

SONOMA COUNTY

peace press

in this issue

- 35 years of the PJC
- Make It a Plastic Free July
- Raise the Minimum Wage
Because the Rent Can't Wait
- We Must End Family Separations
and much more...



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Newsletter of the Peace & Justice Center of Sonoma County,
an affiliate of the Fellowship of Reconciliation (FOR).
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SUBMITTING ARTICLES

Deadline: July 1, 2019

Email articles in MSWord to peacentr@sonic.net

Word limit up to 700 words – space is limited.

Shorter pieces under 400 words welcome about local activism and events.

Authors are encouraged to delineate fact from opinion and wherever possible to substantiate their facts with references.

Poems are limited to 30 lines.

EDITING POLICY

The Editorial Collective selects articles that serve the movement for peace and justice in a positive way. Articles are edited for clarity, syntax, grammar, length and spelling. If needed, authors will be contacted to assist with editing.

Submissions must contain author's name, address, phone number, word count and a brief – one or two sentence bio. Decisions about editing fall within these guidelines and are the final judgment of the Peace Press editorial collective.

Articles are the opinion of the author unless otherwise noted.

CALENDAR ITEMS

Events on topics of social justice, environmental, and related items to be placed in the PJC weekly email calendar, can be sent to peacentr@sonic.net

Include CALENDAR (in caps) on subject line.

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Contact: rebelpfagin@gmail.com or call 707-841-6084

Classifieds: 50¢ per word, \$5 minimum

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Contact: 707-823-9203

Due to post office regulations, any inserts for events must be cosponsored by the Peace & Justice Center. Three 2 hour shifts of collating are required from the sponsoring group.

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To help, call: 707-823-9203

VOLUNTEER

We have an ongoing need for volunteers to help with the editorial collective, collating, distribution, and other needs. To get involved, please call 707-823-9203

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Rebel Fagin, Terra Freedman, Eszter Freeman, Larry Harper, Earl Herr, Attila Nagy

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GETTING CENTERED

35 years of the PJC

“The richness of our communities, our cities, and our nation lies in recognizing and celebrating our diversity. That diversity is not only in our various ethnicity and cultures, but also in the diversity of our sexual orientations. We all contribute, each in our own way, to the strength, vitality, and the well-being of our society.”

– Quote by George Takei

This year marks the 35th Anniversary of the Peace & Justice Center of Sonoma County. The PJC, as it is affectionately known, has been a cornerstone for activists for over three decades and it continues to be a beacon of light amongst the darkness of turbulent times. *The Mission of the Peace & Justice Center of Sonoma County is to inform, support and energize the Sonoma County community to create peace and social justice through active nonviolence.*

June is Pride month! According to Wikipedia, “The month of June was chosen for LGBT Pride Month to commemorate the Stonewall riots, which occurred at the end of June 1969. As a result, many pride events are held during this month to recognize the impact LGBT people have had in the world.” The PJC will have a booth at the Sonoma County Pride “Love in the Square Festival” on Saturday, June 1 from Noon to 6pm at Courthouse Square. The first five people to sign up as a new member of the Peace & Justice Center of Sonoma County at our booth that day will receive a voucher good for admission for two people to a concert at Redwood Cafe in Cotati. The membership cost is \$35 for individuals and \$60 for families or businesses. The theme of the Pride Celebration is “Year

of Love.” Also, we will have a free “enter-to-win” two tickets to the Annual Pride Celebration Concert happening on Saturday, June 29 at Redwood Cafe in Cotati featuring the Stephanie Teel Band along with DJ Loisaída and DJ Broken Record.

Drink Tasty Beer for a great Cause! We encourage the public to come out to support a fundraiser benefitting the Peace & Justice Center on Monday, June 10 at HenHouse Brewing Company at their Petaluma location, 1333 N McDowell Blvd. from 2-9pm. The fundraiser is in partnership with HenHouse and we greatly appreciate their support of local non-profit organizations. Music provided by DJ Loisaída. A collaboration between the HenHouse Chicken and the Peace & Justice Center Dove, now that’s something to cluck about!

Donations needed for folks living at Sam Jones Hall homeless shelter in Santa Rosa. Please donate the following new items still in the packages: socks, underwear, shaving razors, toothpaste, bar soap, feminine hygiene products, Depends, and deodorant. Drop off the items at the Peace & Justice Center anytime Monday through Friday, 1-4pm. Local Musician, Buzzy Martin and his wife will be picking up the items to bring to the residents of Sam Jones Hall.

Highlights of what the PJC does for the community:

- Organizes and promotes events for Peace and Social Justice
- Sends a weekly email calendar of peace and social justice events
- Provides Meeting Space and/or Fiscal Sponsorship for affiliate groups
- Publishes the Sonoma County *Peace Press* 6 times per year
- Hosts an Awards Celebration honoring local activists
- Sponsors and participates in various social justice events
- Maintains a lending library
- Is a resource center

We hope you have a wonderful summer filled with peaceful moments as you continue to strive for justice for all. 🌿

How You Can Act Now on the Climate Crisis

Mary Davies and Dave Warrender

Here in Sonoma County – with increasingly frequent and serious fires and floods – nobody has to tell us climate change is a problem. But what can we do? At some point you realize that forgoing a flight to Mexico or taking the bus to San Francisco or walking the kids to school, while worthy, is just not enough.

Government is how we do things together. So what if polluters are taxed and you get the money? That’s the idea behind HR 763, the Carbon Fee and Energy Innovation Act. Today, we the people pay for our garbage, but carbon emitters do not. Let’s change this.

HR 763 is crafted to reduce emissions at least 40% in the first 12 years and 90% by 2050. This is in close agreement with the requirements put forth in last year’s UN IPCC (Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change)

report. It would far exceed our commitment made to the Paris Accords while boosting the economy and creating 2.1 million new jobs.

HR 763 would accomplish this by charging a per ton fee on fossil fuels like coal, oil and gas at the source. The fee would start at \$15 per ton of CO2 equivalent and would increase annually by \$10 per ton. Of course, the fee would be passed on to consumers, but that will send a strong price signal to make green energy choices. And manufacturers will be competing to offer the least carbon-intensive products. Solar, anyone? How about a Chevy Bolt?

The money will be distributed back to the people as a monthly check, so they will have a dividend to spend on those cleaner options. For a family of four, the dividend will start at around \$45 and increase to about \$300 per month within a decade.

So, how does all this fit in with the Green New

Deal? Many of us would love to live in a Green New Deal (GND) world, but we would probably define the elements of the package differently. We need to stop emitting carbon as of yesterday! So while we work out the details of the GND, let’s put a foundation under climate action with HR 763, which can be implemented almost immediately following enactment.

What can you do? Tell your Congressional Representatives you support a carbon fee and dividend program. In California our representatives are generally good guys – 14 of them have already become co-sponsors of HR 763. Now we need to get our local Congressmen on board and have them put climate change on the top of their list of important projects.

To find out more about HR 763 go to energyinnovationact.org. To get more directly involved, you can join Citizens Climate Lobby at citizensclimatelobby.org. 🌿

Make It a Plastic Free July

Occupy Sonoma County

It's colorful, friendly and almost cuddly. It's plastic and it's everywhere. Stop right now and look around you. Notice all the casual plastic at every turn.

Since the 1950's, 9.2 billion tons of plastic have been created. 6.9 billion tons became waste, of which a mere 0.6 billion tons was

Mon., July 22, 7-9 pm, Occupy Sonoma County will be presenting a teach-in on plastics and zero waste practices at the PJC. All are encouraged to come and learn what we need to employ to mitigate plastic pollution and climate change.

recycled. The rest was thrown "away" into landfills, along roadways, into waterways and eventually into the seas.

In 1950, 2.3 million tons of plastic were produced. By 1993 it was 162 million tons and by 2015, 448 million tons of plastic was produced. Half the plastic ever created has been created in the last 15 years. 40% of all this plastic is used for packaging and has a post-shelf life of mere minutes. Half of today's plastic trash enters the sea from China, Indonesia, the Philippines, Vietnam and Sri Lanka. Roughly 8.8 million tons per year goes into the seas where much of it joins the five giant plastic gyres swirling in the Pacific, Atlantic and Indian Oceans. As well as killing millions of marine animals annually, this plastic also heats up ocean temperatures, causing hurricanes and cyclones to become more severe.

