This group meets monthly to plan projects, develop resources, and discuss relevant issues. For more information and meeting times, please write [samantha@pacificu.edu](mailto:samantha@pacificu.edu).

**Portland Indymedia** is a tool for the creation of radical, accurate, and passionate tellings of truth. As the local Independent Media Center of a global network, Portland Indymedia is a decentralized movement of autonomous working groups and individuals contributing to various projects, including video, radio, television, the web and print. The website features open publishing, empowering anyone to post their own text, images, audio and video directly to a news wire without approval or editing. Corporate media is a disease. Indymedia is the cure. e-mail: [contact@portland.indymedia.org](mailto:contact@portland.indymedia.org) or [portland.indymedia.org](mailto:portland.indymedia.org)

**Portland IWW:** A democratic, self-organizing labor union committed to direct action and struggle to bring about a better world. We welcome all those who wish to

organize with the rest of the working class for mutual aid and collective bargaining. Call 503-231-5488, e-mail: [portland.iww@gmail.com](mailto:portland.iww@gmail.com) or drop by our office at 2249 E. Burnside. ([portlandiww.org](http://portlandiww.org))

## Prananda Yoga & Arts Center

Yoga isn't about sticking your foot in your ear. It starts where you are right now. Four levels of yoga are offered at PRANANDA (7 days a week), making it accessible to everyone and every body type. Yoga moves the body/mind/spirit in such a way that all three function better for a more enhanced life. The postures increase strength and flexibility. Meditation allows you to let go of the stressful and distracting thoughts of daily living. The breath allows us to breathe in that life force all around us that we need to thrive and glow as human beings. 7035 N. Concord Ave. 503-249-3903 or [www.prananda.com](http://www.prananda.com)

**Progressive Student Union:** PSU-PSU coordinates Transit Riders Union and Tenant Rights Project, advocating for low-income tenants and TriMet riders ([www.trimetriders.org](http://www.trimetriders.org)). On campus, we organize the Coke-Odwalla Boycott for labor rights in Colombia, human rights in Darfur, and National Bottle Bill/recycling legislation. ([www.killercoke.org](http://www.killercoke.org)) Progressive Student Union was the founding publisher/editor of both PSU Rearguard (Iraq War I) and PSU Agitator (Iraq War II). We coordinated PSU campus Taco Bell Boycott, making PSU the 9th U.S. college to kick Taco Bell off campus (the national boycott was successfully settled with a pay raise for Florida farm workers). PSU-PSU is anti-imperialist, anti-capitalist. Contact info: 503-222-2974 or Progressive Student Union, PO Box 40011, Portland, Oregon 97240.

**Radical Women:** A socialist feminist multi-issue organization that trains women to be leaders in the struggle to replace capitalism with socialism in order to achieve full equality for everyone. Our leadership—as women of color, workers, unionists and lesbians—is pivotal. We believe in the power of the working class. Monthly meetings every second Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. 6834 NE Glisan St. Portland. Phone: 503-240-4462, Fax: 503-240-4463, E-mail: [rwpdx@igc.org](mailto:rwpdx@igc.org). Website: [radicalwomen.org](http://radicalwomen.org)

**Socialist Party of Oregon:** A progressive party working for across-the-board democracy — political, social and economic. For over 100 years we've advocated much of what's best in America. We support ballot access for all parties; campaign finance reform; civil rights (Socialists helped found the NAACP and the ACLU); a humane foreign policy; environmental and consumer protection; general welfare, not corporate welfare; tax fairness; people over profits (consumer coops and credit unions); Social Security (first advocated by the Socialist Party); universal health insurance (socialists in Saskatchewan launched Canada's single-payer national health program). REGISTER, VOTE, VOLUNTEER SOCIALIST. For info write P.O. Box 5633, Portland, OR 97228, or phone 503-241-8217 or 503-289-3511. Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=107668484150> more info at [www.thesocialistparty.org](http://www.thesocialistparty.org).

**Solidarity:** A socialist-feminist organization standing for workers' democracy and international solidarity. We are revolutionary, in that we regard capitalism as both a human and environmental disaster — unredeemable by reformist politics. We are committed to a creative rethinking of socialism and are engaged in struggles against racism, sexism, and homophobia. Local members include environmental, child care, reproductive rights, labor, and KBOO activists. Call 503-234-2306.

## The Sunrise Foundation

The Sunrise Foundation is dedicated toward working to improve the working knowledge we all have concerning our national, and international currencies. Through this effort we hope to foment a popular movement-gearred to create the needed reforms in this critical infrastructure. We believe our success in this endeavor will be a major factor in determining the timely success or failure of needed progressive efforts. Visit us at [www.thesunrisefoundation.com](http://www.thesunrisefoundation.com) or contact us at [Sunrisecontact@aol.com](mailto:Sunrisecontact@aol.com)

or 503-713-8872.

## Sustainable Business Network of

**Portland** We are a group of business people dedicated to creating a local, vibrant and sustainable business community here in Portland. Founded in 2003, we are a new and independent networking group working to promote and support each other and the local business community. We have a networking and educational breakfast meeting every other Tuesday morning at Old Wives Tales. We have other events as well. Visit [www.sbnportland.org](http://www.sbnportland.org) for our current schedule. We are also the force behind the "Think Local First" and "Keep the Green in Portland" campaigns. For more info or to join, visit [www.ThinkLocalPortland.org](http://www.ThinkLocalPortland.org). Now unplug from that corporate supplier, go out and support your favorite LOCALLY OWNED business!

**Technocracy, Inc.** originated in 1918-1919 when Howard Scott formed a group of scientists, engineers, and economists. Technocracy is a social design for living engineered for the distribution of an abundance to all citizens from birth to death. For more information, call 503-283-9517 or visit the technocracy web- [www.technocracyinc.org](http://www.technocracyinc.org) (continental site).

## Voter Power Foundation

Marijuana is Safe and Effective Medicine. Voter Power holds clinics to help people qualify for Oregon's Medical Marijuana Law (OMMA). Voter Power is a group of activists who have fought for and won: both on Measure 67 (Oregon Medical Marijuana Act) and Measure 57 which stopped the legislature's attempt to recriminalize simple marijuana possession in 1998. Get up, stand up, and act up today. We currently need volunteers. Call 503-224-3051 or visit us online at [www.voterpower.org](http://www.voterpower.org).

## Veterans for Peace Ch. 72

Having defended this nation, we believe that national security comes only through peace and justice at home and abroad. Chapter activities include counter-recruiting in the schools, supporting land mine removal programs, and organizing, sponsoring, and participating in anti-war efforts. Our speakers offer their experiences so that others might better understand the true costs of war. We can help returned veterans come to terms with their experiences, because they are us. Veterans, and friends and family of veterans, are welcome to join us on the second Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m. in the Friends Meeting House at 4312 SE Stark St. For more information call 503-282-5015, or see [www.vfpchapter72.org](http://www.vfpchapter72.org), or see the website of our national office [www.veteransforpeace.org](http://www.veteransforpeace.org).

## War Resisters League PDX

**Chapter:** As conscientious objectors to war, we promote alternatives to militarism and military service. The Military & Draft Counseling Project provides draft counseling, counter-recruitment organizing, and civilian advocacy for military personnel and those considering enlistment. The Oregon Community for War Tax Resistance provides information and support for persons conscientiously refusing to pay for war, and we publicly redirect refused tax dollars to local service organizations. We also promote Peace Tax Fund legislation, through lobbying and public speaking, to provide a legal alternative for war tax objectors. 2000 NE 42nd Ave., Suite 224, Portland, OR 97213. 503-238-0605.

## Women's International League for

**Peace and Freedom** The Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF) has been working since 1915 to unite women in all countries who oppose war, exploitation, and oppression. The Portland WILPF branch holds public meetings addressing peace and justice related issues. The monthly newsletter can be received free upon request. 1034 SW 13th, Portland, OR 97205; [portland.wilpf.org](http://portland.wilpf.org), [wilpfpx@gmail.com](mailto:wilpfpx@gmail.com).

Listings continued on page 14



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## street roots



### Ongoing

**Bette Lee**, is showing her photographs about Social Justice at pear Gallery, 338 NW 6th Ave., Tues.-Fri. 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. thru May 31st. For other times contact pear at 503-228-6677 Sponsored by MRG. Nathan Moon is showing his work as well. Bette has been taking photographs for the Alliance for over twenty years. leebette@gmail.com www.betteleephotos.com

**Populist Dialogues**, on Channel 11 at 5 pm. EVERY SUNDAY Tape these half hour shows. Sponsored by Alliance for Democracy: David Delk hosts & interviews people fighting against corporate rule. Each episode replays Thurs. at 8 PM on Channel 22, & Fri. at 7:30 PM on Channel 23. more info: <http://www.afd-pdx.org>

**Democracy Now!** On KBOO 90.7 FM Radio weekdays 7-8 a.m., again 4-5 p.m., and on cable TV channel 23 from 9-10 a.m. and 4-5 p.m. Channel 29 shows Democracy Now at 8 a.m. 3 p.m. and 9 p.m. weekdays. This is the BEST news program in the country. Or, sign up on your computer for daily e-mail digests at <http://www.DemocracyNow.org> The Friday Program repeats on Sundays 1:30-2:30 on Channel 29.

**Field Production: Documenting Portland** Six-session workshop: Work as part of a team to develop a documentary field production about a Portland person or place. The completed project will be distributed by PCM. Collective production topic, plan, shooting, and edit. Learn video, conduct field interview, learn field audio, camera operation, and Final Cut Pro edit. Workshop occurs on select Wednesdays and Saturdays. Wednesday 6:30PM to 9:30PM, and Saturday 11AM to 2PM. Dates: May 14, 18, & 21, June 4, 8, 11, & 15

**Laura Flanders & GRIT TV** is on Channel 29 from 5-5:30 p.m. and 10-10:30 p.m. Monday thru Friday. Show is repeated on Saturday and Sunday from 5-5:30.

**Portland Books to Prisoners** weekly mailing, 5-8 Tuesdays in garage at end of driveway at 1112 NE Morton, between Ainsworth & Dekum, east of MLK Blvd. These books are sent across the country. We need new or used dictionaries & thesaurus. PDXBookstoPrisoners.org pdxbookstoprisoners@riseup.net

**Basic War Tax Resistance & Redirection**, In Other Words Books, 14 N. Killingsworth, 7-8 p.m., every 3rd Monday. What is war tax R & R? How can someone participate? An informal workshop, no charge, materials provided. More info at 503-238-0605. Sponsored by War Resisters League. FREE.

**NW RAGE Public Meeting** and GE Free Video Night, 3347 SE Belmont (ring bell #5 and we'll open the door) doors open at 6:30, film starts at 7 p.m., the second Wednesday of every month. Watch films relating to genetic engineering and discuss how to help

promote a safe and sustainable food supply. All films are free. Donations are appreciated. Call 503-756-4369 for more info.

**Washington Co. Peace Vigil**, SW 5th & Hall, next to Beaverton Library, 6:30-7:30 p.m. Wednesdays. Bring a sign or use one of ours.

**Portland Central America Solidarity Committee** monthly meeting 2249 East Burnside, 7 p.m. every first and third Wednesday. PCASC is a grassroots organizing group that educates and mobilizes community members, workers & students around struggles for human rights and social justice throughout the Americas. More info at 503-236-7916 or [info@pcasc.net](mailto:info@pcasc.net).

**Ongoing Impeachment Accountability Rally**, 729 NE Oregon St. outside Congressman Blumenauer's office, every Thursday, noon to 2 p.m.

**WILPF Women in Black: Peace in the Middle East vigil**. Noon at Terry Shunk Plaza, in front of City Hall, every Friday.

**Portland Peaceful Response Weekly Friday Rally & Protest March**, 5 p.m. Fridays, Pioneer Courthouse Square, SW Broadway & Yamhill <http://www.pprc-news.org>.

**Feminist Film Society**, 6:30 p.m., In Other Words Women's Books and Resources, 8 B NE Killingsworth St., every third Friday. Watch movies and discuss them with feminism in mind. Screening starts at 7, discussion to follow. \$1-5 donation, no one turned away. Find your feminist, More info: <http://www.inotherwords.org> phone: 503-232-6003

**A Growing Concern**, a Call-in Community TV Program, LIVE, every Friday on Cable channel 11, 7-8 p.m. Repeats: Sundays, channel 23, 10 p.m., and Thursdays, channel 22, 7 p.m. This program features guests speaking on a wide range of political, environmental & social justice issues, plus video of local events, Hosted by local activist Jim Lockhart since 1998. PhilosopherSeed.org

**Oak Grove Peace vigil**. Noon on Sundays, corner of SE McLaughlin & Oak Grove Blvd., Milwaukeee.

**The Mad Space Between the Stars!** Radical weekly peer-led mental health discussion group. The Garfield House, 4011 NE Garfield, 7 p.m. Sundays. Building a strong radical mental health community. We reject mainstream mental health and have decided to take control of our own needs by supporting each other in our daily struggles. Please join us. More info: [themadaresane@gmail.com](mailto:themadaresane@gmail.com).

**Labor Radio Collective**: 6 p.m. Mondays. Of, by & for Working Families on KBOO 90.7 FM Call in and join the conversation: Studio Line (503) 231-8187

**Jobs with Justice**: First Monday Steering Committee Meetings at 6025 East Burnside: 5:30 p.m.

### October - Dec 2011

Sat., Oct. 1-8, Dignity in Schools Campaign National Week of Action on School Pushout, information

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# COMMUNITY CALENDAR

## Sept-Oct 2011

Fall Festival



actions about the drop-out crisis and protecting student human rights: <http://www.dignityinschools.org> more info: [chloe@dignityinschools.org](mailto:chloe@dignityinschools.org) protestors who are calling for an end to the wars and sustainable solutions to the economic and environmental crises facing us,

**Sunday, October 9th** at 2 PM at Southeast Uplift Center 3534 SE Main St. 2011 has been a year of revolutionary change and massive social struggles around the world. Can it happen here? If the occupation of the Wisconsin Capitol building or the 45,000 strong strike at Verizon are any sign of things to come, the answer is YES! The savagery of the assault on working class living standards has set the stage for future struggles--what form these take and how they play out will depend on

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how we organize today, before the mass protests are upon us.

the International Socialist Organization meets every Sunday for more information on this and weekly meetings visit:

[www.portlandsocialists.org](http://www.portlandsocialists.org)

**Sunday, October 9th,  
Writers Workshop & BBQ at the Portland Alliance:** 5926 N Albina Avenue, 4pm-9pm... We light the grill at 4pm! Free Steaks!

**Monday., October 10th**  
KBOO Pledge Drive  
Special Angela & Al will coordinate. The plan at this point is Al's Labor music, an interview with Joe Hill's biographer & possibly an hour about Portland Rising (Vancouver Hilton action) & the AFL-CIO Jobs Agenda. Please call in and join the conversation. Studio Line (503) 231-8187 The Labor Radio Collective Calendar link is <http://www.brownbears.com/>

[freecal/PDXLaborRadio](http://freecal/PDXLaborRadio) A great photo album! <http://computerresource.org/laborradio/> Our blog: <http://laborradiocollective.blogspot.com/> Promo: <https://sites.google.com/site/laborradiogroup/> more! <http://www.theportlandalliance.org/kboo>

**Mon., Oct. 10th National day of the homeless,** action in Downtown Portland. More info to come. Check with The Portland Alliance or Jobs with Justice

**Monday Oct. 10th,** at 6pm on 90.7fm Al Bradbury and Angela MacWhinnie bring you... <http://kboo.fm/node/31414>

A Very Wobbly Special! Labor Radio 6:00pm - 8:00pm  
This Very Special Episode of Labor Radio about the IWW! Guests include:  
\* Bill Adler, author of the celebrated new biography of Joe Hill, The Man Who Never Died

\* Brendan Phillips, Portland community organizer and frontperson of the band Fast Rattler, on their new album "Linger On," a tribute to Brendan's father, the legendary Wobbly storyteller and folksinger Utah Phillips

\* Daniel Gross, IWW organizer, co-founder of the Starbucks Workers' Union, and author of the preface to Rebel Voices: An IWW Anthology

\* Emmitt Nolan, Portland IWW member, about IWW Food & Retail Workers Union Founding Convention

**Mon., Oct. 10:** Rally to Oppose the Pending Free Trade Agreements 12:00 noon Outside Congressman Blumenauer's Office 729 NE Oregon St in Portland, Ore. Last Chance! On Facebook at: <http://www.facebook.com/event.php?eid=182479088496723>

**Tues., Oct. 11: TPA Board Meeting** (Delayed from September) June Key Delta Community Center Welcomes us! 7-9 pm at 5940 N Albina

**Tues., Oct. 11 -- "Kitchen Table Conversation"** -- Candidates' Forum for Oregon's First Congressional District (Wu's seat), 6 pm, St. Wenceslaus Catholic Church, 51555 SW Old Portland Rd., Scappoose, FREE. In January, Oregon's first Congressional District will be holding a special election for new members of Congress. This forum is our chance to ask the candidates about their plans, and to tell them directly what WE want from them, to put the American Dream back within reach for all of us. We're counting on you to join us on Oct. 11th in Scappoose. Please RSVP and find the map here: [http://salsa.wiredforchange.com/o/1306/p/salsa/event/common/public/?event\\_KEY=33160](http://salsa.wiredforchange.com/o/1306/p/salsa/event/common/public/?event_KEY=33160) Organized by: Oregon Working Families Party (OWFP), MoveOn.Org, Columbia County Citizens for Human Dignity (CCCHD), and the Rural Organizing Project (ROP).