Plastic first breaks down into microplastic, chunks less than one-fifth inch in diameter, where it is often consumed by sea life. Here it clogs up the digestive tract causing the animal to slowly starve to death with a belly full of plastic. So far scientists have found no evidence that these microplastics travel from the animal's gut to its flesh, which people eat. What happens to the chemicals and dyes that were added to the plastic, such as phthalates, bisphenol A (BPA), pigments, flame retardants and the recently discovered nanoplastics? Microplastic breaks down into nanoplastic which measures less than 100 billionth of a meter and is virtually invisible. Do they travel from gut to fork? Recent testing found microplastic in 90% of table salt. Microplastics moving up the food chain are a growing concern.

The recycling of plastic has changed in recent years. International markets are no longer accepting the massive quantities of US plastic. The indication is clear – we need to recycle our own plastic here in the US, greatly reduce plastic usage and find alternatives. Do you really need that straw? It's madness to use a substance that lasts forever on items whose

shelf life is measured in minutes. We can be smarter than that. Many of us use cloth shopping bags and refillable

water bottles. Add to this a reusable product such as Bee's Wraps instead of plastic wrap, metal or bamboo straws, a pack-along mess kit, and buying products in non-plastic packaging. You can also join Plastic Free July.

Plastic Free July began in Australia in 2011. Since then it has grown into a worldwide movement with millions of participants from over 159 countries. Go to PlasticFreeJuly.org to add to the global count and study their resource page. Get inspired to create your

own action and then register your action at the same site. What ideas do you have for a fun, educational campaign? Perhaps a song or video. Maybe you can get your town to ban plastic straws and cutlery, or your group might join this month-long moratorium on all single-use plastic. You could organize a local clean-up. It's all up to you.

On Monday, July 22nd Occupy Sonoma County will be presenting a teach-in on plastics and zero waste practices at the Peace & Justice Center, 467 Sebastopol Avenue in Santa Rosa from 7-9 pm. The event is free and all are encouraged to come and learn the practices we need to employ to mitigate plastic pollution and climate change.

Locally, Plastic Free July is being spearheaded by Occupy Sonoma County. You can learn more at OccupySonomaCounty.org and by joining our Earth Action Campaign, which meets on the third Monday of each month at the Peace & Justice Center from 7-9 pm. Please join our listserv to receive our weekly newsletter.

What will you do about the issue of plastic pollution's effect on climate change in July? What are we leaving behind for the children?

Sources: PlasticFreeJuly.org; National Geographic, June 2018 🌱

NAACP

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF COLORED PEOPLE

Santa Rosa Chapter

Join our recently re-established Santa Rosa Unit of the NAACP as we organize to address the NAACP's Mission locally.

NAACP MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People is to ensure the political, educational, social and economic equality of rights of all persons and to eliminate racial hatred and racial discrimination.

Santa Rosa Unit of the NAACP meets monthly at Prayer Chapel Outreach Mission, 1295 S. Wright Rd, Santa Rosa, CA

Meetings are the first Monday of each month at 6:00 PM
(2nd Monday in September)

Raise the Minimum Wage Because the Rent Can't Wait!

Martin J. Bennett

The rental-housing crisis in Sonoma County is close to catastrophe. Rents spiked by 50% from 2011-2016, then immediately soared by 35% after the October 2017 Tubbs fire – just before Governor Brown ordered a one-year 10% cap on rent increases. (The Santa Rosa City Council renewed the cap last December). The recent historic Russian River flood forced hundreds of low-income renter families to evacuate and will certainly intensify the rental crisis.

In 2019 the *Press Democrat* called Sonoma County “the seventh least affordable market in the United States for a three-bedroom apartment.” Low-income families spend more than half their income on rent, with little left for other essentials such as health care, utilities and food.

The State Department of Finance reports that over the 12-month period ending July 1, 2018, more than 2,200 residents left the county. Many low-income renters relocated to more affordable housing markets in Solano, Sacramento, Yolo and Eastern Contra Costa counties.

In the 2018 Sonoma County Homeless Census and Survey, more than 10,000 county residents self-identified as ‘unstably housed’ – many live with family or friends or without

a formal lease. Of the county’s 3,000 homeless, 72% of 500 poll respondents identified “unaffordable rent” as the main reason for their lack of permanent housing.

Building new affordable housing is costly and takes years. Moreover, according to the California Housing Partnership, federal and state funding for affordable housing in Sonoma County has been slashed by \$42 million every year since 2008 – a reduction of 89%. The \$6 billion in bonds for affordable housing and homeless services that California voters approved last fall will pay for just a fraction of the 14,600 new affordable rental housing units the county needs to meet current demand.

Simultaneous with climbing rents and reduced funding for affordable housing, wages and incomes have stagnated. A new report by Jobs with Justice, “The State of Working Sonoma,” demonstrates that inflation-adjusted wages remained flat for the bottom 60% of the county’s workforce for decades (1979-2016), but wages for the lowest 20% dropped by 11%. Furthermore, between 2000-2016 median rents jumped by 25%, while median renter annual incomes increased by only 9%.

Clearly, the fastest way to make rents affordable is to raise the wage floor and particularly the minimum wage. The current

state minimum wage is \$12.00 an hour for large employers. In 2016, the state legislature approved raising the minimum wage incrementally to \$15 an hour for all employers by 2023. However, 25 cities and one county in expensive coastal California have already approved \$15 an hour minimum wage laws, which cover most workers employed at least two hours a week inside the city’s boundaries.

Amongst these cities are San Francisco, Emeryville and Berkeley that have mandated \$15 an hour by 2018; eight cities in Santa Clara approved \$15 by 2019; and four cities in San Mateo, the city and county of Los Angeles, Pasadena, Long Beach and Santa Monica approved \$15 by 2020. Once the minimum reaches \$15, each of these cities requires annual increases based upon the Consumer Price Index.

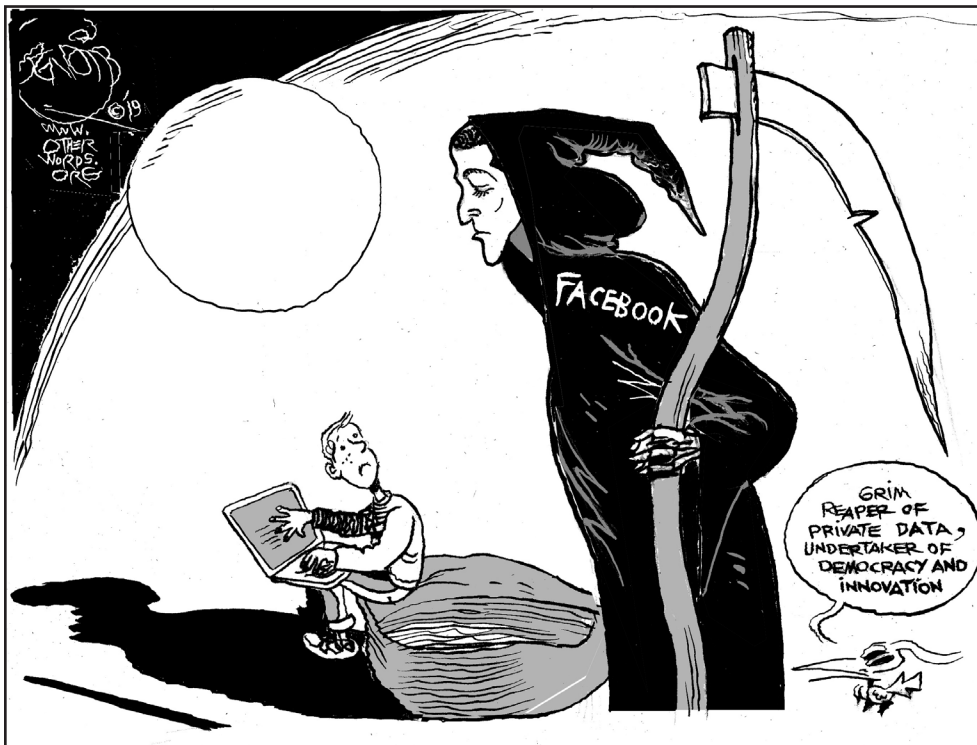
In the North Bay, the Alliance for A Just Recovery, a coalition that includes every major labor, environmental and faith-based organization in the county, is proposing legislation to phase-in a \$15 an hour citywide minimum wage by 2020 in the cities of Novato, Sebastopol, Petaluma, Santa Rosa, Sonoma and Cotati. Why? Because the rent won’t wait.