**Tuesday, October 11**  
"Real Class Warfare: The Great 1934 Longshore Strike in Portland." Presented by Michael Munk at 7:30 pm in the Rialto Poolroom and Bar at 529 SW 4th Ave, Portland

Free and open to the public Must be 21 or over.

The Oregon Encyclopedia  
[www.oregonencyclopedia.org](http://www.oregonencyclopedia.org)  
Stumptown Stories

**Real Class Warfare**  
The Great 1934 Longshore Strike

presented by  
**Michael Munk**  
author of the *Portland Red Guide*

**Tuesday Oct. 11**  
7:30 pm Free. Must be 21 or over.

**Rialto Poolroom and Bar**  
529 Southwest 4th Avenue, Portland

On May 9, 1934, thousands of longshoremen along the West Coast walked off the job, beginning an eighty-two day standoff between the International Longshoreman's Association (ILA) and company owners. In Portland, the strike split the city in two.

**Wednesday, October 12th,** 5pm. Rally in defense of education. Arne Duncan, the Secretary of the US Department of Education is coming to the Oregon Convention Center. Along with parents and educators, we want to protest the policies he has helped drive that hurt teachers and pave the way to privatization of public schools.

**Wednesday, October 12th,** 5:30pm, JWJ Economic Crisis Committee 6025 E Burnside

**Thurs., Oct. 13** 7:00pm - 10:00pm at First Unitarian Church, SW 12th and Salmon, PDX OR / Communities of Color in Multnomah County: An Unsettling Profile presented by Julia Meier, Coordinator, Coalition of Communities of Color How progressive is Portland? Julia Meier of the Coalition of Communities of Color will present the findings and engage the Portland progressive community in dialogue. Donations: \$5 -20, no one turned away. All are welcome. Sponsored by Alliance for Democracy and Economic Justice Action Group of the First Unitarian Church

**Thursday, October 13th,** 7-9 pm at First Unitarian Church. Alliance For Democracy and Economic Justice Action Group of the First Unitarian are presenting the Report on Communities of Color in Multnomah County addressing racial inequities.

**Fri., Oct. 14** Leukemia & Lymphoma Benefit at the Candlelight with Blues Train Big Band, Portland All-Star Jammers, and food by Rio's Ribs! <http://www.leukemiacagematch.com> <http://www.theportlandalliance.org/leukemiacagematch>

**Sat., Oct. 15** 1pm Peace Rally and March, meet at Shemanski Park

**Calendar continued on p 20**

Please send Community Calendar events to [jennybatesma@gmail.com](mailto:jennybatesma@gmail.com). Jenny & Robin are volunteer editors. Please submit listings or updates by the 16th

Is your nonprofit looking for funding, grants, or support? Check out the lockdown on:

[OregonGrantWatch.com](http://OregonGrantWatch.com)

And check out our new, helpful, and economical Classifieds Ads! (Page 24)

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B-media meets the 2nd & 4th Wednesday at the Variant PDX: 4810 NE Garfield

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**Listings continued from page 9**

**Alliance for Democracy**

Portland Alliance for Democracy is a populist progressive movement to end corporate dominance of our economy, society, politics, the environment and our lives. We advocate for democratic values to create a fair and equitable society. Current campaigns include education about and opposition to "free trade" agreements like the upcoming Korea, Columbia and Panama agreements; water privatization; support for voter owned elections and instant runoff voting. Current projects include production of a cable TV program, The Populist Dialogues, and community outreach for Move to Amend the constitution to end corporate personhood. We meet the second and fourth Monday each month. Contact: Daviddaf@ymail.com; 503.232.5495, www.afd-pdx.org

**Americans United for Palestinian Human Rights**

AUPHR is an association of American taxpayers united by mutual concern for human rights in general and Palestinian human rights in particular. Our aim is to eliminate the substantial U.S. funding and discriminatory policies that directly or indirectly support the oppression and violation of the human rights of Palestinian people in Israel and the Israeli-occupied territories. Our tools are public education & political and legal action. www.auphr.org or 503-287-1885.

**Amnesty International** is a worldwide movement of people from across the world standing up for humanity and human rights for all. Amnesty International works to improve human rights through campaigning and international solidarity. Portland's Amnesty International chapter, Group 48, has been in existence since 1973. Meetings are held on the second Friday of the month at 7:30 p.m. at the First Unitarian Church, 1011 SW 12th Ave. For more information: call 503-227-1878 or visit <http://aipdx.org/>.

**Bridgeport Community United Church of Christ**

Politics and spiritual life can connect! We are a multicultural, multiracial community of progressive political people exploring and celebrating the Christian faith in a manner that is both intellectually-engaging and spiritually-nurturing. We are pragmatic and passionate, LGBT & straight, and our children are valued members. 11:00 Sunday mornings, 621 NE 76th Ave. Portland. 503-258-0992. www.BridgeportUCC.org. Great music, good coffee, not boring.

**Code Pink — Portland** stages strong, playful actions to confront local and global power mongers—you may have seen and heard us with our signs and songs at anti-war rallies, on street corners and elsewhere around town. CODE PINK is a broad international movement for peace and justice led by women. The name "CODEPINK" is a play on the Bush administration's color-coded homeland security alerts. Although we enjoy colorful antics that highlight hypocrisies in government and corporate business, we thoughtfully plan our costumes, lyrics and other high-jinks to broadcast our message effectively. We welcome individuals who seek community in standing up against economic inequality and violence. More information: Contact the National Organization at this website: <http://codepinkalert.org> for info on local actions.

**Columbia County Citizens for Human Dignity (CCCHD)**

is a citizens group in Columbia County working to assure the basic rights and human dignity of all Oregonians. We are a progressive, volunteer-driven and volunteer-funded organization promoting inclusive democracy. Join us in our efforts to promote social and economic justice, human rights, and human dignity in Columbia County and throughout Oregon. CCCHD is a member group of the Rural Organizing Project. For more information, call 503-543-8417.

**Committees of Correspondence** is an inclusive and progressive non-sectarian national coalition of left and socialist activists from communities, unions, the peace movement and social interest groups, whose mission is to build unity among the

left/progressive forces. We include, welcome, and fight for the interests of all people of any color, religion, gender or sexual orientation. P.O.Box 372, Albany, OR 97321. (541) 926-7070.

**Community Alliance of Tenants**

is a grassroots, tenant-controlled tenant membership organization. We educate and organize tenants to demand affordable, stable and safe rental homes. CAT prioritizes development of low-income renters as community leaders. We organize tenants to change unjust laws and improve property management policies. Our Renter's Rights Hotline gives tenants information about their rights. CAT's Hotline: (503) 288-0130.

**Environmental Justice Action Group (EJAG)**

is a membership driven, community-based organization that believes "The community that educates and speaks out for itself can best protect itself." We do this through developing leadership in people of color and low income residents of North and Northeast Portland to change the power dynamic by becoming the decision makers in their own community. Our primary focus is air quality, transportation and public health issues with a particular emphasis on the high rate of asthma in our community. For information, contact us at (503) 283-6397.

**First Unitarian Church of PDX**

has been a voice for liberal religion in our community for over 130 years. Our core beliefs about spiritual growth and acting for social justice are reflected in the work of the church's Economic Justice Action Group (EJAG). EJAG, a welcoming and affirming group, is guided by its mission to raise awareness about and act to promote fair and just economic policies, life-sustaining and life-enhancing values, equal access to economic opportunities, and democratic participation in national, state, and local decisions on economic issues. We sponsor speakers and forums on current economic justice issues, lobby elected officials, collaborate with like-minded organizations, and we strive to live and act to create a fair, just and sustainable society. E-mail: [info@ejag.org](mailto:info@ejag.org); Web:[www.ejag.org](http://www.ejag.org); Phone: Kate Lore, 503-228-6389, x44.

**Flying Focus Video Collective (FFVC)**

is a group of activists using video as a tool for social change, providing a voice for the voiceless. We videotape speakers, events and actions, and produce program-

women, people of color, sexual minorities, disabled people, elderly and youth is key. Our heritage stems from Trotsky and the Bolsheviks. Please visit our bookstore at 6834 NE Glisan Street, Portland, OR 97213. Phone for an appointment at 503-240-4462. Visit our website at [www.socialism.com](http://www.socialism.com) or e-mail us at [fsp@igc.org](mailto:fsp@igc.org).

**In Other Words: Women's Books and Resources**

A non-profit organization with a comprehensive collection of women's writing, women-positive videos, magazines and gifts. Free information about women's organizations, activities and networking. A monthly events calendar. Space for dialogue and debate about the complex issues facing women today. Contact us about volunteer opportunities. 14 NE Killingsworth, Portland, OR 97211.232 (503)-232-6003. Open seven days.

**Jews for Global Justice:** We're committed to ending oppression in all its forms. Our work spans a range of issues including opposing the U.S. bombing of Afghanistan, fighting racism, stopping religious persecution, and supporting the struggle for workers' rights and economic justice. We build bridges between targeted communities and the Jewish community. We call for an immediate end to Israel's military occupation of Palestine. The repression of the occupation, the mass detentions, torture, executions, and collective punishments are in direct opposition to our Jewish values. We mourn the deaths of civilians on both sides. Contact: (503) 299-4772.

**Jobs with Justice:** A coalition of labor and community organizations defending workers' rights. Members pledge to be there at least five times a year for someone else's fight — on picket lines, marches, rallies or hearings. We defend civil rights and the struggles of exploited workers and their communities, especially people of color, immigrants and women. Our offices are in the AFSCME Council 75 building, 6025 E. Burnside, Portland, OR 97215. 503-236-5573, [www.jwipdx.org](http://www.jwipdx.org)

**Laughing Horse Books & Video**

An all-volunteer, collectively run radical bookstore and resource center. In addition to books, periodicals, buttons, stickers, tapes and other activist tools, we have a lending library, and sponsor events ranging from politics and music to book signings and poetry readings. Currently not wheelchair accessible. 12 NE 10th Ave., Portland, OR 97214; (503)-236-2893.

**Money Is Not Democracy:**

Statewide group working on Campaign Finance Reform. Oregon is 1 of 6 states with no limits on contributions to political campaigns. This initiative establishes enforceable limits on political contributions and expenditures in Oregon for the first time. Bans contributions by corporations. Volunteers needed to get this initiative on the ballot. Visit our website at [www.fairelections.net](http://www.fairelections.net) <<http://www.fairelections.net>> or call 503.246-2906 in Portland.

**NW Resistance Against Genetic Engineering (NW RAGE)**

is a non-violent, grassroots community organization dedicated to promoting a responsible, sustainable and just use of agriculture and science. We work to prevent the intrusion of genetic engineering into our food, bodies and ecosystems, through education, agitation, community-building, advocacy and action. Get activated: meetings are every 2nd Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. at 3347 SE Belmont St., Portland. Contact us: POB 15289 Portland, OR. 97293. Phone: 503-756-4369 [www.nwrage.org](http://www.nwrage.org) or contact us by e-mail: [info@nwrage.org](mailto:info@nwrage.org).

**NW Vegetarian Education and Empowerment Group:**

Northwest VEG is active in the Portland and Vancouver area. The mission is to educate and empower people to make vegetarian choices for a healthy, sustainable and compassionate world. Reducing consumption of animal products leads to better health, reduced impact on the forests and streams, and kinder treatment of animals. The group holds potlucks with educational programs every month, alternating between the west side and the east side of the Portland area. In addition, the group organizes dine-outs, and coordinates several other events throughout the year. Volunteers are always appreciated. Visit our Web site at: [www.nwveg.org](http://www.nwveg.org), send e-mail to: [info@nwveg.org](mailto:info@nwveg.org), or leave message at: (503) 746-8344.

**Oregon Tradeswomen, Inc. (OTI)**

is dedicated to promoting the success of women in the building, construction, mechanical and utility trades through education, leadership and mentorship. Founded in 1989, OTI offers 3 core programs and services: Trades Offer Girls Options (TO GO) encourages middle- and high school-aged girls to learn about options for trades careers; Pathways to Success recruits, trains, places and retains women in trades careers through its free Trades and Apprenticeship Career Class, a state-certified pre-apprenticeship program; and Tradeswomen Organized for Outreach, Leadership, and Support (TOOLS) supports and builds leadership with women already in the trades and provides technical assistance to help employers, apprenticeship programs and government agencies achieve a diverse trades work force. OTI is a membership based organization and holds quarterly networking and support meetings for members.

For more information Contact: Oregon Tradeswomen, Inc., 1714 NE Alberta St., Portland, OR 97211, (503) 335-8200 or visit [www.tradeswomen.net](http://www.tradeswomen.net).



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**Freedom Socialist Party** is a socialist & feminist party that wants more members! Help create a revolution for full economic, political and social equality for all working people and those who are exploited and disenfranchised by capitalism. A multi-issue platform that prioritizes the equality of

**Metanoia Peace Community**

Following Jesus' way of revolutionary non-violence and life-in-community, the people of Metanoia seek first the "kin-dom" of God as a radical alternative to the ways of the dominant culture. Gay friendly. Phone the 18th Ave. Peace House, 503-281-3697, for information about frequent gatherings to which newcomers and visitors are invited. See our website at [www.metanoiaumc.org](http://www.metanoiaumc.org).

**Military Families Speak Out**

Family members in the *Against the War Military Families Speak Out*, offer a support group the first Saturday of each month in Wilsonville. [www.mfso-oregon.org](http://www.mfso-oregon.org). (503)-757-0323.



*"Could you please stop sitting in my chair, smoking my pipe, reading my newspaper, and holding hands with my wife?"*

Shannon Wheeler:  
[www.TooMucCoffeeMan.com](http://www.TooMucCoffeeMan.com)

# Progressive Arts and Culture!

By ELIZABETH RATHBUN.

## Art

Oct. 6: First Thursday Gallery Walk. Downtown Portland and Pearl District area galleries. See [firstthursdayportland.com](http://firstthursdayportland.com) Participating galleries remain open late for art display and music.

Oregon College of Arts and Crafts. Through Oct. 22: Jieson Lee Isbara at Museum of Craft and Folk Art; Through Oct. 15: Print Portfolio ; through Oct. 22: Jieson Lee Isbara and Heidi Schwegler; Sept. 12: Emerging Artists in Residence.

Quintana Galleries.com, 124 NW 9<sup>th</sup> Ave. (503)223-1729. Native-American carvings, prints, jewelry, drums and antiquities of the Northwest Coast.

OMSI. September 17 starting at dusk at Rooster Rock and L.L. "Stub" Stewart State Park

OMSI, Rose City Astronomers and Vancouver Sidewalk Astronomers will celebrate astronomy with a free Star Party at both parks. View the stars and other celestial objects up close and personal through telescopes. Viewing highlights includes the planets Jupiter, Mercury, and Saturn, first quarter Moon, deep sky objects including the Orion Nebula, Beehive star cluster and more! See [HYPERLINK "http://www.oms.edu"](http://www.oms.edu) for further details.

edu" [www.oms.edu](http://www.oms.edu) for further details.

## Blues and Jazz

Blue Monk

3341 SE Belmont, thebluemonk.com. Sunday nights: Jazz at 7:30 to 10:30 thebluemonk.com; Ticket prices vary. [HYPERLINK "http://www.thebluemonk.com/ACOUSTIC%20MINDS.html"](http://www.thebluemonk.com/ACOUSTIC%20MINDS.html)

Candlelight Room: 2032 SW 5<sup>th</sup> Ave.; 503-222-3378; Price: Free; All shows: 9:30-to-1:30.

Jimmy Maks

Mondays, No Cover: Dan Balmer; Tues and Wed: Mel Brown;

## Comedy

Harvey's Comedy Club on 436 NW 6<sup>th</sup> Ave.

First show at 7:30 to 9 Sun with some additional shows: Sun: Open Mike at 9, free admission and prizes. Headliners: Thurs through Sun.

[HYPERLINK "http://www.harveyscomedyclub.com/current-headliner/current-headliner-dave-burleigh-justin-leon-thurs.-may-26th--sun.-may-29th.html"](http://www.harveyscomedyclub.com/current-headliner/current-headliner-dave-burleigh-justin-leon-thurs.-may-26th--sun.-may-29th.html) Tickets: [Harveyscomedyclub.com](http://www.harveyscomedyclub.com)

## Dancing

Belly dancing

Wed in Blue Monk basement, 3341 SE Belmont, Bellydance begins at 8 with a \$5 cover. Wednesdays features Egyptian/Cabaret with Arabesque Band; Fridays are Offbeat Belly Dance, an alternative form of bellydance, which starts at 8:30 p.m. with a \$5 cover.

Saturday evenings at Mummy's Restaurant, 622 SW Colombia; bellydancing begins around 8.

Tango

Oct. 5 through 10: Portland Tango Festival at Norse Hall with 12 top teachers, evening milongas, live orchestras and much more, visit [claysdancestudio.com](http://claysdancestudio.com) for more details.

Evening milongas from Monday through Saturday and Sunday afternoon. Visit [Portlandtango.com](http://Portlandtango.com) for details.

Mon: Portland Police Athletic Association (PPAA), 618 S.E. Alder, Basic lesson 7:00 to 8:00, dancing to 12 p.m.

Wed: Norse Hall, 11<sup>th</sup> and Couch St.; Basic lesson 7:30 to 8:30, dancing to 12 p.m.

Thurs: Norse Hall, 11<sup>th</sup> and Couch St.; Basic lesson 7:30 to 8:30, dancing to 12 p.m.

Tango (continued)

Fri: Paradise Ballroom: 826 S.E. Belmont; Practica, 2 to 6 p.m.

Sun: Viscount Studio at 724 E. Burnside; 1 to 5 p.m.

## Festivals

Oct 15 through 16: Shop 'Til you Drop; Washington County Fairgrounds Complex in Hillsboro.

## Film

<http://www.NW Film.org>

Oct. 6-Nov. 9 / VOICES IN ACTION: HUMAN RIGHTS ON FILM

presented by [NWFILM.ORG](http://www.nwfilm.org) <http://www.nwfilm.org/screenings/36/354/>

Here is a Poster!

For more information: <http://www.theportlandalliance.org/nwfilm>

Sept 30 through Oct. 5, 8, 15, 16 and 23: Festival of New Spanish Cinema, Films: With or Without Love, Every Song is about Me, Kidnapped, Who Can Kill a Child?, 80 Days, Half of Oscar, Granito.

*Arts & Culture Continued Page 18*

## Shannon Wheeler's One-Hundred-and-One One-Panel Comics

PCPA Gallery Presents:

**Shannon Wheeler's One-One-One-One: One-Hundred-and-One One-Panel Comics, a One-Man Show**

On display Oct. 6 - Dec. 1, 2011

(iPortland, OR) - Finally our great city produced a cartoonist with the creative chops to publish comics in The New Yorker magazine- Portland resident Shannon Wheeler. Creator of Too Much Coffee Man and the book I Thought You Would Be Funnier, Wheeler is partnering with Portland Center for the Performing Arts to showcase his original work drawn for The New Yorker.

One-hundred-and-one original cartoons will be on display and for sale at reasonable Portland prices. Each week Shannon submits dozens of cartoons just to sell one. This exhibition showcases the best of what The New Yorker passed over. Don't be fooled- rejected cartoons are often the funniest. Gentle yet expressive line art wash that's loose yet descriptive. Humor that is subtle but has the weight of a grand piano.



"Shannon is a longtime friend and partner-in-crime of Portland Center for the Performing Arts," says Robyn Williams, executive director of PCPA. "We are thrilled to be showcasing his original work from The New Yorker - it is witty, expressive and completely Portland."

Wheeler is equally thrilled to be showcasing his work at the PCPA Gallery. "I'm so excited, I spilled my coffee," said Wheeler.

### -When, Where, and How?-

Shannon Wheeler's One-One-One-One: One-Man Show of One-Hundred-and-One One-Panel Comics opens October 6th, 2011 at 6 p.m. with a special 1st Thursday reception at the PCPA Gallery. The exhibition runs through December 1st, 2011 at the gallery at 1111 SW Broadway & Main St. (inside Antoinette Hatfield hall). This exhibit will be celebrating the 25th

anniversary of 1st Thursday as well as Oregon Cultural Trust's Oregon Days of Culture (October 1-8, 2011).

### Shannon Wheeler

Shannon Wheeler is a New Yorker cartoonist who doesn't fit The New Yorker cartoonist mold - or, rather, is proof that the mold has radically changed since the magazine's earliest days. He doesn't call New York City home, having instead lived in some of the most un-New York cities in the country: Berkeley, Austin, and Portland. Though his work didn't appear in The New Yorker until 2009, Shannon had by that time started his long-running comic, "Too Much Coffee Man," later to be adapted to several graphic novels (not to mention an opera), and maintained a weekly strip in The Onion. Earlier this year, his first collection of rejects earned him the honored Eisner Award for Best Humor Publication.

Shannon's publications include, Too Much Coffee Man Omnibus (Dark Horse), Oil and Water - a graphic novel about the effects of the BP oil spill, (with Steve Duin, Fantagraphics), Grandpa Won't Wake Up - two kids try to wake up their grandfather who is dead (with Simon Max Hill, BOOM!), and more. For more information about Shannon, please visit [www.tcm.com](http://www.tcm.com).

### PCPA

Portland Center for the Performing Arts is the region's premier performing arts venue management organization. PCPA manages the Keller Auditorium, Arlene Schnitzer Concert Hall and the Antoinette Hatfield Hall, which houses the Winningstad and Newmark theatres and Brunish Hall. Portland Center for the Performing Arts operates under the guidance of the Metropolitan Exposition Recreation Commission, a subsidiary of Metro.

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# VOICES IN ACTION: HUMAN RIGHTS ON FILM

By NWFILM.ORG

While cinema provides entertainment and escape, for many filmmakers and viewers it is a vital portal into the lives of others, a medium of engagement, and a powerful tool for social action. Tackling wide-ranging, thought-provoking issues, activist filmmakers help deepen our awareness of injustice, the values of dignity and equality, and the price of commitment as they tell universal stories of struggle and triumph. We hope that the informative and inspirational films presented in this year's series will broaden understanding and stimulate involvement as they reveal the courage of individuals whose hearts and minds are focused on our many shared challenges. Our special thanks go to Human Rights Watch, Amnesty International, Portland Center for Public Humanities at Portland State University, World Affairs Council of Oregon, and other organizations worldwide who help bring important events, issues, and media works to light. Thanks to our media sponsors KBOO Radio and The Portland Alliance.

OCT 6 THURS 7 PM— GRANITO  
US 2010  
DIRECTOR: PAMELA YATES

Sometimes a film doesn't just document history, it makes history. Such is the case with Pamela Yates' GRANITO.

Part political thriller, part memoir, GRANITO tells a haunting tale of genocide and justice that spans four decades, two films, and in many ways, Yates' own career. Embedded in GRANITO is Yates' seminal 1982 film, WHEN THE MOUNTAINS TREMBLE, which introduced the world to the tragedy of the genocide carried out against the Mayan people by the Guatemalan government and which propelled Mayan activist Rigoberta Menchú to the international stage. During filming, Yates was allowed to shoot the only known footage of the army as it carried out the genocide. Twenty-five years later, this film and its outtakes become evidence in an international war crimes case against the former commander of the Guatemalan army, and Yates reunites with Menchú, now a Nobel Laureate, and others who continue to contribute their granito (tiny grain of sand) in a continuing quest for the truth. (100 mins.) Pamela Yates will introduce the film. Co-presented with the Good Works Film Festival—inspiring stories, enlightening discussions, and inspiring events—taking place in Eugene October 7-10. [www.goodworksfilmfestival.org](http://www.goodworksfilmfestival.org)

OCT 12 WED 7 PM— FAMILIA  
SWEDEN/SPAIN 2010  
DIRECTORS: MIKAEL WISTRÖM,  
ALBERTO HERSKOVITS

FAMILIA manages to make a universal issue—the plight of the many

immigrants who leave behind their loved ones to make a living far from home—personal by focusing on one family in particular: an older Peruvian couple and their grown son, daughter, and young school-age son. Working with a family they have known and filmed for over 35 years, Wiström and Herskovits intimately follow both the matriarch, Nati, as she begins her new life as a hotel maid in Spain, and those forced to fill her void back in Lima. What's most remarkable, however, is the intimate access the Swedish co-directors get, as a result of having known Nati and her kin for over 35 years. Through familiarity with their subjects and striking image making, the family's hardscrabble life comes into moving focus. (82 mins.)

OCT 19 Wed 7 PM— LOST ANGELS  
US 2010  
DIRECTOR: THOMAS NAPPER

Los Angeles, California, has been designated the homeless capital of America, with an estimated 48,000 individuals living on the streets. Napper's empathetic but tough-minded exploration visits a part of the city that many choose to ignore—downtown's Skid Row. As we meet the residents of this distressed area, their remarkable stories paint a multi-faceted portrait of life on the streets. Residents face undeniable challenges, including mental illness and addiction, with hope and a strong sense of community, despite conflicting politics and the "Safer Cities Initiative" which seeks to reduce crime in the area. Residents feel that the policy targets the low-income and homeless population in an effort to pave the way for gentrification. Passionate, polemic, and generous in spirit, LOST ANGELS reveals a unique vitality to life on the streets and an inspiring humanity in those who live there. (77 mins.) Thomas Napper will introduce the film.

OCT 20 THURS 7 PM  
THE GREEN WAVE  
GERMANY/IRAN 2010  
DIRECTOR: ALI SAMADI AHADI

The prevalence and power of social media have increasingly rendered it a tool for political movements worldwide, not least in the case of Iran's Green Revolution, whose

2009 "Where's My Vote" campaign on behalf of reformist presidential candidate Mir-Hossein Mousavi directly challenged the fait accompli of Mahmoud Ahmadinejad's contested re-election. Utilizing frontline YouTube footage from protest events, blog postings, Tweets, Facebook updates, and dramatic re-enactments of events via animated testimonials, Ahadi's resourceful collage speaks powerfully, as per its director's dedication, to "mankind's yearning for freedom and dignity," as it chronicles political rebellion met by government-sanctioned violence. (89 mins.) Tonight's screening is co-presented with "New Directions in Human Rights," October 20-21, a symposium organized by the Portland Center for Public Humanities at Portland State University. Introducing the film is Greg Mullins, Professor of American Studies and Human Rights at Evergreen State University and a symposium participant. Complete schedule information at [www.publichumanities.pdx.edu](http://www.publichumanities.pdx.edu).

OCT 22 SAT 7 PM— SING YOUR SONG  
US 2011  
DIRECTOR: SUSANNE ROSTOCK

"With remarkable intimacy, visual style, and musical panache, Rostock's SING YOUR SONG surveys the inspiring life of singer, actor, and activist Harry Belafonte. From his rise to fame as a singer and his experiences touring a segregated country to his crossover into Hollywood, Belafonte's groundbreaking career personifies the American civil rights movement. Rostock reveals Belafonte to be a tenacious activist, who worked intimately with Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., mobilized celebrities for social justice, participated in the struggle against apartheid in South Africa, and took action to counter gang violence, prisons, and youth incarceration. Belafonte's beliefs elicited unwarranted invasions by the FBI into both his personal life and career, leading to years of struggle with the powers that be. Nonetheless, an indomitable sense of optimism still motivates Belafonte, as he continues to ask, 'What do we do now?'" —Sundance Film Festival. "A call to action for viewers to emulate Belafonte's example of engaging with the world's problems and searching for solutions, no matter how long-range they may be." —Hollywood Reporter. (104 mins.)

OCT 25 TUES 7 PM— THE PRICE OF  
SEX / US 2010  
DIRECTOR: MIMI CHAKAROVA

Bulgarian-American photojournalist Mimi Chakarova's revealing film is a first-person investigation of the modern slave trade ravaging the countries of the former Eastern Bloc. Hundreds of thousands of women, many of them from the poorest former

HUMAN Rights cont. p 18

## On the Mend continued from p 5

as the self-destruction of finance-dominated advanced Capitalism? Labor's share of the gross domestic product has shrunk while the profits for capital have risen. The investor class knows their wealth comes from reducing the cost of labor. JPMorgan recently told their investors: "US labor compensation is now at a 50-year low relative to both company sales and US GDP . . . reductions in wages and benefits explain the majority of the net improvement in margins." Indeed, according to JPMorgan, 75% of the increase in profit margins directly correlates with the reduction in workers' wages.

The desire for excessive short profits is creating an irreversible economic decline because labor can no longer consume enough or borrow enough to keep the economy afloat with its cash and credit-based consumption. As David Cay Johnston puts it "A weak foundation cannot properly support a massive superstructure."

Further evidence of this advanced stage of finance-capital is on the other side of the equation, the concentration of wealth. The richest 400 people in the U.S. have as much wealth as 154 million Americans or 50% of the population. The wealthiest 1% of the U.S. population now has a record 40% of all wealth—more wealth than 90% of the population. According to an extensive study by auditing and financial advisory firm Deloitte, U.S. millionaire households now have \$38.6 trillion in wealth in addition to an estimated \$6.3 trillion hidden in offshore accounts.

Only 74 Americans are in this elite top bracket, people with annual income is \$50 million or more. The average income within this category was \$91.2 million in 2008. As astonishing as that is, in 2009 they averaged \$518.8 million each, or about \$10 million per week. This means, in the depths of the economic collapse, the richest 74

Mend Continued on Page 17



(expletive deleted)

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## Part Two: FOOD: Getting to the source

an interview with Cory Schreiber

by Deborah Z. Lee

Cory Schreiber is a familiar name in the Portland area, ... he was awarded Best Chef - Pacific Northwest by the James Beard Foundation in 1998. In our last issue, Cory was telling us about his involvement with the Farm to School Food program.



“Sauvie Island Center runs about 1400 kids a year out to the farm. Field trips take place in the fall and in the spring, and then they go out there and spend the day..”

DL: Was the Edible Schoolyard [a program developed by Alice Waters] used as a model for Farm to School?

CS: What's currently happening is that -- I have a brother-in-law who is heading up something called Food Corps, and Food Corps has a mandate for the federal government helping out with funding Food Corps, which is a little bit like AmeriCorps. So you have post-college-age students who are paid about \$15,000 a year to go work in a school as an assistant, but it is mandatory that they have gardening skills as well as cooking skills. So when you ask the question, is the Edible Schoolyard a model, the answer is yes, because that clearly was a model based upon growing the food and bringing it into the kitchen. It is used as a model because that's the model that suggests that kids do better, their temperament is more even, and maybe even feasibly, their scoring on tests is higher when they're eating foods that they know where it comes from, and it's considered, dare I use the word, more nutritious. So that's why that model exists, because in order to make any of this work, there has to be scientific proof that by improving the food quality and the nutrition, you will actually be improving the sum of the students in educational benefits. It's a good model, it's financed very heavily by the James Beard Foundation, which makes it possible for everybody to have Berkeley in their backyard; but it still works as a model for the rest of the country to refer to, and have to build examples around.

DL: Was it satisfying to you to be able to use the farmer and grower connections that you've sustained over the years at Wildwood?

CS: Well, processors, yes. But not farmers as much, because the farmers that I was dealing with in the high-end restaurant are very different from the farmers that want to sell bulk foods to schools in increments of 100s of pounds of units. Economically, there's a comparison, but quality-wise and relationship-wise, I wasn't able to connect the dots on that one, necessarily. I mean, I attempted it, but nothing ever transformed. I think it's two different worlds, purchasing food,

their final nonprofit business equations about the business plan for that. That was really where the work was done to make the kid-to-farmer connection. I knew that long before I did Farm to School, that if you're going to educate children about food, you need to get them to the source. Sauvie Island Center runs about 1400 kids a year out to the farm. Field trips take place in the fall and in the spring, and then they go out there and spend the day. They learn about compost, they learn about forest, field, they learn about farming; about wildlife, and the importance about habitat when on the farms, water, trees; so there's a lot of ecology tied into it.

DL: In your Purchasing and Sustainability class here, what is the single most important thing you want your students to come away with after taking the class?

CS: In the class they have to pay attention to the cost of food in accordance with food cost projections, which gives them selling prices, so you can't ballpark the whole menu; you actually have to break it down ingredient by ingredient, know the cost of those ingredients and know how they add back up again to meet a recipe. And that's something to walk away with. Understanding how to arrive at a selling price, based on the cost of goods. A little bit of work that goes into knowing how to convert things...

*In Part III, which will be published in our next issue, Cory reveals some disturbing realities about our food chain in America. The full interview in online:*

[theportlandalliance.org/deborahzlee](http://theportlandalliance.org/deborahzlee)  
Deborah Lee is a freelance writer and jazz vocalist. She is a longtime member of General Strike, a folk band performing labor and union songs. She can be reached at [debzelda@mindspring.com](mailto:debzelda@mindspring.com) or at her blog about food, [debzdiner.blogspot.com](http://debzdiner.blogspot.com)

two economic bases. And value bases, too.

DL: In the movie, Ingredients, you were shown with a group of kids. Did you have much contact with kids at all in the Farm to School program?

CS: No; when the film Ingredients showed my activity out there, I also was the Farm to School coordinator for the Dept of Ag, but I was doing something that I previously established. The Sauvie Island Center is the educational center on Sauvie Island tied to Sauvie Island Organics and that was the nonprofit that I started about three years before I took the Farm to School job. So that was back in 2005. And so Sauvie Island Center was Sherry Raider, who was the founder of Sauvie Island Organics, and myself, and three other people, started that. That's a six-year-old project that I helped to raise money for, I was a board member, I used Portland State University students on

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## On the Mend from page 16

Americans increased their income by more than 5 times in one year. These 74 people made more money than 19 million workers combined.