According to a UC Berkeley Labor Center report, the proposed minimum wage laws will affect 47,000 low-wage workers in these cities and by 2020 the average annual incomes of affected workers will increase by \$2,900. The median age of workers receiving a pay increase is 33. On average, these workers contribute more than half of their family’s income.

Most of the increased earnings of affected low-wage workers will pay rents and buy basic necessities from local businesses. Thus the minimum wage hike will stimulate the regional economy, spur increased business activity, particularly for small business, and create new jobs in response to increased consumer demand.

To make housing affordable, slow the displacement of low and moderate-income families, and close the jobs-housing mismatch that plagues our community, ultimately, all North Bay jurisdictions should adopt a minimum wage higher than the state’s. 🙌

Martin Bennett is Instructor Emeritus of History at Santa Rosa Junior College and Co-Chair of North Bay Jobs with Justice. For more information on the North Bay citywide minimum wage campaign, please go to <http://www.northbayjobswithjustice.org>.



Rapture Ready and Hot to Go!

Rebel Fagin

When Congresswoman Ilhan Omar correctly stated that AIPAC, the American Israeli Public Affairs Committee, influenced Congress she was – and still is – attacked as

This lobbying group consists of “radical end-times” Christians. They don’t support Israel because they love Israel. They support Israel out of an extreme fundamentalist belief based on the Book of Revelations, a late entry into the Bible’s New Testament.

being anti-Semitic. First off, AIPAC supports Israel and does not necessarily represent the wishes of many American Jews. Also, her accusers acted like only Jews supported AIPAC. The picture is more complex than that.

AIPAC is funded in part by wealthy Jews like Sheldon Adelson. It is also funded by war profiteers – which make good business sense – and Christian millennials.

A parallel group of pro-Israeli Christian lobbyists is Christians United for Israel (CUFI). This lobbying group consists of “radical end-times” Christians. They don’t support Israel because they love Israel. They support Israel out of an extreme fundamentalist belief based on the Book of Revelations, a late entry into the Bible’s New Testament. They believe that America must align itself with Israel and “the chosen people” to fight the forces of evil represented by Russia and Iran in preparation for the Battle of Armageddon, when Jews will return to Jerusalem to cleanse the earth of evils. All non-believers – Jews, Muslims, Hindus, Sikhs, Buddhists and mainstream Christians – must convert to their extreme doctrine to be saved, or stay on Earth and face plagues and the tortures of the damned. Many of these proponents are giddy with the hope that the world will end any day now. Since 2017 we have seen leadership in Washington working to fulfill this agenda.

John Hagee founded Christians United for Israel in 2006. The organization claims to have over 3 million members. Its key members include Jonathan P. Falwell (son of Jerry Falwell), Michael Little (CEO of the Christian Broadcasting Network), Gary Bauer

and others. From 2006 to 2010 they raised \$43 million. Some of this vast fortune came from the Adelson Foundation, MZ Foundation, IDT Foundation and others. In 2018 they spent \$120,000 on lobbying. Support in Washington comes from Newt Gingrich, Eliot Abrams, Ted Cruz, Jim Inhofe and John Cornyn. Their primary goals include stopping Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions (BDS) and pro-Palestinian free speech at universities and colleges while pro-

moting war with Iran.

Their conferences are exercises in extremism, as they call for total victory for Israel and levels of genocide against the Palestinians that echo Rabbi Kahane and Israel’s Jewish Power

Party. Their last conference was disrupted by Jewish activists from If Not Now whose banners read, “Jewish Community: Stop Complicity in CUFI’s Hate” and “Young Jews Reject CUFI’s Anti-Semitism.”

Their ideology limits them in ways that AIPAC is not limited. Christians United for Israel only works with right wing Republican legislators, though this year they began reaching out to D.C.-area, liberal Jews. Their support for Israel competes with other issues such as gay marriage and restricting a woman’s right to choose. They are dangerous to US democracy, but not as dangerous as AIPAC.

You can learn more about pro-Israeli lobbies on *Speaking of Palestine*, airing June 3rd from 4-5:00 pm on listener sponsored KBBF, 89.1 FM. If you miss the show, it will be available at archive.org. Type *Speaking of Palestine* in the right hand search window and you’re there.

Sources: powerbase.info, cufi.org, opensecrets.org, Times of Israel, jweekly.com

VOLUNTEER IMMIGRANT DEFENSE ACTION

Comité VIDA

VOLUNTARIOS INMIGRANTE DEFENSA ACCIÓN



**BBQ fundraiser at
Andy's Unity Park!
Sunday, June 23**

A gathering to benefit Comité VIDA’s unique work in the community. It’s a family event with BBQ, Loteria, a brincolin, music, kids crafts, and raffles. If you would like to help organize it and volunteer on the day of the event, please call or text, 707-206-2184. We meet every Wednesday from 7:00 to 8:00 pm at KBBF radio station, 1700 Corby Ave. in Santa Rosa. Or just come support Comité VIDA by purchasing a tasty BBQ lunch and enjoy the day at the beautiful Andy’s Park, 3399 Moorland Ave., Santa Rosa.

We Must End Family Separations at the Border



PHOTO: MARIELA VENTURA

Divest from Immigrant Detention Centers (DIDC) direct action in front of Wells Fargo Bank, downtown Santa Rosa, to demand that WF stop funding private detention camps.

Richard Coshnear

Story told at the May 1st Action in front of Wells Fargo Bank in Santa Rosa:

Ladies and Gentlemen! Please allow me to explain what we are doing here at Wells Fargo bank. Have you ever been trusted by a child? I mean, when a child trusts you with her life? You know, how a child trusts you when you change her diapers? Or even more, when you give her a bath?

There you are, holding this baby, who could drown in the water, but you are there to be sure this baby doesn't drown. This is your baby, your life, the meaning of your life. Your baby needs cleaning, and there you are to give her a bath. It's a sacred thing, this baby's trust in you.

Now, imagine you're in Guatemala. This baby, who has trusted you all of her life, is hungry. You know that you haven't the means to make sure she is well fed every day. Maybe someone threatens to hurt your child if you don't pay some money. This is happening in Guatemala, Honduras, El Salvador, even Mexico.

You decide to leave. To try to find a place where your baby can be well-fed, safe. You take her, and she goes with you, because she trusts you. You are everything to her, all that she trusts in this world.

You travel through hard places. It takes

every bit of your attention, your care, to make sure your child is safe along this journey. But that is your life and nothing is of greater importance. She trusts you.

You go through Mexico. A big country. There are people who would hurt you, take your child, and try to get money for her. But you protect her. You get to the US border. Finally. It has taken everything you could save. No, more, everything your parents could save, too, and they lend it to you, so you can get through Mexico to the United States.

At the border, you find a US immigration officer and you ask for asylum. Maybe your journey is reaching its goal? But the officer takes your child away from you. He says you're under arrest and the child will be held somewhere. Where? Where?

This child who has trusted you. This child who has gone through strange and dangerous places because you brought her through. And now she is pulled away! Where? Where?

You must be brave. You must fight your case. You must have faith that your child will be returned to you when you have won asylum. And you must have faith that your child, this helpless one who trusted you, will survive, will understand, will somehow know that you did not mean for her to be taken away to some strangers, away from you.

You must have faith that your child will not be desperate from loss of you and loss of trust in you. Do you have such faith?

This is happening every day at the US-Mexico border. And it is a shame on this country!

Parents and children are separated and imprisoned. Some corporations are making money on this imprisonment! Let us name names: GEO. Core Civic. They make millions of dollars on the imprisonment of immigrants. They don't care that your child trusted you. They don't care about what your child feels when pulled away from you. Or what you feel when that little one, who trusted you, is pulled away.

And banks make money on this imprisonment. Banks like Wells Fargo, here, invest in GEO, invest in CoreCivic. And they make loans to GEO and CoreCivic. And the banks get interest income from these loans, and profits from these investments.

So... what should we do? Should we allow these corporations to make money on imprisonment of immigrants? Or allow the banks to make profits?

No! We should put a distance between our money and this imprisonment. We should separate our money from GEO and CoreCivic. And to do that, we need to separate our money from Wells Fargo! 🙏

CHILDREN MUST BE FREE!

(to the tune of 'We Shall Overcome')

**Children must be free
Children must be free
Children must be free today
Deep in our heart
We know it's true
Children must be free today!**

**Close detention camps
Close detention camps
Close detention camps today
Prisons and cages
Are no places for kids
Children must be free today!**

**Welcome refugees
Unite all families
Close detention camps today
Deep in our heart
We know it's true
Children must be free today!**

*Music, public domain,
Words by Attila Nagy*

Imperfect, Relentless Progress: A Shifting Society, Our Best Hope for the Future

Casey Burns

I see the massive problems humans face today and they feel impossible to stand against. It is a struggle everyday to remain hopeful and resilient in the face of climate change, when we feel that the little things we do have no effect on the overall big picture. The vast intersectionality of this problem will require a lot from us and it is going to strip away, reverse and reconstruct every single aspect of our lives at every moment of choice.

Climate change evokes a fight, flight or a freeze response in us. Often we freeze, hoping the problem will eventually disappear. We flee the conversation, deny it or become set in ignorance as a self-defense mechanism.

Rather than absolve myself of personal responsibility, I have decided to follow a simple mantra: I pursue imperfect, relentless progress. I heard this phrase from Sonoma County Fourth District Supervisor, James Gore at the Sonoma County Sustainable Enterprise conference held on April 5th at SSU. It was in response to the question, "What is the most perfect thing we can do, individually, in response to the problems of today?" His answer was to pursue imperfect, relentless progress. The phrase has since stuck with me.

We do not live in a perfect revolution and one person might find it difficult to uphold every standard that is set. In our day-to-day lives it is nearly impossible to be impeccable in every aspect of the difficult issues we face. However, it is important to acknowledge that perfection is impossible, and that means we do not give up trying to achieve our goals. Forests are made of individual trees. To be imperfect is to be human.

Be unrelenting in your steps towards progress. Use the plastic you have now but use it out in favor of reusable and renewable options. Look for ways to have conversations about environmental and political progress with the people around you. Be mindful of the waste you produce and where it goes when you've finished with it. Stay up-to-date on local organizing events and participate when you can. Our planet and your conscience will be better off for it.

Feeling like our current political system is making no headway does not give us the excuse to opt out of participating and voting. The pain we feel in our own struggle keeps us moving together toward change. Emotional

resilience and resilience as a community are required from us. Speaking out and taking action is something we do out of sheer agony. The way to cope is to strive for a better option. Our political progress may be imperfect but we must stand together and re-ignite our hope. Through community engagement and individual contribution we will be able to conserve and build something better from the world we live in.

We are living in a changing time; our next actions will build a history. We must stand with those who are taking action while we have the momentum. Youth Strike for Climate, and Extinction Rebellion have paved the way for our coming social change, while political topics like the Paris Climate Agreement and the Green New Deal are presenting opportunities for engagement across partisan lines. There is more room now than ever

before for progress. We must not miss this opportunity to be relentless in our pursuit for progress, despite the negativity and diversion we feel in failed communication. We must be relentless in our pursuit of substantial, fact-based conversation.

Elizabeth Royte, author of *Garbage Land* in 2005, once wrote, "I hoped that someday we would look back on the piles of garbage on our curbs and the compressed bales of paper, metal, glass and plastic... and shake our heads at the primitiveness of it all."

I hope that in the coming years we will work together as a community to plan for green paths into our future in the small choices we each make every day and by grounding ourselves in realistic and relentless progress. 🌱

Casey Burns is a recent graduate of Sonoma State University Hutchins Program and hopes to inspire others to explore an ecological lifestyle.

Much Ado About Nothing?

e.g. singer

When Richard Nixon resigned from office; an official pardon was given him by his successor, Gerald Ford. The statement attributed to President Ford was that "our long, national nightmare is over," referring to the Watergate investigation's conclusion that brought down Nixon's presidency. The Mueller report has been submitted. The gloating has begun at the White House with Mr. Trump spinning his own narrative and repeating his mantra – that his own national nightmare, a.k.a. the "witch hunt" is over.

This past March, the initial conclusions of the report stated no collusion existed between Mr. Trump's campaign and the Russian government. However, the fact remains that many Russian individuals – whether affiliated with the Russian government or not – and several of Mr. Trump's own campaign staff were indicted and convicted as a result of Mr. Mueller's work. There is also continued doubt in the report as to whether Mr. Trump should be exonerated for possible obstruction of justice. The speed, brevity and partisanship of Attorney General Barr's written response, coupled with his previous comments and opinions given a month earlier regarding this investigation, seem to reflect his prejudiced views even

before becoming Attorney General. Time will tell what, if any, further actions will take place regarding this whole sordid affair.

The frustration and reality now is that any subsequent investigations by congressional committees will probably not garner the attention or traction necessary to engage the general populace's skepticism, cynicism and weariness of all things Trumpian. They would be time-consuming and would eventually become victim to bipartisanship rancor and legal challenges. More importantly is the fact that the next presidential election cycle has already begun and will surely take over the country's agenda to address more "pressing issues" and a desire to move on.

Unfortunately, this national nightmare is not over and will continue to be used as political fodder by Mr. Trump and his brethren for the upcoming 2020 elections. Lügenpresse – the concept of "lying press" made famous and employed by the Nazi party in Germany during Adolf Hitler's rise to power – sought to undermine journalists covering his presidential campaign at every stop, before his eventual ascension as Germany's head of state. Mr. Trump, no doubt bolstered by this "victory" will continue to employ and display this same

Much Ado About Nothing?...see page 10

May Day! May Day!

The Homeless Get Directions to the Dumpster. Power to the People!

Eddie Campagnola

I spent last night next to a dumpster. Hungry, tired, my security and well being at stake, I passed out. People on the streets don't "sleep," we pass out. When I woke up, I was thankful I survived without a mark. I've been doing this for six years. The scars on my face are a testament to my experience. They don't hurt; it's the emotional scars that never go away. So much so that it doesn't matter anymore because, U2: "I have a will for survival, so you can hurt me and hurt me some more." I yearn for a home; it's in my heart but remains inaccessible.

When I was young, I got some bad directions from those close to me. My school administrator mom, who had a PHD in special education, schooled me with "a strap right across my back". I had to hide my wounds, for fear of mom being six o'clock news and my being removed from the home. That's directions to the dumpster.

Some people say, "At least you have a job at \$10 per hour." Since a home should be a week's salary, and \$1,600 is what an apartment cost, those are directions to the dumpster. I'm not even considered for a job because the situation I'm in has a label attached that unfairly defines me. Directions to the dumpster. No mirrors,

directions to the dumpster. No electrical outlets, directions to the dumpster. Minimum wage, directions to the dumpster.

"Directions to the Dumpster" is the name of my box, which is available at Amazon.com. Go to the Facebook page "Directions to the Dumpster." My book dispels generalizations, myths and other misconceptions concerning homelessness. Socialism, likewise, is also completely misunderstood and wrongfully propagandized by the wealthy. Why? Follow the money! Capitalism is a proven failure. Its premise, greed is evil. "If your tree has the root of all evil, what kind of tree did you think would grow?"

People simply don't have an accurate vision of socialism. My son was a popular kid and became unpopular because he didn't want to join the pick on other kids' click. I had him transferred to a private school. I had my ideas about what I didn't like about it: uniforms and conformity. It didn't take long for me to realize I was wrong. In that "socialist" environment, a person stands out because of their character and their accomplishments. Our society has become label obsessed; kids learn from their parents how to wrongfully label and define others at school. In a capitalist society

this is unacceptable; all labels are negative and it's easy to keep someone from having the comforts of life or basic survival without networking. I could go on with examples of how capitalism hurts and socialism helps. I have a message for the Christian Conservatives: Jesus, the champion for the sick and the poor, was a socialist!

When I was ten years old, John Lennon's "Imagine" was a hit song. I thought John Lennon would save the world or at least that the song would be close to becoming reality and not just be in our imagination. I always look for the good in people. I don't even suspect, let alone judge. I want to be fair to everyone I meet. I have a secret that many Americans don't want you to know: most of the world wants to unite! It's inevitable, and my time is at hand, my children's time is at hand. And so I pretend "Imagine" is reality.