Indeed, during the recession the rich are getting richer while the rest of us are getting poorer. In 2009 alone, the pay of America's highest earners quintupled, while more Americans found themselves on food stamps than ever before. CEOs got a 23% raise last year and corporate profits are at record highs while the minimum wage has less buying power now than in 1956.

If we stay on the present course, the wealth amassed by millionaire households is set to increase by more than 100% over the next 9 years. From a total of \$92 trillion held by the world's richest in 2011, by 2020 the world's millionaire households will possess \$202 trillion, or roughly 4 times current global GDP. If you think the wealth divide is bad now, unless significant changes are made, it is going to get much worse.

The rich are getting richer while the poor are getting poorer and the middle class is disappearing, not because the wealthy are smarter or work harder, but because of corrupt crony capitalism. The wealthy have worked to dominate government since the early 1970s. President Obama's \$1 billion reelection campaign exemplifies this. He is holding fundraisers where he charges \$35,800 for admission - that is more than the median income of American workers. The twelve members appointed to the Joint Select Committee on Deficit Reduction got nearly \$64.5 million in donations from special interest groups over the past decade, with legal firms donating about \$31.5 million and Wall Street firms donating about \$11.2 million. And since they were appointed to the commission, they have been seeking contributions from Wall Street.

As a result of this bribery disguised as campaign donations, policies are skewed for the wealthiest, some examples among many:

\* 1,470 Americans earned over \$1 mil-

## Mend continued on page 23

# Trivia Contest

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# Argentine Tango! A Grassroots Dance...

HUMAN Rights from page 16

BY POLLY MCBRIDE & ELIZABETH RATHBUN

Argentine Tango is not the legs-flying dance you see on Dancing with the Stars, yet it is a fascinating dance. In the early 90s, a few motivated aficionados developed Portland into a thriving tango community that attracts dancers from around the globe.

For anyone craving non-corporate entertainment, tango is the ultimate high. In Buenos Aires, Argentina, tango was the dance of the immigrants who left Europe after World Wars I and II in search of a better life. While it reflects melancholy of their disappointments, it also shows a lighter playful side. After finding scarce jobs and resources, they poured themselves into tango, expressing sensuality and passion for life.

In Portland, tango began with grassroots organization in a similar fashion. In 1992, founding members, Polly McBride and Clay Nelson, met at a Seattle Argentine tango workshop and fell head over heels for Argentine Tango. McBride is adamant that tango "changed my life in ways I'd never dreamed of and I've spent the past 20 years pursuing whatever it is." McBride and Nelson dedicated themselves to bring it to Portland by attending Stanford Tango week and numerous workshops. Nelson launched into teaching his eager ballroom students who thrived on challenging new dances.

Attendance grew when Mr. Nelson brought in guest teachers monthly from Seattle and the Bay area. Shortly afterward, he decided to create tango weekends twice yearly. Mrs. McBride said that, "within a few years its popularity grew beyond our wildest dreams, and thanks to Clay's promotional efforts and organizational expertise, Tango Fest and ValenTango have become the two largest events of their kind in the country."

When they chose the venues for Portland milongas, they found intriguing places with ambience like historic Norse Hall, the Portland Police Athletic Association (PPAA) and outdoor settings for 'Tango in the Park' in summer knowing that the sites enhance the tango experience. Over the years, Norse transitioned from recreational folk and ethnic dances to Swing, Scandinavian and Argentine Tango. Most continue to be offered.

Reminiscing about Norse Hall, McBride explained how it holds a special place in her memory in speaking about a favorite aunt. "In the early 40's Freda

Louise Miller, with was a member of the WAVES, women's branch of the U.S. Navy, and attended USO dances at Norse Hall, along with hundreds of other uniformed personnel. Freda was blond, gorgeous, vivacious and altitude-challenged. She became interested in a handsome, fair-haired ensign who she wished to dance with, but figured he would never see her in the crowd. One night, determined to, um, heighten the chances of him seeing her, she placed a chair in a strategic corner and stood on it. He noticed."

Endless research is put into tango music to make it stimulating yet varied. DJ's select a wide range of music to include traditional Buenos Aires recordings, instrumental pieces and alternative music (something not originally intended for tango that has an exotic sound).

Portland evolved - it became a mecca of opportunity with experienced teachers and charming places to dance. A local website is dedicated to tango at: [HYPERLINK "http://www.portlandtango.com"](http://www.portlandtango.com) [www.portlandtango.com](http://www.portlandtango.com). It includes locations and times for all milongas at [HYPERLINK "http://www.PortlandTango.com"](http://www.PortlandTango.com) [PortlandTango.com](http://www.PortlandTango.com). Dancers can follow the calendar; choose a night and/or venue that fits their schedule and/or location and drop in for a class. It is also possible to contact various teachers. McBride says tango takes patience to learn, but is worth the effort. She believes tango is life on the dance floor and life is tango off the dance floor. "You don't need a partner, but if you have one, dancing tango together can enhance your relationship in ways you've never known."

In the beginning stages of Portland's tango history, Nito and Elba Garcia were one of the first couples to teach in the early to mid-90s. They continue to teach at Nora's Tango Week in the San Francisco Bay area yearly ([HYPERLINK "http://www.tangoweek.com/"](http://www.tangoweek.com/) [www.tangoweek.com](http://www.tangoweek.com/)). Now 76, they were widowed when they met. Nito's repertoire included folk, native and tango, while Elba had never danced. When they became a couple, he showed her everything about tango and since then they've taught around the world.

During one of their workshops in PDX several years ago, one of the leaders in the class said he couldn't "get his partner to do the figure" being taught. Nito led her and every other woman in the class and they ALL did it perfectly. Every leader instantly understood that leading begins with a comfortable,

efficient embrace and if a move is led well, a follower will respond correctly.

It needs to be said that tango in the real world is completely different from what is shown in the movies and television. Although those who strive to dance like experts, do watch You Tube to improve their skills on the floor. Simply put, tango is a social dance that is based on walking. It can be made up of simple steps or complex combinations with no set patterns; it is improvised and each person develops their own style.

Social tango is danced by a couple for their personal pleasure and is filled with small, romantic, rhythmic moves. For those who like to see lively performances, show tango is designed for a viewing audience because it's filled with large, dramatic, flashy moves. Portland has a wonderful social tango scene that includes numerous year-round visits by performers.

As a result of grassroots efforts, Portland has two outstanding tango events. This fall it begins with Portland Tangofest, October 5 to 10, 2011 and Valentango, Feb. 15 to 20, 2012. There are four days of workshops from beginning to advanced, afternoon and evening dancing live music, a Grande Ball at Tiffany Center, and much more. Every night of the festival week, the two events have live tango orchestras. More information is available at: [HYPERLINK "http://www.claysdancestudio.com"](http://www.claysdancestudio.com) [www.claysdancestudio.com](http://www.claysdancestudio.com).

*Polly McBride enjoyed a long career as an elementary education teacher. She has worked in numerous other positions and chaired many foundations and festivals. She teaches a series of beginning classes Wednesdays 6 to 7 pm at Paradise Studio, 826 SE Belmont. With 20 years of experience, she writes extensively about tango and has penned several books. Her latest is "Tango Quest... Seeking Argentine Tango," and is available at [HYPERLINK "mailto:atango2@aol.com"](mailto:atango2@aol.com) [atango2@aol.com](mailto:atango2@aol.com). Her blog at [HYPERLINK "http://tango-polly.wordpress.com"](http://tango-polly.wordpress.com) [tango-polly.wordpress.com](http://tango-polly.wordpress.com) features a variety of articles and essays related to tango and her observations at Nora's Tango Week.*

*Elizabeth Rathbun has a science, business and landscape design background. She gardens and writes from Tigard. She is former co-editor of The Washington Co. Democratic Party Newsletter, a member the League of Women Voter's Legislative Action Committee, & a contributor who enjoys multicultural events.*

Soviet countries, are subjected to abuse, poverty, imprisonment, and rape while living illegally and against their will in developed countries as prostitutes. Chakarova illuminates how even though some women escape to tell their stories, the commercial commodification of women - by people and governments in some of the wealthiest countries in the world - continues to make human trafficking a thriving business. Nestor Almendros Award Winner, 2011 Human Rights Watch Film Festival. (73 mins.)

OCT 26 WED 7 PM  
THE REDEMPTION OF GENERAL BUTT NAKED / US 2011  
DIRECTORS: ERIC STRAUSS, DANIELE ANASTASION

Challenging our preconceived notions of evil, justice, and faith, this fascinating story of one man's remarkable journey will resonate with anyone who has ever questioned his or her capacity to forgive. A naked, gun-toting murderer who led an army to massacre thousands during the Liberian Civil War, Joshua Milton Blahyi (known to his victims as "General Butt Naked") has repented of his actions. Reinvented as a firebrand evangelist, he now preaches love, forgiveness, and tolerance to those he himself once brutalized. But what are the limits of forgiveness for a mass murderer? Is his quest to make amends real or merely a way to evade justice? "A compelling portrait of an extraordinarily complex personal odyssey, a film that explores both the power and the limitations of faith and forgiveness." - Los Angeles Times. (84 mins.)

NOV 2 WED 7 PM - THIS IS MY LAND...HEBRON / ISRAEL/ITALY 2010 / DIRECTORS: GIULIA AMATI, STEPHEN NATANSON

Hebron is the largest city in the occupied West Bank, home to 160,000 Palestinians. It is also home to one of the first Israeli settlements in the West Bank - the only one right in the heart of a Palestinian city. Once a bustling hub of activity, the tension-filled city center is now home to a colony of 600 Israeli settlers, who require a garrison of more than 2,000 Israeli soldiers to defend them. It's a war between neighbors where the main goals are to conquer one more meter of the city, to keep the enemy at bay, and to simply stand one's ground. Featuring interviews with both Israelis and Palestinians living in Hebron, as well as activists on both sides, members of the Israeli parliament, and prominent Haaretz journalists, THIS IS MY LAND lifts the lid on Hebron as it is today - a city fraught with violence and hate. "A startling glimpse into life at ground zero of the Israeli occupation." - Slant Magazine. (75 mins.)

NOV 3 THURS 7 PM  
AN AFRICAN ELECTION  
US/SWITZERLAND/GHANA 2011  
DIRECTORS: JARRETH MERZ, KEVIN MERZ

In a world plagued by stolen elections, secret government agendas, and a renewed interest in the exploitation of African natural resources, what value does democracy offer, particularly in the tumultuous region of West Africa?

*These films are presented by NWFILM.ORG, sponsored by KBOO & The Portland Alliance, and can be seen at The Whitsell Auditorium at The Portland Art Museum. More info: <http://www.theportlandalliance.org/nwfilm> or got to NWFILM.ORG*

## Arts & Culture from page 15

Fri, October 7 through 18: Reel Music Festival; See list with numerous films.

Fri, October 28 through 30: French Shorts and Films: Rules of the Game, Film Socialisme.

## Garden Events

Portland Rose Society

Chinese: [portlandchinesegarden.org](http://portlandchinesegarden.org);

Japanese: [japanesegarden.com](http://japanesegarden.com)

## Lectures and Public Events

Events through Portland League of Women Voters. (Men welcome) See website for more details. [HYPERLINK "http://www.Lwvpx.org"](http://www.Lwvpx.org) [www.Lwvpx.org](http://www.Lwvpx.org)

## Music at McMenamins

Fridays and Saturdays. Hidden Inn, Touch of Athens, 100 West 13<sup>th</sup> in Vancouver, WA. Live Greek music with Bouzouki, singing and dancing, breaking the plate. From 6:30 to 10:30.

Irish Sundays, traditional Irish music at 6 at the Rock Creek Tavern.

## Theatre - Plays

Sept 6 through Oct. 9: God of Carnage by Yasmina Reza at Artists Reparatory Theatre; Two sets of parents meet to discuss a bullying incident in what they hoped would be a "civilized manner". As the evening passes that intent goes awry, and things turn hilarious, shocking and disturbing.

Please send events to Elizabeth Rathbun via [waterwise@frontier.com](mailto:waterwise@frontier.com)



# The Obama National Security Team Drones On!

*Drone Continued from Page 4*

striding amongst us, carrying big sticks and with that same crazed look in their eyes.

The Global War on Terror (or GWOT in acronym-crazed Washington) was the bastard spawn of the disorientation and soaring hubris of the days after the 9/11 attacks, which set afire the delusional geopolitical dreams of Bush, Cheney, their top national security officials, and their neocon supporters. And here's the saddest thing: the Bush administration's most extreme ideas when it comes to GWOT are now the humdrum norm of Obama administration policies -- and hardly anyone thinks it's worth a comment.

## A History Lesson from Hell

It's easy to forget just how quickly GWOT was upon us or how strange it really was. On the night of September 11th, 2001, addressing the nation, President Bush first spoke of winning "the war against terrorism." Nine days later, in an address to a joint session of Congress, the phrase "war on terror" was already being expanded. "Our war on terror," Bush said, "begins with al-Qaeda, but it does not end there. It will not end until every terrorist group of global reach has been found, stopped, and defeated."

In those early days, there were already clues aplenty as to which way the wind was gusting in Washington. Top administration officials immediately made it plain that a single yardstick was to measure planetary behavior from then on: Were you "with us or against us"? From the Gulf of Guinea to Central Asia, that question would reveal everything worth knowing, and terror would be its measure.

As the New York Times reported on September 14th, Bush's top officials had "cast aside diplomatic niceties" and were giving Arab countries and "the nations of the world a stark choice: stand with us against terrorism or face the certain prospect of death and destruction." According to Pakistani dictator Pervez Musharraf, Deputy Secretary of State Richard Armitage took that message directly to his country's intelligence director: either ally with Washington in the fight against al-Qaeda, or prepare to be bombed "back to the Stone Age," as Armitage reportedly put it.

Global War on Terror? They weren't exaggerating. These were people shocked by what had happened to iconic buildings in "the homeland" and overawed by what they imagined to be the all-conquering power of the U.S. military. In their fever dreams, they thought that this was their moment and the apocalyptic winds of history were at their backs. And they weren't hiding where they wanted it to blow them either. That was why they tried to come up with names to replace GWOT -- World War IV (the third was the Cold War) and the Long War being two of them -- that would be even blunter about their desire to plunge us into a situation from which none of us would emerge in our lifetimes. But to the extent anything stuck, GWOT did.

And if everything is in a name, then the significance of that one wasn't hard to grasp. Bush's national security folks focused on an area that they termed "the arc of instability." It stretched

from North Africa to the Chinese border, conveniently sweeping through the major oil lands of the planet. They would later dub it "The Greater Middle East." In that vast region, they were ready to declare hunting season open and they would be the ones to hand out the hunting licenses.

**"if Bush's crew  
is long gone,  
the world they  
willed us is  
alive and well"**

Within weeks of 9/11, top administration officials like Deputy Secretary of Defense Paul Wolfowitz were speaking of this vast region as a global "swamp," an earthy miasma that they were going to "drain" of terrorists. As the U.S. military had declared whole areas of enemy-controlled rural Vietnam "free fire zones" in the 1960s, so they were going to turn much of the planet into such a zone, a region where no national boundary, no claim of sovereignty would stop them from taking out whomever (or whatever government) they cared to.

Within days of 9/11, administration officials let it be known that, in their war, they were preparing to target terrorist groups in at least 60 countries. And if they were that blunt in public, in private they were exuberantly extreme. Top officials spoke with gusto about "taking off the gloves" or "the shackles" (the ones, as they saw it, that Congress had placed on the executive branch and the intelligence community in the wake of the Vietnam War and the Watergate affair).

As journalist Ron Suskind reported in his book *The One Percent Doctrine*, in a "Presidential Finding" on September 17, 2011, only six days after the World Trade Center towers went down, Bush granted the CIA an unprecedented license to wage war globally. By then, the CIA had presented him with a plan whose name was worthy of a sci-fi film: the "Worldwide Attack Matrix." According to Suskind, it already "detailed operations [to come] against terrorists in 80 countries."

In other words, with less than 200 countries on the planet, the president had declared open season on nearly half of them. Of course, the Pentagon wasn't about to be left out while the CIA was given the run of the globe. Soon enough, Secretary of Defense Rumsfeld began building up an enormous CIA-style secret army of elite special operations forces within the military. By the end of the Bush years, these had reportedly been deployed in -- don't be surprised -- 60 countries. In the Obama era, that number expanded to 75 -- mighty close to the 80 in the Worldwide Attack Matrix.

And one more thing, there was a new weapon in the world, the perfect weapon to make mincemeat of all boundaries and a mockery of national sovereignty and international law (with little obvious danger to us): the pilotless drone. Surveillance drones already in existence were quickly armed with missiles and bombs and, in November 2002, one of these was sent out on the first CIA robot assassination mission -- to Yemen, where six al-Qaeda suspects in a vehicle were obliterated without a by-your-leave to anyone.