Last November I went to work in West Virginia for a progressive democrat in a district, where the president won by 50 points, dark red. I went there thinking blue tsunami and we lost by 10 points. I was feeling good about myself, empowered. I've worked as an environmental activist and lobbied at every level. I was getting much needed directions to Happy Street. On my way to California on a Greyhound bus, another passenger randomly attacked me. He drove a spike right through my head. I survived but I was psychologically having issues and became homeless again.

In my mind my attacker was telling me to get back to the dumpster, he was saying, "Shut the fuck up!" That's exactly what I did, I was hiding behind the dumpster, isolating myself, afraid to be in public. Having put myself out again, only to be struck down. After several months of waiting to die, I realized, at fifty-four, it could take a while, a slow and painful death, next to a dumpster. I can't do that. We have one chance at this experience, I will not shut up. I will stand up for what's right and remain in the light. I will not accept your directions to the dumpster anymore!! ☘

Eddie Campagnola is currently homeless. He is author of the book "Directions to the Dumpster," available at www.united-pc-publishing.com/books/fiction/other-miscellaneous/directions-to-thedumpster.html



The Local/Global Issue of Coos Bay

Patricia Spicer

What might be good news for a few residents and businesses of Coos Bay, Oregon, is great news for the Canadian-based Pembina Pipeline Corporation if the State of Oregon and the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) give consent for a huge liquefied natural gas (LNG) terminal at Coos Bay. The proposed project, termed the Jordan Cove Project, has been rejected by former Governor Kulongoski and also FERC, but has been revived by the Trump administration, like many extractive operations that ignore the current climate catastrophe for the sake of corporate profits. That this project would bring some needed employment to an economically depressed area is undeniable. So what could be the objection? Here are a few:

- Jordan Cove proposes to pipe fracked natural gas from Malin, Oregon – near Klamath Falls – for 232 miles across southern Oregon wilderness to Coos Bay. This pipeline would cross approximately 400 rivers and streams (with clear-cutting along the route). Much of this route is over unstable and fire-prone mountain terrain.
- The Jordan Cove Project would entail condemning some 700 private properties for access.
- Jordan Cove would place its highly explosive facility one mile from the town of North Bend on what is a known earthquake and tsunami-endangered coastline. It would also present a hazard to the airspace of the local Southwest Regional Airport.
- The Jordan Cove Project would modify Coos Bay for container shipping and interfere with the long-established industry of commercial fishing.
- The Jordan Cove power plant would become Oregon's major greenhouse gas emitter, not to mention increasing worldwide emissions through shipping and processing at its Asian destination.

Government agencies currently concern themselves only with how much environmen-

tal damage is deemed to be too much when, given the climate catastrophe, any damage is too much. With regard to economic growth, does the Coos Bay area need more stable sources of employment? You bet it does. Many locals are understandably hopeful about the introduction of new industry, especially since the longtime Georgia-Pacific lumber operation is shutting down.

It would be nice to see new development in the form of non-polluting industries in this area, but not an extractive operation without

many long term job guarantees. Pembina Pipeline Corporation is making a hard sell in the form of upbeat ads and offers of cash payments to affected property owners. These are bribes and this is the devil's bargain.

Update – On May 6, the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality denied a permit to the Jordan Cove LNG project, and the feeder pipeline on account of water quality concerns. 🙌

Patricia Spicer, formerly of Glen Ellen, now lives in Eugene, Oregon.

The Elephant in the Room



Currently, the “Elephant In The Room” is the existential threat of nuclear weapons. The great majority of humanity believes that Mutual Assured Destruction is preventing Nuclear War. They are believing a LIE! There is NO DEFENSE against an accidental or “sneak” attack!

The website Nuclear Terror Today was created by our (Mount Diablo) Peace Center member Robert Manning. He decided to take action after reading *The Doomsday Machine – Confessions of a Nuclear War Planner* by Daniel Ellsberg and interviewing the author.

In sum, it is truly a miracle that millions of citizens throughout the world have not been killed by nuclear weapons. Examples: The Cuban Missile Crisis; Stanislav Petrov who ignored Russian protocols; South Carolina in 1961 when a 24M bomb had five out of six safety devices fail.

We basically are betting that there will not

be either a mechanical failure like the Challenger Space Shuttle, or human error, or terrorist attack like 9/11. Trusting to Lady Luck is a fool's errand.

Join with us in creating today's miracle. Go to www.nuclearerrortoday.org. Review the website, watch the four minute video, read about the three challenges (see below), the pledges and the complete information about Nuclear Submarines, ICBM missiles, Drones, Artificial Intelligence and Data Hacking.

Share this information!

The three challenges are:

1. No first nuclear weapons attack;
2. Take ICBM missiles off hair trigger alert;
3. Create nuclear weapons/space treaties with unannounced inspections.

Thank you for your activism!

This article was previously printed in the Mount Diablo Peace & Justice Center *Peace Gazette*. 🙌

Global Warning!

Threats of Environmental Catastrophe and Mass Extinction are Advancing

Barry Barnett

The United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change Report (10/8/18) is a sober warning by an international group of scientists flatly stating that we human beings have 10-12 years to reduce and then eliminate fossil fuels or face irreversible global catastrophe. Hot on its heels (or warming) came the 4th National (US) Climate Assessment, stating that severe effects are already being felt across America. (Trump said he “didn’t believe it,” and it “was rigged.”)

The Earth is heating up from the most atmospheric carbon dioxide in 800,000 years – 46% higher than pre-industrial levels, at 413.85 ppm (4/10/19) – along with methane and other greenhouse gases (GHG) produced mainly by fossil fuel combustion (74%), agriculture, especially cattle methane, demanding curtailment of the voracious appetite for beef (11%), industrial processes (6%), forestry and land use (6%), and waste (3%).

With only a 1.1 degree C (1.98 F) increase since the dawn of industrialization, large swaths of the planet’s protective ice caps and glaciers are melting. Antarctic ice shelves the size of states have collapsed into the Southern Ocean – causing oceans to absorb solar radiation formerly reflected by the white snow and ice, and raising sea levels. Coral reefs are bleaching and dying from increasing ocean acidity with H⁺ ions 30% greater than in 1750. Hurricanes become super-storms as polar regions are warming more than temperate and equatorial areas, causing slowing of the thermohaline ocean circulation systems. Drought, deforestation (heats the Earth and leaves flammable material on the forest floor), and building housing in traditional fire zones are causing epic wildfires around the world. Unprecedented heat waves are killing the old, young and ill.

100 million tons of pesticides are dumped on Mother Earth annually, causing serious decline in insect populations worldwide – 50-90% in various regions. Notice the lack of honeybees and butterflies? If insects go extinct, humans go extinct. We don’t

have the technology to pollinate all the crops in the world. We are in the midst of the Sixth Great Extinction, potentially affecting Earth’s 2 million+ species, caused by merely one species. Overpopulation of the Earth (June 2019: 7.7 billion) destroys wildlife habitats and threatens our own needed resources. We must reverse this trend with birth control and mindfulness.

Unfortunately, there is a potential tipping point beyond which unstoppable, runaway global warming will continue unabated, and perhaps accelerate. Melting

Arctic “permafrost” and substrate oceanic clathrates are ticking time bombs filled with methane and CO₂. Reduced reflectivity from disappearing ice, exposing open water, creates a vicious cycle, a feedback loop of rising temperatures. Furthermore, CO₂ and methane affect the atmosphere and oceans for hundreds of years. If we ceased all GHG production now, Earth would still take centuries or longer to return to normal, missing extinct species.

The US military is the world’s #1 polluter, with a legacy of 800 superfund sites, 1,054 atomic bomb tests, “depleted” uranium weapons, large toxic jet fuel leaks, etc. Yet there are now more migrants forced to relocate from climate disruption than fleeing wars. Ecological disasters in 2017 were largely drought-related, causing widespread crop failure and displacing 2.5 million people in the Americas alone.

As if we don’t have enough to give us nightmares, the Pentagon is producing deadly viruses, bacteria and toxins in violation of the UN Convention on the Prohibition of Biological Weapons at bio-laboratories in 25 countries. Insects escaping from “research” facilities have caused fatalities from weap-

onized diseases. The “Defense” Department claims this research is all defensive. Global warming extends the range of disease vectors without needing “designer diseases.”

As my environmental poem makes clear, large-scale activism is needed for a New Deal-magnitude effort to replace fossil fuels immediately. Fortunately, US Democratic Party progressives are pushing for a “Green

The US military is the world’s #1 polluter, with a legacy of 800 superfund sites, 1,054 atomic bomb tests, “depleted” uranium weapons, toxic jet fuel leaks, etc. Yet there are now more migrants forced to relocate from climate disruption than fleeing wars.

New Deal,” which the Green Party originated. We also must boycott and divest from the fossil fuel industry, the military and banks and corporations that service them. We must agitate for companies and organizations to do so and create a united, organized force to make “our” government launch such a program. Fat chance, you say? We are the 99% and our survival depends on it.

Sources: Center for Climate and Energy Solutions; “US Military is World’s Biggest Polluter,” Whitney Webb, EcoWatch 5/15/17; Worldometers, “Why the Migrant Caravan Story is a Climate Change Story,” Todd Miller, Counterpunch 12/4/18; “Meat and Consequences: More Bad News for Climate Change,” Arshad Khan, Counterpunch 11/28/18; “Criminal Behavior: US May Be Developing Biological Weapons,” W. T. Whitney, Counterpunch 11/21/18; “CO₂ Set to Hit Levels Not Seen in 50 Million Years by 2050,” Michael Le Page, New Scientist 4/4/17; Wikipedia: Ocean Acidification; “The Green New Deal Explained,” David Barry is a writer, political and environmental activist, health professional and musician. [Patreon.com/barrybarnett](https://www.patreon.com/barrybarnett). 🐦

America in the Rage of Trump

Brad L. Smith

The question among Progressives seems to be a variation of the same thing: what binds Trump's base together? What makes them tick? Who are they? Are they all Neo-Nazis? Fascists? Renegade KKK Refugees? Far Right Evangelicals? Right-wing survivalists? Armed to the teeth AR-15, large ammo clip Racists? Anarchists? Power Seekers? Blood Suckers? Psychopaths?

No! That is not his entire base! There are actually a few, at least on the surface, regular, everyday people in Trump's crowd, too! And they have one thing in common: they are all really angry with someone or something in America.

Welcome to America In The Rage Of Trump!

I have a good friend that I went to college with who likes Trump. He says he did not vote for him, but he likes his policies. And I say what? What is that? Is this a test, a secret code? And then I remembered that as long as I knew him, my friend liked to collect badges. Back then we joked about it. Now it is not a joke. It is about authority and control. Yes, my poet friend always had a thing about badges. I obviously did not realize that "thing" was more than a fascination with authority. It is a belief system. I imagine if I scratched the surface of our infrequent conversations I could hit the target about one of the many things Trump likes to complain about and my friend would be all in!

I shake my head, thinking what is up with people? Don't they know Trump will stick it to them once he is done doing to moderates and liberals what he would like to do. Trump is a meat grinder, the perpetual pissed-off-about-something-person we now have to call our President.

His strategy is simple: stay mad. "It's a disgrace," Trump has complained many times, referring to the justice system and judges, people who disagree with him and constitutional laws that speak to decency or simple common sense. "It's a disgrace!" Ah, the beauty of that beast! Stay angry. Stay in a rage! Be the wrecking ball.

Yeah, #45, you salacious beast. Your very presence is one of a belittling, lying, dirt bag

of a man. No one I know would call you even close to sane after listening to the insane drivel you offered up as a solution to the California wild fires: "Rake the forests." You are clearly mad as a hatter. In other words, you are a mad, mad hatter...whatever that is. And your haughty pose for the cameras looks like Mussolini in full flower. Your eyes bear no resemblance to honest mercy, love, forgiveness, patience or understanding for those not-so-lucky in the get-it-while-you-can race through life.

So here we are. Saddled with a President in a perpetual rage. Supported by 30-40% of Americans who are apparently angry enough about Climate Change to conveniently ignore science and embrace conspiracy theories that the entire world of global scientists have all rigged their research! Really? Who made them the scientists? Trump supporters denying Climate Change is like the Flat Earth Society saying the Law of Gravity is a hoax and the

reason we don't all fly into space is because we don't want to! So there!

If we are to beat the drum and fire up our Democratic Center-Left-Progressive base into voting our debased 9,000 lies "Liar in Chief" out of office for the definitive good of America and the world at large, (including our adversaries who Trump might want to attack, so he can be a wartime President and get elected in the 2020 election), our job for the next two years is to help Trump's base try to not be so mad all the time!

Start telling jokes. You know, like the one about how Nixon said he wasn't a crook. That always gets a laugh! His base will eat it up, right? Just kidding! Well, at least you now know what's up with Trump's band of buffoons. They're just pissed off all the time.

Watch out Trump supporters! One day he will feed you all the Kool Aid and your last breath will be, of course, one of rage. 🙄

Much Ado About Nothing? ... from page 6

strategy in his own upcoming campaign.

Sadly, despite Mr. Mueller and his staff's difficult but necessary work over the past twenty-two months on behalf of the American people, an unintended result and "gift" has been placed in Mr. Trump's lap. Namely, another possible electoral win to "govern" for four more years. Based on this investigation's conclusions and the political spin Mr. Trump & Co. are already fashioning, his political base will have no worries, his position will be clear and his campaign reflecting the partisan politics, blame and fear-mongering will continue to destroy the fabric of this nation and will be visible for all to see at the Republican Convention in Charlotte, North Carolina.

Finally, the Department of Justice's current response to the Mueller investigation's findings should be a wake-up call and shot across the bow for Democrats and their respective presidential candidates. They must figure out the optics and ramifications regarding this investigation, as well as the future direction of the party's priorities and messaging, with which to persuade the American people that the respective presidential candidate chosen would indeed be a worthy successor to the current resident of the White House. What

choices, strategies and tactics will be employed in addressing a soon-to-be seen past social/historical moment in time (eighteen months from now to election day in November, 2020) will be of utmost importance.

The political imperative now is to not engage in Mr. Trump and Co.'s false narratives about the Democrat's "socialistic" programs for the country's future. Instead, Democrats must state the party's history, positions and visions on issues as well as the programs enacted over the past 80 years that have assisted Americans. They must bring these facts forth to educate and engage the electorate, who now represent the greatest social, racial, cultural and sexual diversity this nation has ever seen.

The vital messaging is that it was Democratic Party-sponsored programs from the 1930's New Deal to the 1960's Great Society to the present day that have insured a social safety net for all Americans! This is an excellent opportunity to provide a much needed history lesson and introduction to new generations of Americans who are confronting major quality of life issues once again and need protection. The Democrats have a real opportunity to focus again on the real issues facing the American people at this point in history. May they choose wisely! 🙄

Remembering the Activists



Peter Ochs

by Occupy Sonoma County

Peter was 74 years old when he died in late March. At times he had a crotchety wise-crackin' way about himself that left people feeling happy. Making people happy was important to Peter. You can see that sparkle in the faux-grumpy persona he employs as a card player in the Occupy Sonoma County video, *Card Game at the Plastic Free Saloon*, featured on our website.

The Occupy Movement became an important part of Peter's life since the first Occupy protest at Santa Rosa City Hall in October 2011. Peter could be counted on to show up for every meeting since then and was a key part of keep-

ing Occupy functioning in Sonoma County. He often volunteered to print and put up flyers and set up and staff our tables at events. He built wonderful garden boxes that were sold to help fund Occupy Sonoma County and worked on the fundraising team for Occupy Santa Rosa before that. Peter also grew most of the plants we sold at our events.

Peter was instrumental in passing the Sonoma County GMO crop ban, he was a regular volunteer at the Peace and Justice Center and was passionate about the environment and social justice. There were many sides to the man. Earlier in his life he was a radio announcer. He was also well-known at the Sonoma County Fair for winning first place many years in a row for his chocolate chip cookies. One year he won first prize for his chocolate chip and second prize for his chocolate-chocolate chip cookies. We all loved his cookies, which he tried out on us first.

Peter is sorely missed. His brother, son and daughter and all of us in Occupy Sonoma County survive him. 🌱



Ann Tompkins

Ann Tompkins ended her journey on this earth on March 24, 2019 after over a decade of battling Parkinson's and a lifetime of battling moral wrongs the world over. She exited her body peacefully, in her bed at home, surrounded by those she loved and who loved her.