## CT to the Horizon

That CIA strike launched the drone wars, which are now a perfectly humdrum part of our American world of war. Only recently, the Obama administration leaked news that it was intensifying its military-run war against al-Qaeda in Yemen by bringing the CIA into the action. The Agency is now to build a base for its drone air wing somewhere in the Middle East to hunt Yemeni terrorists (and assumedly those elsewhere in the region as well). Yemen functionally has no government to cooperate with, but in pure Bushian fashion, who cares?

Similarly, as June ended, unnamed American officials leaked the news that, for the first time, a U.S. military drone had conducted a strike against al-Shabab militants in Somalia, with the implication that this was a "war" that would also be intensifying. At about the same time, curious reports emerged from Pakistan, where the CIA has been conducting an escalating drone war since 2004 (strikes viewed "negatively" by 97% of Pakistanis, according to a recent Pew poll). Top Pakistani officials were threatening to shut down the Agency's drone operations at Shamsi air base in Baluchistan. Shamsi is the biggest of the three borrowed Pakistani bases from which the CIA secretly launches its drones. The Obama administration responded bluntly. White House counterterrorism chief

John O. Brennan insisted that, whatever happened, the U.S. would continue to "deliver precise and overwhelming force against al-Qaida" in the Pakistani tribal areas.

As Spencer Ackerman of *Wired's* Danger Room blog summed things up, "The harsh truth is that the Pakistanis can't stop the drone war on their soil. But they can shift its launching points over the Afghan border. And the United States is already working on a backup plan for a long-term drone war, all without the Pakistanis' help." In other words, permission from a beleaguered local ally might be nice, but it isn't a conceptual necessity. (And in any case, CIA flights from Shamsi still evidently continue uninterrupted.)

In other words, if Bush's crew is long gone, the world they willed us is alive and well. After all, there are reasonable odds that, on the day you read this piece, somewhere in the free-fire zone of the Greater Middle East, a drone "piloted" from an air base in the western United States or perhaps a secret "suburban facility" near Langley, Virginia, will act as judge, jury, and executioner somewhere in the "arc of instability." It will take out a terrorist suspect or suspects, or a set of civilians mistaken for terrorists, or a "target" someone in Washington didn't like, or that one of our allies-cum-intelligence-assets had it in for, or perhaps a mix of all of the above. We can't be sure how many countries American drones, military or CIA, are patrolling, but in at least six of them -- Afghanistan, Pakistan, Yemen, Somalia, Libya, and Iraq -- they have launched strikes in recent years that have killed more "suspects" than ever died in the 9/11 attacks.

And there is more -- possibly much more -- to come. In late June, the Obama administration posted that unclassified summary of its 2011 National Strategy for Counterterrorism at the White House website. It's a document that carefully avoids using the term "war on terror," even though counterterrorism advisor Brennan did admit that the document "tracked closely with the goals" of the Bush administration.

The document tries to argue that, when it comes to counterterrorism (or CT), the Obama administration has actually pulled back somewhat from the expansiveness of Bush-era GWOT thinking. We are now, it insists, only going after "al-Qaeda and its affiliates

*Drone Continues on Page 23*



*"We're friends without benefits."*

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# Extended Fall Community Calendar

## Calendar continued from p 13

(South Park Blocks at Salmon), 2:30 pm Forum at First Unitarian Church (SW 12 and Main). 10th anniversary of the Afghan invasion, demands include Money for Jobs and Health Care. Info: Peace and Justice Works 503 236-3065 RALLY, MARCH AND FORUM TO MARK ANNIVERSARY OF 2001 AFGHAN INVASION

The march at 1:30 PM will bring participants to the First Unitarian Church for a 2:30 PM forum. The theme of the event will be "10 Years in Afghanistan: End the Wars-Bring Our \$ Home." Speakers at the rally and forum will address these topics:

- Self Determination for the Middle East
- End Militarism
- Money for Jobs and Health Care
- Protect Human and Civil Rights
- \*Peace and Justice Works at 503-236-3065. flyer <http://www.pjw.info/oct1511announce.html>

**Friday, October 14** 7:00pm - 9:00pm at Portland State University: 1825 SW Broadway

OREGON JERICHO AND PORTLAND INTERNATIONAL SOCIALIST ORGANIZATION PRESENTS

Puerto Rico's Past and Presence: Conversations with Former Political Prisoner Carlos Alberto Torres Smith Memorial Building- Room TBA... This event is free, open to the public and disability affirmative! Arrested April 4, 1980, Carlos Alberto Torres was convicted of seditious conspiracy and related charges (along with ten others) and sentenced to 78 years in prison. Throughout prison term he experienced physical and mental torture. Carlos Alberto Torres was one of the longest held Puerto Rican Political Prisoners. Imprisoned for his belief in Puerto Rican Independence, he was paroled July 26, 2010, serving more than 30 years. info: oregon.jericho@gmail.com

**Sun. Oct. 16:** The Portland Alliance Standing Editorial Committee Meeting: Writers Meeting & BBQ... 2-8 pm at 5926 N. Albina

**Monday, October 17th,** 5:30pm Executive Committee 6025 E. Burnside

**Monday, October 17th,** at 7pm, Vancouver City Hall action. UNITE HERE's Vancouver Hilton campaign continues. This property is owned by the City of Vancouver. The UNITE HERE campaign for a fair contract will have people speaking at the City

Council meeting. Housekeepers are below poverty rates and hotel workers make less than the Portland's, and with a lousy health care coverage.

**Tuesday, October 18th,** 6 pm, JWJ Health Care Committee 6025 E Burnside

**Tues. Oct. 18,** health-care workers from WA and OR will be going to Gaza. Maxine Fookson, Nurse Practitioner from Portland, will be a member of this group. We invite you to a fundraiser to purchase health care supplies requested by Gaza health centers. Enjoy:

- ~Delicious Middle Eastern food
- ~Socialize with friends
- ~Learn about health issues in Gaza.

More info: Maxine Fookson and Ned Rosch [rofo@teleport.com](mailto:rofo@teleport.com)

**Tues./Wed., Oct. 18th and 19th** JwJ activists will go door to door to talk to JwJ pledgers who are not currently active and invite them to get involved in JwJ and We Are Oregon. We Are Oregon is organizing around many issues in North Portland. 3 hours: orientation on 1:1 conversations, then canvass. for more information or to get involved, call Lorene 503 922-3331

**Thurs. Night, Oct. 20th:** "Detroit: A History of Struggle, A Vision of the Future." A lecture and forum featuring guest speaker Darryl Waistline Mitchell: founding member of the League of Revolutionary Black Workers, author, and Union activist. Thursday Night, October 20th, 7pm @ Portland State University's Smith Building Room 296. FREE!

**Saturday, October 22nd,** 11am. Portland and Vancouver Rising, March from Portland to Vancouver. Meet at the field just off of I-5 Exit 308 to Jantzen Beach to march across the I-5 Bridge, then rally at Esther Short Park in Vancouver. Connect the communities; connect the struggles for GOOD JOBS FOR ALL, NO CUTS! For more info call JwJ 503 236-5573 or WWW. [jwjpdx.org](http://www.jwjpdx.org)

**Saturday, October 22,** 2PM at Launch Pad Gallery 534 SE Oak Street Portland, OR 97214 971.227.0072 Gallery Hours: Thursday Through Saturday, Noon - 6 [info@launchpadgallery.org](mailto:info@launchpadgallery.org) <http://www.launchpadgallery.org>

"You are going to be the proud owner of 25 million people. You will own all

their hopes, aspirations and problems. You'll own it all."

-General Colin Powell to President George Bush before invading Iraq in 2003.

What We Carried is about leaving one's homeland because of war. Iraqi refugees didn't leave their country because of a natural disaster, an act of God or to get a better job. They left because of an act of Man.

What We Carried: Fragments from the Cradle of Civilization is about what was brought to America, and what was left behind. Portland Photographer/Writer Jim Lommasson has been photographing and interviewing Iraqi refugees and immigrants who have fled to the U.S. since 1990. This project dovetails with Exit Wounds, Lommasson's visual and oral history of returning American soldiers from the Iraq and Afghanistan Wars. Funded in part by The Regional Arts and Culture Council (RACC).

**Mon., Oct. 24th:** TPA Copy Editing Party For November Issue 7pm - 9 pm at 5926 North Albina

There will be food, bring some to share!

**Wednesday, October 26,** 12pm, Faith-Labor Committee 6025 E. Burnside

**Wednesday, October 26,** 6pm, Global Justice Committee 6025 E. Burnside **Sat.,**

**Saturday, Oct. 29 8:00am - 6:00pm** Northwest Ecological Community Conference at Lewis & Clark College in PDX OR Share research and discuss related interests. "Bridging Academic and Community Voices to Create Social Change."

**Saturday, October 29th,** 10am. National Day of Action against the Private Prison Industry. Tell Wells Fargo to dump GEO Group and Corrections Corporation of America's prison stock and invest in humanity. Rally place to be announced soon.

**Mon., Oct. 31st** Fifth Monday Labor Radio Show! Lane Poncy with Labor Music &/or Michael Dembrow & Michael Morrow Please call in and join the conversation. Studio Line (503) 231-8187 The Labor Radio Collective Calendar link is <http://www.brownbears.com/freecal/PDXLaborRadio>

**Mon., Nov. 7th, 5:30 pm, JWJ Steering Committee 6025 E. Burnside**



**"The Alliance, KBOO, & Laughing Horse Books are proud to co-sponsor Greg Palast at the Bagdad Theatre, with tabling. Info: <http://www.theportlandalliance.org/palasti/>"**

**Sunday, November 13** The Alliance, KBOO, & Laughing Horse Books cosponsor Greg Palast at the Bagdad Theatre: 702 SE Hawthorne Boulevard: <http://www.twoshipsproduction.com/gregpalast> If people pre-order the book and bring the receipt to the event they will get a commemorative CD. <http://www.theportlandalliance.org/palast>

**Saturday, November 19** Tree Inventory Summit at 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. in St. Johns Community Center at 8427 N. Central St. Health of your neighborhood's trees will be revealed: 9 am - noon: Inventory findings Noon - 1 pm: lunch / 1 - 4 pm: Tree Plan work session: setting goals and priorities, working with partners, and gearing for action Click here to register. <https://docs.google.com/spreadsheet/viewform>

Register before November 1st and receive a tree team shirt!

## Ground View

BY GLEN ANDRESEN

Greg is teaching, writing, and does a radio show on gardening, education, and beekeeping:

[Http://kboo.fm/TheDirtbag](http://kboo.fm/TheDirtbag)



Picture provided by Glen Andresen

How Do I Love Leaves?

Let us not complain about poor soil. Let us make amends; that is, amend the soil. November is a great month for gathering one of the most under-used free sources of organic matter around. I speak, of course, of leaves. They are all over Portland and seem to go begging. How do I love leaves? Let me count the

ways:

1. As a life giver. Green leaves are the only known organs that can take mineral carbon from the carbon dioxide in the air and, in the presence of light, combine it with water and other minerals to build carbohydrates. Without this process--photosynthesis--the carbohydrate supply would soon

run down and life could not continue.

2. As a mulch. I use a four- to six-inch layer over beds that were emptied of their vegetables too late in the season to be planted with a cover crop. As a general rule, mulch going on or around perennials should not be applied until after the plants have gone dormant, which, depending on the year, is not until late November. We want the plant roots to feel the cold, thereby triggering dormancy, before we put on the mulch.

3. As organic matter. Perhaps leaves' greatest benefit is the large amount of fibrous organic matter they can supply. Organic matter is what our friends the bacteria and fungi eat, turning nutrients in the soil into soluble forms that plants can use. The end result of all these organisms' eating and pooping and being eaten themselves is humus--a kind of compost that resists further breakdown, and that improves structure for all types of soil. In addition, when leaves are turned under, they help aerate heavy clay soil, and,

in sandy soil, soak up water and check evaporation.

4. As an insulating blanket over carrots. Some carrots are advertised as "overwintering" and are designed to stay in the ground all winter. However, I'm not very satisfied with their flavor and much prefer my Nantes Bolero variety. So in late November, I put down a piece of burlap over the carrots and then a six- to eight-inch layer of leaves over that. It is easy to harvest the orange cache by lifting the edge of the burlap. (Of course this makes a pretty nifty place for slugs to hide but they can be spotted pretty easily because the carrots soon lose their foliage).

5. As a carbon source for compost piles. Carbon is a very important component in the compost pile, and frequently one that is hard to come by in the spring (unless you want to--doggies!--buy

**Ground View cont. on p 23**

# NEWS BYTES! PROGRESSIVE IDEAS IN MOTION:

## Longshore Workers Block Train, Occupy Terminal

Evan Rohar, Mischa Gaus

August 21, 2011

Hundreds of West Coast longshore workers blocked a train in July and more than a hundred have been arrested in a remarkable campaign of civil disobedience. They seek to prevent an anti-union company from moving grain through a Columbia River port.

Labor Notes:  
<http://labornotes.org/>



Revvng up for July actions at the worksite, 1,000 Longshore union members from up and down the West Coast rallied June 3 at EGT headquarters in Portland, Oregon. They are determined to prevent the anti-union company from moving grain without their members.

Photo: ILWU.

\*\*\*\*\*

## College workers face final talks

Statesman Journal

The union has declared an impasse in contract negotiations, and contract talks are in a 30-day "cooling-off" period mandated by state labor law. ... A bargaining session has been scheduled for Sept. 2 between university officials and classified workers represented by Service Employees International Union Local 503. If a deal isn't reached by Sept. 16, university administrators will be able to implement their final offer, and the workers will have the right to call a strike, OUS spokeswoman Di Saunders said. <http://www.statesmanjournal.com/>

## Chomsky's 9-11 reviewed in Peace News: August 30, 2011

### Reviewed in the September issue of Peace News:

Asked days after the 11 September 2001 attacks if US president George W Bush's "war on terror" was winnable, Noam Chomsky responded: "If we want to consider this question seriously, we should recognise that in much of the world the US is regarded as a leading terrorist state, and with good reason. We might bear in mind, for example, that in 1986 the US was condemned by the World Court for 'unlawful use of force' (international terrorism) and then vetoed a Security Council resolution calling on all states (meaning the US) to adhere to international law."

To mark the tenth anniversary of 11 September 2001, Seven Stories Press and Pluto Press are releasing new editions of two of Noam Chomsky's books on the al-Qa'eda attacks on New York and Washington.

9-11 is a small format book with Chomsky's immediate responses to the

attacks (including the interview quoted from above).

These books are indispensable for understanding and dealing with our current situation. Chomsky places the 9/11 attacks in their proper context, noting, for example, that the US missile attacks on Sudan in 1998, which destroyed a pharmaceutical factory manufacturing vital drugs cheaply, are estimated to have led directly to the deaths of tens of thousands of people from easily treatable diseases.

## Did 9/11 Make Peace Passe?

September 6, 2011 · By John Feffer

The U.S. Institute for Peace wants to change its name. What's the matter with peace all of the sudden?

Peace has never been a particularly popular word in Washington, DC. This is, after all, the home of the Pentagon and the major military contractors, not to mention all the think tanks and congressional lapdogs that lie in the king-size family bed with them. But the word "peace" has acquired such a negative reputation inside the Beltway that the U.S. Institute of Peace (USIP), which saw Congress nearly ax all its funding over the summer, is now considering a name change.

"Peace," the Institute's president Richard Solomon recently told The Washington Post, "is too abstract and academic." One alternative he is proposing: the U.S. Institute for Conflict Management. [http://www.ips-dc.org/articles/did\\_911\\_make\\_peace\\_pass](http://www.ips-dc.org/articles/did_911_make_peace_pass)

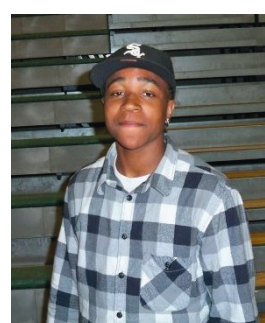
## Truthout.com Noam Chomsky | After 9/11, Was War the Only Option?

Noam Chomsky, The New York Times Syndicate: "This is the 10th anniversary of the horrendous atrocities of Sept. 11, 2001, which, it is commonly held, changed the world. The impact of the attacks is not in doubt. Just keeping to western and central Asia: Afghanistan is barely surviving, Iraq has been devastated and Pakistan is edging closer to a disaster that could be catastrophic ... Even the most obvious and elementary facts about the decade lead to bleak reflections when we consider 9/11 and its consequences, and what they portend for the future." [Read the Article](http://www.truth-out.org/after-911-was-war-only-option/1315582873) <http://www.truth-out.org/after-911-was-war-only-option/1315582873>

## Multnomah County Library expands nonfiction e-book collection

PORTLAND, Ore. — Sept. 12, 2011 — Multnomah County Library has expanded its e-book collection with 8,500 new nonfiction e-books on economics, science and technology topics. The e-books complement the library's current general nonfiction e-book offerings with more in-depth nonfiction that will be especially helpful for academic and other research.

To read more about Multnomah County Library, please visit [www.multcolib.org](http://www.multcolib.org).



From The Skanner News, August 31, 2011 Case of Kieron Fair, charged with Measure 11 for being present

during robbery, again put in limbo by Lisa Loving: A teenager hospitalized in the Oregon Health and Sciences University cardiac intensive care unit last year while suffering a mental health crisis in Multnomah County Sheriffs custody, has suffered another mental breakdown during plea bargaining on Measure 11 charges against him...