Ann started her adventures in life as an infant living on her family's 85 foot wooden schooner, Wander Bird. As a young child, she rounded Cape Horn with her parents, Warwick M. Tompkins and Gwen Tompkins at the helm and accompanied by her younger brother, Warwick Tompkins. She would go on to graduate with a Masters in Social Work from the University of California, Berkeley in 1957. Her studies and political activism would eventually take her to China in 1965, where she actively participated in the Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution. The personal recognition of her work by Mao Tse-tung was a highlight of her life.

Upon her return to the US, she met and married Wang Yao Hua. During a later extended stay in China, Ann and Yao Hua adopted their son, Zhong Mei Wang. Ultimately, Ann would return to the US where she worked tirelessly to raise her son as a single mother, while taking care of her own mother in her final years. Even in the most difficult of financial times, she was a wonderful mother and daughter to her family and will always be remembered for her tireless efforts to provide a strong and loving foundation for her son to grow from.

Many US activists were influenced by Ann's account of her times in China and the practice of criticism/self-criticism. Her interests were boundless and included Santa Rosa Creek Commons, the Redwood Funeral Society, the Peace & Justice Center of Sonoma County, the Mobilization to Free Mumia Abu-Jamal and more.

A celebration of life is planned for June 15, 2019 at her Sonoma County home. In lieu of flowers, please consider contributing to the completion of her memoir. Information on both the memoir and celebration of life event can be found at <https://acrossoceansandrevolution.com>.

Ann is survived by her brother, Warwick Tompkins and son Zhong Mei Wang, who will always carry their fond memories of her with them. 🌱

Oz Grimes

Oz Grimes, 87, died April 8 after ingesting a lethal mixture of drugs he'd obtained legally through the state law – End of Life Option Act – that legalized aid in dying for people with terminal illnesses.

Not long after graduation from Washington High School, Oz enlisted in the US Marine Corps. He spent a year in combat during the Korean War. He said he discovered long afterward that he was living with the disabling effects of post-traumatic stress disorder.

He praised the day he met Beth Sutton. They married in 1956. Their politics were fairly middle-of-the-road until they felt compelled to join protests against the war in Vietnam. That started their long history of activism.

Beth and Oz were arrested several times while staging protests, blockades, sit-ins and other actions in resistance to the Contra War in Nicaragua, nuclear energy, arms sales and challenges to abortion rights.

"I was the first man arrested at the Bohemian Grove," Oz said shortly before his death. Oz volunteered as well to escort and, if necessary, defend women entering or leaving family planning clinics.

Once Oz and Beth reached the grandparent stage, they would reminisce about their regular trips to the Humboldt redwoods, the years they worked mere feet apart at a lumber store, the miles they swam at the YMCA and all the times they were arrested together. Their daughters said they most enjoyed spending time together at home.



Oz dedicated three years of his life to the care of his wife, Beth, after she suffered a brain injury in 2008.

As his health and mobility were being eroded earlier this year by terminal heart disease, Oz looked into California's End of Life Option Act. Two doctors found that he was unlikely to live more than six months and he was capable of making a life-or-death decision.

At home at about 10 am on April 8, he drank a lethal solution of four prescriptions. He died less than a half hour later. No public services are planned.

Oz' daughters suggest memorial contributions to Veterans for Peace or the Committee on the Shelterless. 🌱

Now is the Time

Granny Vee

Southern borders to be crossed.
Much to be gained and much to be lost.
Refugees stuck there in the burning sun,
From worse trials they are on the run.

Why do the ICE-men deployed down South
Cause anguished cries from so many mouths?
Kid ripped from kin. Families torn apart.
Orders are orders. They have no heart.

Now is the time for the throngs to surge,
For the strong to fight for what all deserve.
Time to fuel hope for humanity.
Time to stop all the cruelty.

Confessions of a Lonely Bag Lady

No Time The Mime

I hid on the patio alone, thinking of happier times - of being a young wife and mother. People cared about me - I was someone special to somebody.

Now, age 50, husband dead, child grown, this awful feeling of isolation.
No evening news on TV with my cat on my lap and a cup of tea.

Alone - I cried for times long past.

Wake Up

Iris Gargano

Imagine you wake up someday to the sight of planes and flames
And air so thick you can write "wash me" on it
And you wake up to the sound of explosions and sirens
And the screams of pain and rage in the streets
And you wake up to the smell of decaying flood mud
And chemical laden smoke and the metallic taste of the water
And bland, nutrient robbed food
Better to Wake up now

Iris Gargano lives by the Russian River and is part of the group "Just Do Something." Join their "Speak Out" at the Guerneville Plaza the first Friday of the month from 4-6 pm.

Compassion

No Time The Mime


Tonight, when you take a hot bath and get between clean sheets - in your bed, in your room, in your house - take a moment to imagine what it would be like not to have these things; to sit up all night in a doorway or on a porch, afraid to sleep for fear of being attacked or harassed, and remember - there but for fortune, go you.

Just One Little Paycheck Away

No Time The Mime

What would you do if you were to become homeless today?
Would you turn to family, friend or agencies?
How long before you wear out your welcome, or
How soon would help from Social Services be on the way?
Would everything you know and love fit into a shopping cart?
Where is the best place for you to find a large cardboard box in which to stay?
How soon before your meager possessions are destroyed and you are taken away,
Never to be seen again after that day?

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harris.senate.gov/content/contact-senator

U.S. Senator Dianne Feinstein

331 Hart Senate Office Bldg.
Washington, D.C. 20510
(202) 224-3841, S.F. (415) 393-0707
Fax: (202) 228-3954
feinstein@senate.gov

Gov. Gavin Newsom

State Capitol, Sacramento, Ste. 1173, CA 95814
(916) 445-2841, Fax: (916) 445-4633
governor@governor.ca.gov

Lt. Gov. Eleni Kounalakis

State Capital, Rm. 1114, Sacramento, CA 95814
(916) 445-8994, Fax (916) 323-4998

Citizen Comment: (202) 456-1111

(A 1-minute call before 8 am costs 29 cents; caller's message is recorded for reference of public opinions)

Congressional Switchboard

(202) 224-3121

President D. J. Trump

1600 Pennsylvania Ave., Washington, D.C. 20500
(202) 456-1111, Fax: (202) 456-2461
president@whitehouse.gov

*Democracy is NOT
a spectator sport!*

Sonoma County Social Justice Groups

ALL PHONE AREA CODES ARE (707)
UNLESS NOTED OTHERWISE

350 Sonoma County – Engaging our community in the work of 350.org to solve the climate crisis. 350sonomacounty.org

ACLU Sonoma Co., working to preserve individual working rights and liberties. Meets each second Monday. Contact patriciamorandi@sbcglobal.net, or davhen@sonic.net.

Allies Safety Network – compiling a phone chain/helpline to build a safety network for those at risk of harassment to provide a supportive presence in situations of hateful threats. Join the Network Call List: 583-9168

Alternatives to Violence – Presents experiential workshops in personal growth in the community and prisons. 545-1798

Comité VIDA – Defends the human and civil rights of immigrants. 523-1740, cirsc@yahoo.com,

Daily Acts – Offers sustainable solutions rooted in the power of inspired daily actions. 789-9664, dailyacts.org

Fukushima Response – works to inform about the Fukushima melt downs, monitor the consequences, advocate for the shut down of Diablo Canyon. fukushimaresponse.org. 823-9203

Green Party of Sonoma County – sonomagreenparty.org

Green Sangha – Spiritually engaged environmental action. info@greensangha.org

H-PEACE – Health Professionals for Equality and Community Empowerment. hpeaceasonomacounty.wordpress.com

Healdsburg Peace Project – Peace and social justice action group, Healdsburg. 431-1129, healdsburgpeaceproject.org

Hate Free Petaluma Progressive organization. www.facebook.com/hatefreepetaluma/

Homeless Action – Advocating for people without shelter. 795-2890

Indivisible Goups – All the groups are on Facebook.

Indivisible Sonoma County: indivisiblesoco.com

Indivisible Petaluma: indivisiblepetaluma@gmail.com, or follow on Twitter at @IndivisibleLuma

Indivisible Sebastopol: indivisible.wsc@gmail.com

Indivisible Healdsburg

Indivisible Windsor

LezResist! was formed to be a visible and unified Lesbian presence in support of each other, and to stand in solidarity with the many communities, causes, and policies under attack by the current U.S. administration. Info @ at LezResist@gmail.com.