To read all about it, including claims he was beaten while in custody, click here <http://www.theskanner.com/>

## From Truthdig. Com

### Amnesty for the Indefensible by Robert Scheer

Aug 23, 2011

Obama is negotiating a plea bargain with Wall Street bankers that would extract a lump sum (\$20B) pittance of compensation from bankers for ripped off mortgage holders in exchange for blanket immunity from any prosecution. State Attorney Generals are being pressured to accept this agreement that would curtail any investigations into bank wrong-doing or shed light on the housing scandal.

FYI: Wall Street bankers were bailed out by the Obama administration with direct cash subsidies, zero interest loans and a deal with the Fed that took \$2 trillion in bad paper off their hands. The bankers then continued to worsen the crisis they had created through shady practices and fraudulent mortgage deals.

[http://www.truthdig.com/report/item/amnesty\\_for\\_the\\_indefensible\\_20110823/](http://www.truthdig.com/report/item/amnesty_for_the_indefensible_20110823/)

## From Aljazeera English

### Chavez set for more chemotherapy

August 26, 2011

Hugo Chavez will undergo a third round of chemotherapy in Caracas after two previous rounds in Cuba. Chavez said that the treatment is necessary to ensure that the cancer will not return. He disclosed only that he underwent surgery in Cuba in June to remove a malignant tumor in his pelvic area. This has taken him out of the political spotlight, but has not deterred his plans to run for president in the 2012 election. <http://english.aljazeera.net/news/ricas/2011/08/201182861451293180.html>

## From Truthout.org How has America's Detention System Changed Since 9/11?

August, 26, 2011

Unresolved questions remain about: closing the Guantanamo Bay detention center, where (if anywhere) to detain terrorism suspects, whether to prosecute terrorists in military commissions or federal courts, or whether the use of torture is an acceptable means of intelligence collection.

Conditions have improved substantially .since the first prisoners were brought to Guantanamo Bay in January 2002, almost a decade ago. Today, the names of the detainees are public, lawyers can visit detainees who they are representing (though travel remains costly and difficult), and the Supreme Court has recognized that the detainees have a constitutional right to habeas corpus providing US court access. <http://www.truth-out.org/how->

## Elizabeth & Tim select progressive & small press news bytes

[has-americas-detention-system-changed-911/1314297070](http://www.truth-out.org/has-americas-detention-system-changed-911/1314297070)

## From Truthout.org

### Three things that must happen for us to rise up and defeat the corporatocracy

August 26, 2011

The majority of Americans who oppose rule by the corporate powers and wealthy elite have given up on a solution. However, for us to return to a functioning democracy, we must: have knowledge of how we are getting screwed; 2) pragmatic tactics, strategies, and solutions; and 3) the "energy to do battle."

<http://www.truth-out.org/3-things-must-happen-us-rise-and-defeat-corporatocracy/1314378373>

## From Northwest Labor Press

### Backers File 2<sup>nd</sup> Ballot Initiative Aimed at Public Employees Unions

August, 2011

A new ballot initiative aimed at public employee's unions is being called "Get Government out of Politics Act" by its authors. The initiative's chief petitioner, Sandra Chapin, said its purpose is "to prevent public unions from taking money out of people's checks to support political agendas." The initiative would bar public employers from collecting union dues if any part goes toward political activities.

Scott Moore, spokesperson for Our Oregon, a union-backed ballot measure watchdog group, said. "It's a direct attack on public employees, and it's part of a nationwide effort to attack working families."

<http://nwlaborpress.org/2011/08/ballotmeasure/>

## From Consortiumnews.com

### Pitfalls ahead in NATO's Libya Victory

August 31, 2011

Progressive administration apologists aligned with neoconservatives proclaimed victory touting the Libyan lives saved and a brutal dictator toppled. Gaddafi reportedly stockpiled 20,000 man-portable anti-aircraft weapons, which could be used by terrorists to shoot down commercial airliners. Many of these weapons have gone missing in Libya. Money and even casualties could be required for any needed ground force to prevent chaos or civil war or just to keep the country stable. <http://consortiumnews.com/2011/08/30/pitfalls-ahead-in-natos-libya-victory/>

## Visit The Portland Alliance Online for more News Bytes:

<http://www.theportlandalliance.org/bytes>

# Vigil March For Murdered Columbians Asks Blumenauer "Vote No On Trade Agreement!"

By Max Linden-Levy

Wednesday, August 31<sup>st</sup>, more than fifty people representing unions, churches, and themselves gathered at 7 pm at U.S. Grant Park in Portland to show solidarity in the fight against the enactment of the Columbia Free Trade Agreement and to memorialize the 51 Colombian trade unionists murdered in 2010.

Most significantly, the 51 murdered Columbians being memorialized represented an ongoing assassination campaign that since 1986 has resulted in the known deaths of 2,860 Colombian labor workers, including new cases in 2011. This campaign, in the view of the marchers, is an allied effort of rightist elements in Columbia, it's government, and political and multinational corporate interests in the United States. Speakers at the Vigil for the murdered Columbians reiterated the negative effects of other recent trade agreements such as NAFTA and CAFTA upon which CFTA is modeled, often with entire sections simply "boiler plated" from the previous treaties.

When asked, the general consensus among those gathered, was that most American voters did not understand just how destructive these trade agreements have been. In addition to job loss at home and a decline in working conditions in the treaty countries, it was noted that these treaties hurt U.S. agriculture; contributed to serious environmental destruction; forced displacement of populations by the collapse of local economies in treaty countries; contributed to violent suppression of workers in treaty countries; created privatization of public trusts, including lands and resources previously held in common, in treaty countries; and is destroying the authority of both constitutional guarantees and the authority of legal systems to redress injuries to workers and others' rights in both treaty countries and the United States.

As an example of the impact of multinational corporations on legal authority through the avenues provided by such treaties; Pacific Rim, a Canadian mining corporation, desired to situate a very environmentally hazardous mining operation in El Salvador. El Salvador, realizing the danger to their local environment, on the basis of national environmental policy refused Pacific Rim permission to proceed. Pacific Rim then re-incorporated in Nevada as the U.S. and El Salvador were both signatories of the CAFTA agreement. Under CAFTA, Pacific Rim was able to sue the Salvadorian government in an attempt to subvert the national policy of a sovereign nation. There is an expectation, both overseas and, understandably as the U.S. is also a signatory, in the U.S., of similar lawsuits to overturn national law and government policy by multinational corporations.

Madelyn Elder, President of Local 7901 of the Communication Workers of America spoke on the negative impact to unions both in the United States and their corresponding trade agreement



Photos by Peter C. Little



countries. She noted a serious decline in union memberships, State legislation against unions, and the resultant loss of quality jobs to treaty countries where unionism is violently suppressed. These effects, she stated, result in the diminishment of the quality of life both in the United States and overseas. Foreign workers, as well as American workers, are being denied the right to collective bargaining which creates a dog-eat-dog employment environment driving down living wages; eliminating quality of life benefits; eliminating avenues of remedy for violation of basic worker rights; and, overseas, placing anyone who tries to speak out about working conditions in threat of deadly violence.

The Reverend Chuck Currie, minister of the United Church of Christ, reiterating the commitment of the religious community to human rights and workers' rights, and expressed personal horror at the campaign of assassination. He went on to say that Representative Blumenauer, whom he knew personally,

did need to make the decision to vote no in Congress on the CFTA treaty. The Reverend was hopeful that such would be the case.

The most moving address of the evening was by Betriz White, a native of Columbia, who spoke with first hand experience of workers rights being suppressed and forced population displacement in her native country. Speaking in Spanish through a translator, she related the experiences of her own father and other family members. She spoke most forcefully about the destructive impact of U.S. agricultural commodities on local markets. The final impact of the competition between giant multinational agribusiness and the family farm economy in Columbia being the displacement of farm communities to the large cities as itinerant workers. Something her family had personally experienced.

As the remarks concluded, the Vigil marchers set out to the home of

Representative Blumenauer. Their purpose was to remind him of the ongoing Colombian murders and the negative impact on U.S. Job market if CFTA were to be enacted by Congress in this time of economic recession.

At the Representative's empty home -- it was apparently in remodel with Blumenauer able to accommodate elsewhere when millions of Americans are losing their homes -- the marchers sang in candle light. As they sang, individuals stepped forward and left crosses on the Representative's front porch fashioned from fallen sticks, gathered at Grant Park, tied with strips of cloth upon which, in each case, were the names of one of the 51 men killed in labor suppression in Columbia in 2010. In addition, a traditional Portland Ghost Bicycle with the name of Rafael Tobin Zea on a placard across the handlebars, was also left on the porch. Zea, a Colombian Mine Workers' leader, was murdered on August 17<sup>th</sup> as the suppression campaign against workers' rights continues in Columbia.

## On the Mend cont. from page 17

lion in 2009 and didn't pay any taxes.

\* Historically the U.S. had an excess profits tax on the super-rich in tough economic times, now politicians talk about lowering the rate on top tax brackets.

\* The tax burden on the super-rich is unfairly low. IRS statistics released this May reflect that in 2008, the most recent year for which statistics are available, the tax rate is 18.1% on the wealthiest 400 Americans, while someone who has net taxable income of \$60,000 after deductions and exemptions pays 25%.

\* Warren Buffet describes paying only 17.4% income tax because of policies that coddle the rich, "If you make money with money, as some of my super-rich friends do, your percentage may be a bit lower than mine. But if you earn money from a job, your percentage will surely exceed mine — most likely by a lot."

\* Many major corporations pay no taxes, indeed many receive huge tax refunds, despite record earnings.

\* Corporate taxes have dropped consistently since the 1950s, with more and more burden falling on small businesses.

\* The SEC has been covering up the crimes of Wall Street by destroying evidence.

\* The Federal Reserve loaned banks and other companies as much as \$1.2 trillion of public money at very low interest rates.

It doesn't have to be this way. The 1% wealthiest should not have more political power than 300 million people. The people have the answers — if the views of Americans were followed the country would be on the right track on many critical issues. We can democratize the economy and give people more control over their own lives and influence over the economy. But, it is the responsibility

of the people to demand politicians listen to them.

The traditional tools of elections and lobbying no longer work. Americans need to build an independent movement and independent media along with independent politics to challenge the deep corruption in American government caused by corporatism. That starts on October 6, 2011 when Americans come to Washington, DC and occupy Freedom Plaza to call for an end to corporatism and militarism.

The destruction of the economy for 98% of Americans has been a long-term trend that the people can turn around — you can be sure the government will not do so. It is up to us. On this Labor Day Americans need to look honestly and deeply into the corruption of government by economic and political elites and demand that we participate in power.

Kevin Zeese co-directs Its Our Economy and is on the steering committee of October2011.org.

\* Kevin Zeese's blog

*Kevin Zeese is an attorney who has been a political activist since graduating from George Washington Law School in 1980. He works on peace, economic justice, criminal law reform and reviving American democracy. He advocates for democratizing the economy as co-director of It's Our Economy and works to oppose to war and shrink the military budget through Come Home America. Zeese serves on the steering committees of the Bradley Manning Support Network which advocates for alleged whistle-blower, Bradley Manning, and October2011.org which seeks to end corporatism and militarism.*

## Drones continued from page 19

and adherents," not every "terror group" on the planet. But here's the curious thing: when you check out its "areas of focus," other than "the Homeland" (always capitalized as if our country were the United States of Homeland), what you find is an

### "Obama national security appointments only emphasize how much the drone wars are on Washington's future agenda."

expanded version of the Bush global target zone, including the Maghreb and Sahel (northern Africa), East Africa, the Arabian Peninsula, Iraq, South Asia, Central Asia, and -- thrown in for good measure -- Southeast Asia. In most of those areas, Bush-style hunting season is evidently still open.

If you consider deeds, not words, when it comes to drones the arc of instability is expanding; and based on the new counterterrorism document, the next place for our robotic assassins to cross borders in search of targets could be the Maghreb and Sahel. There, we're told, al-Qaeda in the Lands of the Islamic Maghreb (AQIM), with roots in Algeria, but operatives in northern Mali, among other places, potentially threatens "U.S. citizens and interests in the region."

Here's how the document puts the matter in its classically bureaucratized version of English:

"[W]e must therefore pursue near-term efforts and at times more targeted approaches that directly counter AQIM and its enabling elements. We must work actively to contain, disrupt, degrade, and dismantle AQIM as logical steps on the path to defeating the group. As appropriate, the United States will use its CT tools, weighing the costs and benefits of its approach in the context of regional dynamics and perceptions and the actions and capabilities of its partners in the region..."

That may not sound so ominous, but best guess: the Global War on Terror is soon likely to be on the march across North Africa, heading south. And recent Obama national security appointments only emphasize how much the drone wars are on Washington's future agenda. After all, Leon Panetta, the man who, since 2009, ran the CIA's drone wars, has moved over to the Pentagon as secretary of

defense; while Bush's favorite general, David Petraeus, the war commander who loosed American air power (including drone power) in a massive way in Afghanistan, is moving on to the CIA.

On his first visit to South Asia as secretary of defense, Panetta made the claim

that Washington was "within reach of strategically defeating al-Qaeda." Perhaps it won't surprise you that such news signals not a winding down, but a ratcheting up, of the Global War on Terror. Panetta, as Craig Whitlock of the Washington Post reported, "hinted of more to come, saying he would redouble efforts by the military and the spy agency to work together on counterterrorism missions outside the traditional war zones of Afghanistan and Iraq."

More to come, as two men switching their "civilian" and military roles partner up. Count on drone-factory assembly lines to rev up as well, and the military's special operations forces to be in expansion mode. And note that by the penultimate page of that CT strategy summary, the administration has left al-Qaeda behind and is muttering in bureau-speak about Hizballah and Hamas, Iran and Syria ("active sponsors of terrorism"), and even the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia.

On the Bush administration's watch, the U.S. blew a gasket, American power went into decline, and the everyday security of everyday Americans took a major hit. Still, give them credit. They were successful on at least one count: they made sure that we'd never stop fighting their war on terror. In this sense, Obama and his top officials are a drone national security team, carrying out the dreams and fantasies of their predecessors, while Bush and his men (and woman) give lucrative speeches and write books, hundreds or thousands of miles away .

*Tom Engelhardt runs the Nation Institute's TomDispatch.com. His latest book is The American Way of War: How Bush's Wars Became Obama's (Haymarket Books).*

## Ground View cont. from p 20

some). So I often just store either whole or shredded leaves on some bare soil I want protected over the winter and then use them in the compost pile as needed.

6. As leaf mold. I have five compost bins on our 60- by 100-foot lot; one of them I use just for leaves. If I give them between one and two years, leaf mold is the result — a material so fine in size that it resembles coffee grounds. Leaf mold is not as rich in plant foods as leaves composted with other materials, but it is about five to ten times better at holding moisture than ordinary topsoil. And it is probably five to ten times easier to make. Here are the directions: (1) pile leaves in a wire enclosure, (2) cover, (3) wait one to two years. You're done! The top three or four inches will probably still look like leaves, but not underneath. It will be a haven for all sorts of micro- and macro-organisms.

Shredded leaves break down much more quickly than those that are left whole. Some years ago I bought a used chipper/shredder at a garage sale, and it was one of the best \$150 purchases I ever made.

Other good ways to get shredded leaves are to run over crisp, dry leaves in the yard (or for that matter, in the street) with a power mower, or to gather them after they have been pulverized by car tires.

7. As a source of minerals. Pound for pound, the leaves of most trees contain as much as twice the minerals manure does. Some maple tree leaves, for example, have more than five percent of their weight in calcium, magnesium, nitrogen, and phosphorus, plus other micronutrients. Even pine needles have about 2.5 percent of their weight in these nutrients. So go ahead, collect them all.

## Anger from Page 4

50 years: the contempt and blatant discrimination suffered by the "fighters" and "dreamers" giving way to the interracial relationships and expanded job opportunities of the "believers." The refreshing, readable and comprehensive book cites "a sense of optimism among African Americans" and in an interesting manner, attributes the increase of Black optimism to three factors: Barack Obama's election; "generational evolution," which sees each successive generation harboring fewer racial prejudices, suggesting that African Americans could be facing less racism than their parents; and the related rise of racial equality. The book provides a contemporary look at 21st century America and is a paradoxical portrait of race in America, where educated, privileged Blacks are optimistic about their futures, but for Blacks at the lower end of the economic spectrum, equality remains as elusive as ever. Cose matches statistics to analysis in his comprehensive look at race in the 21st century. The End

of Anger provides insight on young Black movers and shakers like the former Tennessee congressman Harold E. Ford Jr. and the N.A.A.C.P. president, Benjamin Jealous. Cose's interviews with well-established leaders with relatively conventional platforms and constituencies produced predictable comments.

Does hard-core and blatant racism still exist? Read Cose's offering as he states "I think we will for generations, and maybe forever, be dealing with the impact of racism. But racism as a phenomenon itself is fading, but I don't think we'll reach a point where we can talk about it and deal with it when it's still a problem." Racism is a problem we still have to deal with in America, but The End of Anger may well be the most important book dealing with race to date.

*(William Reed is President of Black Press International. Reed has a national reputation for expert writing, public speaking, organization, and research. William Reed is available for speaking/seminar projects via BaileyGroup.org)*



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# U.S. Labor Unions Struggle for Survival

## Report on Labor Unrest as the U.S. Labor Movement Struggles for Survival

By Max Linden-Levy

Labor union members, labor writers and labor sympathizers from all over the Portland Metro Area met Sunday night, September 29<sup>th</sup>, 2011, to hear a general report about the condition of the labor movement in America and, specifically, a presentation on the insurrection within the UHW wing of the SEIU; the transformation of the UHW to the NUHW; and the successful strike waged by the NUHW against Kaiser Permanente in California. The presenters were Sal Rosselli, former president of the SEIU-UHW and current president of the NUHW; and Steve Early, author of *The Civil Wars in U.S. labor* (Heymarketbooks.org).

Service Employees International Union (SEIU) is the fastest growing labor union in the United States. Its membership includes hospital, home care and nursing home workers. It is a tremendously strong organization which includes internal divisions dealing with communications, government affairs, new media, organizing, politics, global policy, pension/benefits, company strength, research and legal departments. The SEIU has been a strong supporter of Democratic Party politics and spent \$28 million on Barack Obama's election in 2008.

Within SEIU, United Hospital Workers West (UHW) mostly located in California, constituted the third largest

**“Labor union members, labor writers and labor sympathizers from all over the Portland Metro Area met Sunday night, September 29<sup>th</sup>, 2011”**

arm of the Union. On January 27<sup>th</sup>, 2009, after years of struggle between UHW and its parent union, SEIU president Andy Stern charged the UHW leadership, including UHW president Sal Rosselli, with “Financial Malpractice and efforts to subvert democracy.” Stern based his allegations on UHW's refusal to allow the transfer of 65,000 UHW members to a new California state wide local for long-term care.

UHW, under Rosselli, counter charged that the transfer would reduce both the bargaining power of UHW as a whole and would leave the 65,000 long term care workers at the mercy of an industry known for its capacity to short change workers and that workers who resisted could be easily replaced without the authority of the UHW behind them. Further, no vote was taken among the workers to be transferred to see if that was their desire. Rosselli found this another instance in which he feels Stern was playing too close to management in his representation of the SEIU. For Stern, the resistance of Rosselli and the UHW meant the imposition of a “trusteeship” through which the officers of UHW were removed from their posts and officers of the larger SEIU were put in positions of “trust” authority over the union and its operations

As a result of Stern's actions, 70 of the dismissed UHW executives, including Rosselli, pushed for UHW

members at 60 California facilities to vote to decertify SEIU. By March 22, 2009, 91,000 members out of a total of 150,000 had signed decertification petitions to leave SEIU and join a new union, National Union of Hospital Workers (NUHW), with Sal Rosselli as president.

In response, Stern and the SEIU filed a lawsuit alleging the former officials of UHW had transferred millions of dollars in SEIU funds from UHW to NUHW when the break was made. This, Stern charged, was embezzlement. The lawsuit ended on April 9, 2010 with an award, smaller than their court cost, to SEIU. The NUHW officers named in the suit were held personally liable for the small award.

The fight continues between SEIU, under its new president, Mary Kay Henry (Stern having resigned on January 13<sup>th</sup>, 2009); and the NUHW under Rosselli. Even so, the new union, flexing its muscle, led as many as 27,000 members out of Kaiser Permanente facilities across the state of California on Wednesday, September 22<sup>nd</sup>. The strike centered around an 18 month contact dispute which NUHW Vice President John Boros said has been Kaiser's proposals to cut union members' pension and healthcare benefits at a time when Kaiser is posting record earnings. The union also is pressing Kaiser to increase staffing levels. Boros notes Kaiser has earned \$5.7 billion over the past two years, and \$1.6 billion

during the past six months alone, through increased insurance premiums. “The issue is whether caregivers have a real voice in how the hospital gets staffed,” Boros said in a statement to Reuters News Agency.

Still locked in struggle with SEIU, NUHW found itself being attacked from the flank when SEIU conspired with Kaiser Permanente to convince workers to leave NUHW and return to SEIU from whom Kaiser thought it could get a better deal. A vote, under false pretenses, was taken among NUHW members in Kaiser Permanente in which union workers switched their representation back to SEIU. In the solicitation of these votes, both SEIU and Kaiser made a number of false statements which swayed a number of the voters. NUHW immediately took its concerns to The National Labor Relations Board Division Of Judges. In that court, Judge Lana Parke found SEIU guilty of lying and breaking the law and ordered a new election. The courts' final statement being in part:

The mail ballot election held between September 13 and October 4 [2010] was set aside because the National Labor Relations Board found that certain conduct of SEIU-UHW-West in the circumstances of unfair labor practices committed by Kaiser Foundation Hospitals and Southern California Permanente Group among three professional collective-bargaining units of Kaiser employees in southern California interfered with the employees' exercise of a free and reasoned choice . . . .

In the meanwhile, NUHW and Kaiser are finding common ground.

# DEMOCRACY Convention Really Delivers

## ALEC Legislators We're Coming for You!

By Sam Smith -  
an activist living in the Portland area

The first ever Democracy Convention was held in beautiful Madison, Wisconsin in August with 1,000 participants. More than just a Democracy Convention, it was NINE different conventions held over 4 days, with a wide array of workshops to pick from at any time. Conventions included the following:

- Education for Democracy (Democratizing Our Schools and Colleges)
- Representative Democracy (Voting Rights and Open Government)
- Racial Equality in the Struggle for Democracy
- Constitutional Reform (Amending Our Basic Law)
- Economic Democracy (Economics as if People Mattered)
- Media Democracy (A Free Press for a Free Society)
- Earth Democracy (Reclaiming the Commons for All People)
- Democratic Defense (People Power over War and Peace)
- Local Democracy (Community Power & Local Participation)

Major sponsors of the convention, included Liberty Tree Foundation, Alliance for Democracy, Move to Amend, The Progressive, Center for Media and Democracy, and Coffee Party USA. There were many National Sponsors including but not limited to,

Program on Corporations Law and Democracy, and Anne Feeney.



Dr. Margaret Flowers, nationally recognized for her efforts for speaking out and organizing for a truly universal and comprehensive health care program, was a featured panelist. Dr. Flowers, gave up her active pediatric practice and resolved to work full time for social change. Learn more at [www.itsoureconomy.org](http://www.itsoureconomy.org). As John Nichol (The Nation Magazine) said, “If Obama had told off Max Baucus like Dr. Flowers, we would have Single Payer Health Care now.”

After two decades of community activism and regional performances at rallies using music and words to carry the message of solidarity to working people, Anne Feeney took her message on the road. Since 1991 she has traveled to the frontlines in 42 states, as well as Canada, Mexico, Denmark, Ireland and Sweden. Anne was at the convention, performing and meeting with others to take back our Democracy without hair. She has cancer and is undergoing chemo therapy and still was there working for the

common good of all. On Saturday night, there was an outdoor concert at the University of Wisconsin, Memorial Union on the lake, where Anne performed with Michelle Shocked, Emma's Revolution and VO5.

Many of us participated in the Solidarity Sing Along, which has happen every weekday noon since March 11th, at the Capitol organized by Wisconsin Peace and Justice Network. Some days the singing is right inside the Capitol rotunda, (complete with the Recall Scott Walker Polka), and other days singing is outside. Their Solidarity Song Book can be downloaded at [wnpj.org](http://wnpj.org).

The Wisconsin Capital is the largest in the nation. It is the core of downtown Madison, with many streets ending at the Capitol. Beautiful murals depicting Justice, Liberty, Legislation and Government are found in the rotunda. Wisconsinites are serious about their capital. It is called the People's House, and at anytime you can find independent people inside with recall Walker signs and banners.

At the conference we met people from New Orleans. Residents who lived in the beautiful public housing that was condemned after Hurricane Katrina were forcibly marched out of their homes at gunpoint, even though untouched by the flooding. The large complex 97% occupancy, over 1400 units is one block from Bourbon St, and is wanted for tourist lodging. This story is featured in the Greg Palast documentary “Big Easy to Big Empty.” 22 residents have been allowed back into their undamaged public housing units. The second had a home on the

water. After the BP oil spill, Wackenhut provided a military presence to keep people from seeing the devastation, even their own homes.

Riki Ott, PhD, (marine toxicology with a specialty in oil pollution) is a community activist, a former commercial salmon “fisherm'am,” was a presenter at the convention. Her livelihood was destroyed by the Exxon-Valdez oil spill in Cordova, Alaska. That story and the aftermath of 20 years in court against Exxon Mobile is told in the documentary “Blackwave.” According to Dr. Ott, one thing the industry had learned from that original spill is to control the media and access. Dr. Ott has been on the ground and in the air above the BP oil spill. There is so much we do not know because we do not see it in the media. Another good resource for information about what happens on water is [www.professionalmariner.com](http://www.professionalmariner.com). Both former Chief Justice Sandra Day-O'Connor ([icivics.org](http://icivics.org)) and Dr. Ott ([ultimatecivics.org](http://ultimatecivics.org)) have created online tools

to teach civics and encourage citizens to be active participants in our Democracy. There is a concern by many that civics, true history, and teaching, encouragement to be active participants in maintaining our Democracy is no longer taught in schools.

The Democracy Convention was a big success, because many have seen or personally felt the impact of the corporate control on our environment, our ability to make a living, educational

ALEC continued on Page 27



# Scott Westerman & The PDX Police: A Tragedy of Good Intentions

by Max Linden-Levy

On September 11, 2011, Sergeant Scott Westerman, former president of the Portland Police Union was fired from the Portland Police Bureau (PPB) in a joint statement issued by Portland Mayor Sam Adams and Portland Police Chief Mike Resse. He was fired, essentially, for lying about abuse of authority.

In June of 2011, prior to his termination, while he was on suspension and still under investigation, Sergeant Westerman granted an interview – portions of which will be printed in this month's issue -- to a Portland Alliance writer. The interview details Westerman's career in law enforcement as well as his personal feelings about that career and his life. Sergeant Westerman's story has something of the feel of a Greek Tragedy: in spite of his good intentions, institutional, societal, and human flaws interfered with Sgt. Westerman's capacity to serve. His commentary is sometimes bitter and he seems disillusioned, confused and adrift.

As with any good tragedy, there are the gods – or in this discussion – the king. In a democracy, theoretically, the people are the king. And, as in the old saying, those who take the king's coin, serve at the king's whim. And, this is the beginning of Westerman's fall – he chose to take the king's coin.

Scott Westerman did not start out to be a cop. He wanted to fly jets for the Navy, but early family commitments and his personal journey found him going to school and working for TJ Maxx. At another retail concern called Hess's, he worked in security. It was his job to catch shoplifters. He was very good at his job, he notes. A police officers who took his calls in Norfolk, Virginia, suggested that he might become a cop. Westerman applied and was hired. Westerman's career goal was to "catch the bad guys." He received very little training in Norfolk. But in a moment of candidness he shares his surprise at the commonality of violence and abuse of authority among his fellow officers. He said, ". . . I remember in my department in Virginia, an unwritten contest amongst the officers was to see who could get the most stitches [on a suspect] with a single shot of the flashlight! Because we used to carry those flashlights that were like four feet long!" Westerman didn't like that. He wanted to be a good guy and catch bad guys, but as a cop he became part of an insular community Westerman never gave up his determination to be a good guy and to hold himself and others in his community to high standards; but his life and his career depended on his fellow officers. As the years went on, those standards began to slip under the weight of the realities of police work – his fellow officers were his brothers and sisters; the bad guys must be caught; and civilians (who did not understand or respect the realities of police work) were to be protected, educated, or sometimes ignored. And the crazy people Westerman felt he should not have to deal with, were feared and must be controlled. Sergeant Westerman's sense of public obligation may have begun to fray. He says "the public" needed to stop complaining and become better-educated about police work. He seems to feel that if changes are needed within the policing institution, the police themselves should isolate and make those changes. Westerman understood a good cop must be "politic." He cites instances

when one or another fellow officer had failed to be adequately politic in showings disdain or impatience towards the public. That is not how he would have handled it, he says, but explains his fellow officer's behavior as "their style or way of doing things," which he was hesitant to question. Westerman said that, in terms of training and professionalism, there was a world of difference between the Norfolk department he came from and the Portland Police Bureau he joined nearly twenty years ago. But he gives short shrift to several of the chiefs he served under and finds fault with processes and procedures he found or used in the bureau. He was dismayed to find that the psychiatrist provided to him by the bureau after a shooting incident had never dealt with a shooting incident. But he stresses that the bureau was quick to deal with the problem because the next time he needed a psychiatrist after a shooting incident, the doctor had essential experience. With this revelation and others, Westerman establishes a pattern of loyalty and frustration with the Bureau and the city administration (more loyalty to PPB and more frustration with the city administration). There is nothing unusual about this. Most of us, involved with organizations or institutions where we struggle for our daily bread, have a love-hate relationship with these entities. But law enforcement is about unusual exercise of authority over others.

In the old days, when American democracy was a much narrower enterprise, the police had their ways: poverty and criminality were synonymous; certain groups, mostly determined by race, had to know their place; and people with businesses who wore suits and had money in the bank, were to be protected – both selves and property – from the other groups and from public exposure in small "accidents" of indiscretion that might lead to scandal. How the police handled the "other" groups was their business and the courts were often saved a great deal in public expense by the administration of a "tune up" by the police. I remember a painting on the wall of one of my grade school classrooms -- either it was by Norman Rockwell or it was just "Rockwellesque" -- of a young, lost (white) boy sitting at the Sergeant's high desk in the police station eating an ice cream cone while the Sergeant and several patrolmen beamed at him. But society, unlike the institutions that are created within it, is not itself an institution; it is an enormous, evolving, intemperate beast of monstrous appetites. When Scott Westerman became a cop he joined a relatively static institution, which has always been a bit behind the curve in responding to the needs of the society it serves.

But law is not static. It can be changed. New laws can be added. Old laws can be repealed (not easily). But each law, with provisions and caveats, once passed... is relatively static but only enforceable subject to interpretation. Judges can interpret and cops can either enforce or not enforce. And the pressure on cops and law enforcement agencies concerning enforcement from all political, economic, and social strata is enormous. Millions of tax-payers' dollars are at stake and jobs and careers are on the line. As American society has evolved over the last fifty to one hundred years it has become

more violent. Both in fact and in the mass media. Officer Westerman, like most of us, in a wide-eyed sort of way, is influenced by media – films, newspapers, radio, television, and the movies. He decries t.v. cops as being unrealistic – not representing true police work; but he uses a film like Harry Brown (Michael Caine) to explain why a cop is right to fire his weapon before he is certain that his "opponent" is armed. He is a product of the same corporate media world as the rest of us. Rooster Cogburn and "Dirty Harry" Callahan are the lawmen of Americana. We, a society of immigrants and frontiers, like the hard-bitten dispensers of justice we see in the movies. They are unafraid, don't worry about losing their jobs, and their personal lives don't intrude in their work: convenient myths. And these mythical stereotypes, on the silver screen and TV screen, don't suffer from emotional strain. Even if they get old, on their worst day they can beat hell out the bad guy. In our dreams. Scott Westerman didn't live in a world of film. He was a cop. He lived in a world where the possibility of being shot, stabbed, killed or crippled was very real. If he did the wrong thing to prevent these consequences, he could ruin his career or lose his job. In his world, if a cop started drinking to help himself hang on, few supervisors would put that officer on soft duty and refer for professional help. Admitting your personal life may be falling apart is to put your job on the line. Officers help other officers to cope, or look the other way. The "thin blue line" still holds. When an armed man is authorized to exercise authority over the public and is trained to shoot to kill, there is no proven institutional methodology for rescuing such individuals before they go over the edge. The Police Bureau "takes care of their own," unless they need something more than a thin blue line to hide behind. In part, this is a question of cost and efficiency: we can't have guys going on leave because they get a little depressed. But these problems are made worse by questions of "culture" – Yes, that is tough. Now get over it. Cops get over it. When Scott Westerman went into overdrive and abused his authority, his personal life was a shambles and he couldn't get over it.

Scott Westerman lasted nearly twenty years in PPB. He made alliances and enemies. His alliances were built on loyalty to his fellow cops. He had their backs and shared their terror. Perhaps terror is too strong a word. Sometimes the triggers are mundane: some person on the street didn't behave as expected, a suspect leans over instead of standing high or simply misunderstands the officer's commands. Civil authority can wear thin and a cop has to decide what to do. Westerman asserts that hard-wired training – how to use his equipment, how to fight, how to subdue, how to shoot... is what guides him. But in his interview, he occasionally allows himself to be skeptical about soft training -- the intelligent emotional responses a policeman should have. He cites instances in which he himself developed a sense of empathy with those he was policing. Something he thinks is hard to develop and maintain as "the cop" in him matured in the job. Hard because of a need to control the situation and the unpredictable citizens who must be controlled. Westerman wants people to do the right thing, the smart thing. Don't argue, he says: when confronted by police authority,

cooperate. Save the arguments for court. Why? Because the officer might see the argument as flouting his authority, then he must do something else to regain control. He must resort to his training. Westerman doesn't say it, but he implies that if people don't do as they should and things escalate, someone may die. Policing is a double-edged sword. There has to be some way to keep the peace in the village. But how do we manage those we select and select those who will do the work? Where is the process?