Listening for a Change – Programs support listening and oral history to create a caring community. 578-5420, listeningforachange.org

MEChA de Sonoma – Student group that focuses on issues affecting the Chicano/Latino community. info@mechadesonoma.org

Metta Center for Nonviolence – Works to promote nonviolence worldwide and to build a nonviolent culture. 774-6299

MOVES-Minimizing Occurrences of Violence in Everyday Society – Stresses nonviolence as the answer to society's violence. 524-1900

National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) – Seeks to eliminate racial hatred, racial profiling and discrimination. 332-1573

National Women's History Project – coordinates observances of Women's History month around the country. 636-2888, nwhp@aol.com

North Bay Jobs with Justice – organized for better conditions and a living wage for workers. Email: northbayjobswithjustice@gmail.com, Website: northbayjobswithjustice.org, facebook.com/pages/North-Bay-Jobs-With-Justice/922338944459410 Ph: 707-346-1187

North Bay Organizing Project – a regional faith and values based peoples' organization. 318-2818

North Coast Coalition for Palestine – Brings greater awareness to the plight of the Palestinian people and works to end US military support for Israel. 575-8902. www.nccpal.org or find us on Facebook.

NOW of Sonoma County – local chapter of the National Organization for Women. 545-5036

Occupy Sonoma County – Embraces the egalitarian, deep democracy principles of the Occupy Movement with a regional strategy for effectively organizing county-wide social justice campaigns that are globally relevant. 877-6650, OccupySonomaCounty.org

Organizing for Action: Progressive organizing project. Contact Linda Hemenway: whatisworking@gmail.com or 707-843-6110 and Facebook

Peace Alliance – Mission is to campaign for a cabinet-level US Department of Peace. 838-8647, maggik3@sonic.net, thepeacealliance.org

Peace Roots Alliance – We seek to create a peaceful, just and sustainable world for future generations. 707-765-0196, Linda@peaceroots.org

Petaluma Blacks for Community Development – facebook.com/pb4cd

Petaluma Progressives – Grassroots, political education and action group. Producers of the Progressive Festival. 763-8134, info@progressivefestival.org

Praxis Peace Institute – Peace Education organization, 939-2973, praxispeace.org

Progressive Sonoma – Peaceful Resistance Network. An umbrella association to network Sonoma's local progressive action groups. peacefulresistance9.wixsite.com/progressivesonoma. Facebook at Peaceful Resistance Sonoma

Project Censored/Media Freedom Foundation – Publishes the top 25 most censored news stories each year. 874-2695, Peter@projectcensored.org, Mickey@projectcensored.org. projectcensored.org.

Racial Justice Allies – Developing anti-racist practices among white social justice activists. 795-2890 racialjusticeallies@gmail.com, www.racialjusticeallies.org

Sonoma County Chapter of Physicians for a National Health Program (PNHP). In support of single payer health insurance. 763-1925. sngold@juno.com. www.pnhpca.org.

Sonoma County Climate Activist Network (SoCo CAN!) Groups and individuals working address and reverse climate change. Meet in months with a 5th Monday, 7-9 PM at the PJC. Info: 595-0320 or SonomaCountyCAN@gmail.com (email preferred).

Sonoma County Coastal Hills: gardens@mcn.org

Sonoma County Nonviolence Training Collective offers free trainings in methods and principles for progressive social change and peace. soconvtc@gmail.com.

Sonoma County Resistance via change.org

Sonoma Solidarity with Standing Rock – Supporting indigenous rights and fossil fuel resistance. SonomaSolidarity.org, Facebook: Sonoma Solidarity with Standing Rock. ph. 792-4422.

Sonoma Valley Peace & Justice – Peace and social justice group for Sonoma Valley. audreyvh@sbcglobal.net

SURJ (Showing Up For Racial Justice, Sonoma County) – facebook.com/SURJSonomaCounty

United Farm Workers – 1700 Corby Ave., Santa Rosa 528-3039

United Nations Association – Builds public understanding and support for the United Nations. Facebook

Veterans for Peace – Organization of vets working together for peace and justice through nonviolence. 536-6002

Women in Black – Women who stand in silent vigil to protest war and human rights abuses. 576-6676

Women's Justice Center – Advocacy for victims of rape, domestic violence, and child abuse, particularly in the Latina community. 575-3150, justicewomen.com

*Please email zenekar@comcast.net
for any changes to this list.*

SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS AT THE PJC

Sun	1st • Democratic Socialists of America, 1–4 PM
Mon	2nd & 4th • North Coast Coalition for Palestine, 3:30–5 PM 3rd • Occupy Sonoma County Earth Action, 7–9 PM 5th • Sonoma County Climate Activist Network, 7–9 PM
Tues	4th • Nonviolence Training Collective, 7:30–9 PM
Wed	1st • Raging Grannies, 4:30–6 PM 2nd • Peace & Justice Center Board, 4–6 PM 3rd • 350 Sonoma, 7–9 PM
Sat	3rd • Solidarity with Standing Rock, 3-5 PM

To receive the full PJC weekly email calendar, call 575-8902
If we missed you or if your times change, please contact us.
All times subject to change between publications.

Add Your Voice to the Vision of the Peace & Justice Center



Let us know what issues the PJC can assist with, and how **you** can help the Center

Contact us if you would you like to use your skills to help the Center advance, by:

- ▶ Serving on the Board
- ▶ Joining the *Peace Press* Collective
- ▶ Helping to maintain and expand our social media
- ▶ Assisting at Center Events
- ▶ Helping with grant writing
- ▶ Fundraising or Donating to the Center
- ▶ Sponsoring our bi-monthly *Peace Press* Newsletter

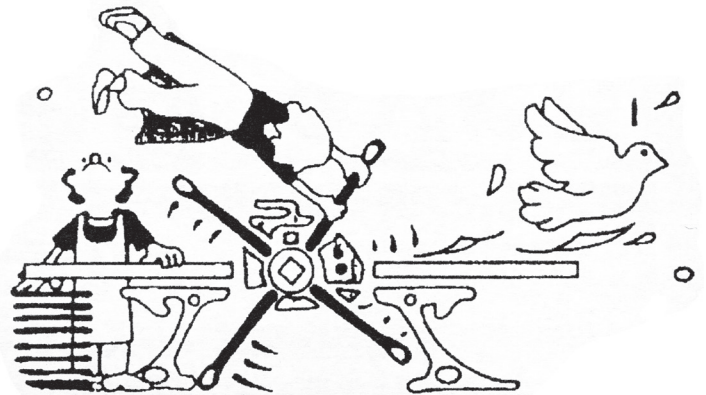
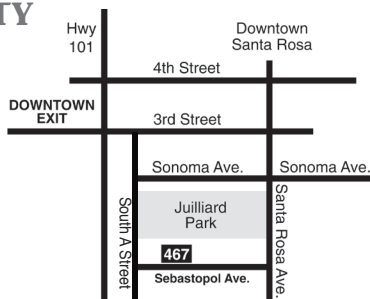
Please call (707) 575-8902 or visit PJCso.co.org

PEACE & JUSTICE CENTER OF SONOMA COUNTY

467 Sebastopol Ave.
Santa Rosa, CA 95401
(707) 575.8902

peacentr@sonic.net
PJCso.co.org

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC
HOURS: Mon-Fri 1-4pm



JOIN THE PEACE & JUSTICE CENTER OF SONOMA COUNTY

467 Sebastopol Ave, Santa Rosa, CA 95401 ♦ (707) 575-8902 ♦ PJCso.co.org

Yes, I want to be a member of the Peace & Justice Center and receive one year of the Peace Press

Please check one: I am renewing my membership. I am a new member. How I learned about the Center:

Annual Membership Dues, tax deductible (includes the bimonthly *Peace Press* mailed to your address for one year).

\$15 Low Income & Student Membership \$35 Basic Membership \$60 Family or Business Membership

I would like to volunteer time or donate materials as follows: _____

Payment method: Check enclosed, payable to *Peace & Justice Center of Sonoma County*

Credit/Debit Card No. _____ 3-digit Code: _____ Expires: _____ Signature: _____

Print name _____ Phone: _____

Address _____ Email: _____

City/State/Zip _____ (or call the PJC, 1-4 pm, weekdays)

Return by mail or fax to Peace & Justice Center. Thank you for your membership! Visit PJCso.co.org for activities and hours.