Scott Westerman built his home in PPB. In time he became president of the police union. Westerman thinks this union position may have led to his termination on September 11, 2011. When one engages in "politics" inside and around a police department, there may be ramifications. Westerman felt he was doing a good thing in protecting fellow officers. But the mayor and chief of police work for the people. Not just the people who like them or those who voted in the current administration... but all the people. The rule of law says that punks, hoods, bank clerks, and everyday people all have the same rights. When police violate those rights they become lawbreakers and must be held accountable.

When Scott Westerman handed out tee-shirts and rallied fellow officers in support of Portland Police Officer Christopher Humphreys, he opened a can of worms that may have helped cost him his job. Humphreys is an officer with numerous complaints about violent abuse of authority, who provoked a firestorm of protest in Portland when he and Sergeant Kyle Nice beat James Chasse to death on a public corner in front of witnesses. And then on November 14th, 2009, Humphreys was accused of firing a bean bag gun into the stomach of a 12 year old girl from a distance of less than one foot while police wrestled with the child in a Tri-met station over a 2.50 fare. It was over this issue that Police Union President Scott Westerman printed up tee-shirts expressing solidarity with Humphreys and led tee-shirt clad police on a march through downtown Portland accusing police Chief Rosie Sizer and police Commissioner Dan Saltzman of putting politics ahead of public safety, with signs that read "Safety not Politics." Aside from any impact the march might have had in the city administration and the Police Bureau, Westerman had outraged a significant proportion of the city's population who took his tee-shirt march as a signal of support and approval for all of Humphreys' actions, including the James Chasse homicide. Westerman's misplaced support was a public relations nightmare for the department.

In the end, perhaps it was the final straw or simply a proper response to direct violations of Police Bureau regulations, when off duty Sergeant Westerman got out of his improperly licensed private car, flashed his badge and verbally abused the same two citizens on two different occasions. Westerman's goose was cooked. Westerman blames his personal life and the stresses of the job, but it is important to recognize that the PPB had no mechanism for sitting him down and cooling him out. There was no accountability and no opportunity for re-mediation, retraining, or relief. Near the end of his interview, Sergeant Westerman talks about police suicides, noting that there are significantly more suicides per year than deaths in the line of duty. Authorities on the subject speak to emotional conflicts that result from the act of policing the citizenry over time. Each officer is also a citizen, yet

**PDX Police** continued on Page 27



## IN STRIDE

BY NICOLE TAYLOR

In a stride,  
In a hop.

Andy usually takes it  
all in stride.

Andy is wanting a home in California again,  
more reliable friends  
a girlfriend.

Andy usually takes it in stride  
that I have not accepted to be his girlfriend yet,  
after making out again New Year's Eve.

**The Food Stamp Orientation**

I arrive on time at 1:15p.m. in the Silver Falls Room.

We are given a few instructions.

You will receive several papers. Be prepared.

Your name will be called up to 3 times. Be aware.

"I gotta buy gum," says the lady next to me  
as she writes her hand a note.

Sneeze. Sneeze.

"Bless you" says the guy across the room  
but not the lover next to her.

One guy reminds me of a friend of a friend,  
a Beat poetry lover/ fan. This guy here talks

politics, foreign made products and gas alternatives.

I examine posters.

Quality. Attitude. Vision, in frames with captions.

One guy across the room steals several

Ultra Round Stic Bic pens. So do I.

Another guy says "I have about 50 of those."

No One Deserves to Be Hurt, in 8 languages.

Say No to Violence. Say Yes to Safety, in English and Spanish.

Register to Vote, in English.

My name is inquired.

Soon there are two left. "The last of the Mohicans," the Beat man says.

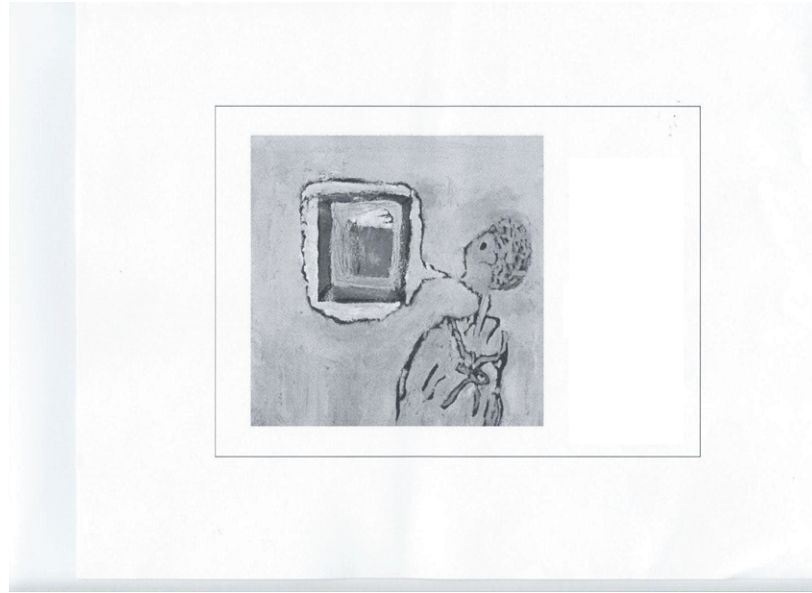
I forgot to sign in.

I am seen by a case-worker.

I leave about 15 minutes later, about 2:45.

Nicole Taylor

June 27, 2006

**Sunny Disposition Now**

by Nicole Taylor

Sat sunning last Wednesday,  
while a neighbor across  
said hello and  
complained of dog disturbances  
and squawking crows.  
I can agree  
to this  
and enjoying  
the spring chirpies.

**Subversive Verse Staff:**

Contributing editor, Theresa Griffin-tKennedy,  
Theresa is a graduate student at PSU, poet, free-  
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Tim, associate editor of *The Alliance*, is a writer,  
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Nicole Taylor has attended college in Salem, Oregon where she lives near her siblings, mother and other British family. She has been published in her college newspaper and a local anthology. Nicole has won several contests in a local bookstore and her college newspaper. She attends workshops, readings, and festivals. She is a dancer, an artist and a volunteer. Nicole has been published at [WordGathering.com](http://WordGathering.com) and other sites online: *Yes Poetry*, *The Silverton Poetry Association*, and *The Chemeketa VISIONS of Chemeketa Community College*. Her poetry has won first place in *Chemeketa VISIONS* and several places in the *Jackson's Books Annual Poetry Contest*, a now closed local independent bookstore and host of the *Third Thursday* events. She attends at the *Third Thursday readings*, *Third Wednesday*, *Second Sunday readings*, and other area events. In spring 2008 she won an anonymous donation to *Vern Rutsala's Silverton Poetry Association class* and a scholarship to *Lawson Inada's Improvisations and Lively Noise workshop Everyday Poetry at Sitka Center for the Arts* and later two short workshops during the *Oregon State Poetry Association Spring 2010 Conference in Eugene*, with *Quinton Hallett* and later *Matthew Dickman*. In spring 2008 she had two poems published online at [wordgathering.com](http://wordgathering.com) and another poem was performed in her *DanceAbility dance group*, through *Chemeketa College*. Dancer and poet Ruth has read a few of Ms. Taylor's poems at campus *Soapbox Readings* and published one in her poetry e-mail newsletter, *Very Local Poetry*.

Her poems & creative arts (like the piece at left) can be found at her blog and links: <http://www.apoetessanthology.blogspot.com/> and

[http://alternativereel.com/includes/poets-corner/display\\_review.php?id=00103](http://alternativereel.com/includes/poets-corner/display_review.php?id=00103)



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## POETRY EVENTS

The Paper Tiger Coffeehouse (703 Grand Blvd. in Vancouver, located between Mill Plain and Evergreen about a mile east of I-5) sometimes has readings about 7pm..

*The Life and Times of Allen Ginsberg*

Jerry Aronson spent ten years accumulating more than 120 hours of film to fashion his comprehensive, award-winning portrait of Allen Ginsberg (1926–1997), the visionary poet and founding father of the Beat generation. (100 mins.)

More information at [nwfilm.org](http://nwfilm.org)

curriculum, our economy, consumer protections, and disastrous trade policies. It is commonly believed that this movement towards corporate control began with President Ronald Reagan. Wrong. His presidency was from 1981 through 1989.

ALEC (American Legislative Exchange Council-began in 1973) just held their 38<sup>th</sup> annual meeting, August 2011 in New Orleans. ALEC has long been a secretive collaboration between Big Business and conservation politicians. Behind closed doors corporations craft and vote on the legislation that is handed to state legislators to make changes in the law, they desire to benefit their bottom line.

On July 13, 2011 the Center for Media and Democracy launched a website [www.alecexposed.org](http://www.alecexposed.org) with over 800 "model" bills secretly voted on the corporations through ALEC. These bills reveal the corporate collaboration reshaping our democracy state by state. The Center obtained copies of the bills after one of the thousands of people with access shared them, and a whistleblower provided a copy to the Center. With the Supreme Court decision allowing corporations to spend unlimited dollars in our legislative processes, our Democracy is being destroyed. On [www.alecexposed.org](http://www.alecexposed.org) a lot of information is available and the bills have been categorized into the areas Worker and Consumer Rights, Tort Reform, Privatizing Public Education, Health-Pharmaceuticals and Safety Net Programs, Environment, Energy and Agriculture, Democracy, Voter Rights, Federal Power, Taxes and Budgets, Guns, Prisons, Crime and Immigration. As a national example, in 1995 Senator John Boehner made a political move that cost him dearly. The act of handling out checks from big tobacco on the house floor came with a political cost. Big tobacco is a member of ALEC and currently, John Boehner is a former ALEC member. When House Democrats were preparing for the first floor vote on financial regulatory reform in 2010, Mr. Boehner and other Republican leaders summoned more than 100 industry lobbyists and conservative activists to a private strategy

As an Oregon example, Connections Academy, a large online education corporation and co-chair of the ALEC Education Task Force, benefits from ALEC measures to privatize public education and promote private on-line school. My mailer for the new Tuition-Free K-12 Online Public School is called Oregon Connections Academy. In the ALEC workshop, we learned that that online schools get the same dollars per pupil as brick and mortar schools with teachers, and special program.

Workshops from the Democracy Convention can be viewed online for free at Wisconsin Eye at [www.wiseye.org](http://www.wiseye.org). Of particular interest is the ALEC Exposed Project workshop. Be very concerned.

In closing, here are a few quotations that hopefully show the importance of us paying attention. Get educated, get active, and build coalitions to restore our Democracy. Join us at the next Democracy Convention in 2013.

"Make the Lie Big, Keep it Simple, Keep Saying it and eventually they will believe it." - Adolf Hitler  
"What good fortune for governments that the people don't think." - Adolf Hitler

"You law abiding citizens, listen to this song. Laws were made by people and people can be wrong. Once unions were against the law, but slavery was fine. Women were denied vote and children worked the mines. The more you study history the less you can deny it. A rotten law stays on the books until folks with guts defy it." - Anne Feeney

Other Resources:  
Alliance for Democracy-Portland Chapter [www.afd-pdx.org](http://www.afd-pdx.org)  
Move to Amend - Portland Chapter [www.movetoamendpdx.org](http://www.movetoamendpdx.org)  
It is Our Economy [www.itsoureconomy.org](http://www.itsoureconomy.org)  
Oregon Labor [www.nwjp.org](http://www.nwjp.org)  
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New York Times, October 5, 2010, That's Where the Money is, Bob Herbert

they are "not." Everyday citizens created the police force and pay recruits. In protecting and serving, each officer is responsible to these people. But undisciplined and unpredictable masses of citizens can try officers' patience and inspire terror. Without knowing this terror, administrators try to tell cops how to do their job: who and how to arrest. The majority of suicides involve long-service officers. Most are victims of guns, often their service weapons. But the number of police suicides in the U.S., compared with other professions, is not unusually high. Doctors have a higher rate. The problem with any police force is that officers and their institutions live outside the mainstream of the society they serve. Para-military police institutions may be used to ameliorate conflicts or simply exert authority and exercise control of the people. Sometimes the job is to catch the bad guys, but mostly not. A significant issue for officers is they will always be playing catch up, because of the nature of institutions of authority. And with the thin blue line, officers will continue to protect their own reactively, no matter how unreasoning such a position may be. How do we choose individuals who can live these contradictions? How do we educate them? How do we supervise and control them? How do we protect ourselves, and them, from them? There are few actual villains in this story. Scott Westerman, as he tells it, is not a villain. His intentions were always good. But fallibility and fatal flaws have challenged servant and king in this tragedy.



Above: June Key Delta Community Center Lela Roberts, President of Piedmont Rose Connection, Inc., Portland Mayor Sam Adams, Project Director Chris Poole-Jones, and Portland Alumnae Chapter Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. President Vera Pool celebrate the opening of the June Key Delta Community Center, August 10, 2011!

FOR MORE PHOTOS:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=twVtyPlxjII>

The Portland Alliance is right next door to the **June Key Delta Community Center**. The Community center had their grand opening in August and are now scheduling events for the fall and winter. June Key Delta Community Center

5940 North Albina St. Portland, OR 97217 (503) 285-2061 / June Key Delta Community Center P.O. Box 4265 Portland, OR 97208-4265 e-mail: [june-key-delta-center@comcast.net](mailto:june-key-delta-center@comcast.net)



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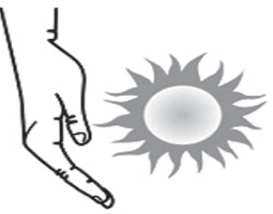
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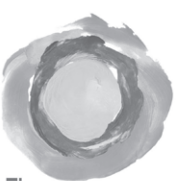
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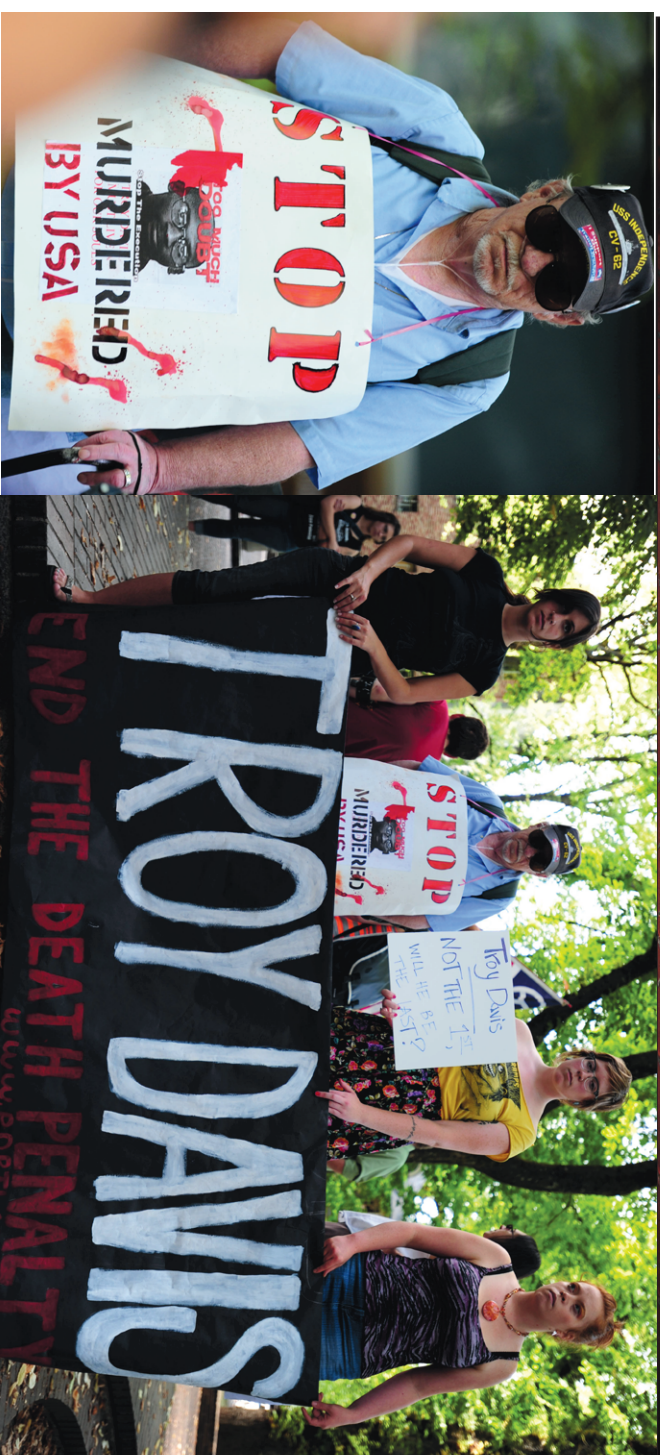
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