

S O N O M A C O U N T Y

*in this issue*

# peace press

Newsletter of the Peace & Justice Center of Sonoma County  
PjCsoco.org • Oct/Nov 2018 • Vol. 33, No. 5

- Sticks in His Spokes
- The Global Power Elite
- Democratic Socialism on the Rise
- Poor People's Campaign
- Action Is Supreme

*and much more...*

# VOTE

*Tuesday, November 6*

*Register by October 22*

*Democracy is NOT a spectator sport!  
Voting is only one of many actions we must take  
to ensure that our electeds work for we, the people.*

Newsletter of the Peace & Justice Center of Sonoma County,  
 an affiliate of the Fellowship of Reconciliation (FOR).  
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 Email articles in MSWord to [peacentr@sonic.net](mailto:peacentr@sonic.net)  
 Word limit up to 700 words – space is limited.  
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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

**SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR PRODUCTION CREW**

Terra Freedman, Larry Harper, Earl Herr, Attila Nagy, and an awesome battalion of collaters, distributors, and others far too great to name.

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## GETTING CENTERED

# Much Happening – Get Involved

*Shekeyna Black*

***“Fight for the things that you care about, but do it in a way that will lead others to join you.”***

– Supreme Court Justice, Ruth Bader Ginsburg

Can it be autumn already? What are you doing in regards to ‘Getting Centered’ for the change of season?

A special thank you to Karen Bruns, who is the Peace & Justice Center’s intern for the Fall semester. She is a student at Sonoma State University and is majoring in Sociology. Also, this semester, the PJC is the focus of a research project by six other SSU students who are studying under the direction of Professor Peter Phillips.

We hope to see lots of folks at the 14th Annual Winterblast Celebration on Saturday, November 17. This family-friendly community event takes place from 5-9:30 pm in the SOFA Arts District in Santa Rosa. The event features a street fair with lots of food vendors and various stages with cool dance bands and DJs in addition to the art galleries being open for extended hours. Parts of Sebastopol Avenue and South A Street are closed to cars before and during the event. The Peace & Justice Center will be selling beer and wine during the event as a fundraiser and will have a live band and DJs for your dancing

pleasure. We appreciate your support! The Peace & Justice Center is the non-profit sponsor of Winterblast.

The PJC Board of Directors has decided to move our Annual Awards Celebration to early 2019. Stay tuned for details.

Are you a member of the Peace & Justice Center of Sonoma County? Your annual membership dues helps to support our mission. We offer three levels of membership, as follows: student/low-income for \$15, individual membership for \$35 and a family membership for \$60. Please fill out the form on the back of this *Peace Press* to join or renew.

Vote in the 2018 Midterm Elections, November 6. It is vital that we, as citizens, exercise our right to vote. You must be registered to vote in Sonoma County by October 22. You can register online at <https://registertovote.ca.gov> or come to the PJC to fill out a registration form.

I am one of the women serving on a countywide committee to plan the 100-year anniversary celebration of the 19th Amendment to the Constitution, granting women the right to vote. Celebrations will be held locally and nationally on August 26, 2020 for Women’s Equality Day. In the words of suffragist Susan B. Anthony, “There never will be complete equality until women themselves help to make laws and elect lawmakers.” ✎

## Register and Vote! Poke Sticks in His Spokes!

*Rebel Fagin*

This article is for people who think the electoral system is a tool for making change. It is neither an endorsement nor a dismissal. It is an analysis.

Congress makes the laws. It is made up of two Houses, both of which need to agree for a bill to become a law. If the Republicans lose control of either House, the Trump agenda can be slowed. Most of the time when a president’s party has control of Congress they lose that dominance after two years.

Members of the House of Representatives serve two years, with the entire House facing election every two years. Currently there are 236 Republican Representatives and 193 Democratic Representatives. The Democrats would have to hold onto every seat they now have and gain an additional 23 to win a majority. For this to happen the ‘blue wave’ needs to be a tsunami.

Every two years, one third of the Senate faces re-election. The Senate currently has 51 members who regularly vote Republican and 49 who regularly vote Democrat. In the case of a tie, the Vice President casts the deciding vote, therefore the Republicans need to lose two Senators to lose their majority. This is doable. 35 Senators are up for re-election this year, the majority of whom came into

office when Obama was re-elected in 2012. Of these, 26 Senators are Democrats, nine are Republicans, three of whom are retiring. To take the Senate, the Democrats would have to hold onto all 26 seats and gain two more. The Republicans most likely to face defeat include the candidates trying to fill retirees Bob Corker (TN) and Jeff Flake’s (AZ) shoes, as well as Dan Heller (NV) and Cindy Hyde-Smith (MS).

This is an off-year election. That means there won’t be a Presidential race. Usually in an off-year election liberals and progressives stay home while disciplined Republicans go out to vote.

Trump has the advantage of what appears to be a healthy economy. In a capitalist economy 4% unemployment is optimum. As of August, US unemployment was at 3.9%. This doesn’t include discouraged workers, an alarming number of whom are young. Plus the Republican tax scheme gives tax breaks to working folks for eight years.

Then there’s the issue of voter integrity. Electronic voting machines are designed to be hacked. Instructions are available on line. This is most effective where there are tight races and a few hundred votes matter.

Voter ID laws eliminate poor and elder voters. “Voter caging” targets students and anyone who moves frequently, including overseas ser-

vice personnel. With voter caging, a candidate sends out non-forwardable mass mailings to registered voters. A caging list is then compiled of all the returned documents and on the strength of this alone, those voters’ right to vote is challenged at the polls. If the voter gets upset, he/she may be offered a provisional ballot. These are counted last, if they’re counted at all.

In every election there are mailed-in ballots that never get counted. This is common in working class areas, where there are often few polling places with limited hours. All this works to eliminate the votes of working people.

Operation Interstate Crosscheck knocks people off of voter rolls by matching names of voters with criminals and ex-felons. The common names they select include Maria Rodriguez, Mohamad Mohamad and David Lee. Notice the ethnic slant of these names. That’s the purpose.

What can you do? Make sure you’re registered. Vote in person. Bring your voter registration card along with your ID to the polls. Reject provisional ballots and insist on a real one. Make a fuss if you have to.

The real swing voters are not recalcitrant Trumpites, they’re disengaged voters. Over 50% of those who could vote don’t vote. If the Democrats want to get the real swing voters,

*Register and Vote...page 6*

# THE SONGWRITER'S BLUES: International Refugee Law '101'

Brad L. Smith

When you got the blues, ain't no news but the righteous blues! On June 19, 2018 NPR reported Niki Haley, America's Ambassador to the United Nations, declared the United States of America was withdrawing from the United Nations Human Rights Council (which was established in 1948), citing "chronic bias against Israel" as well as other grievances. Ironically, the next day, June 20, 2018 was World Refugee Day. You can see NPR's online report at <https://tinyurl.com/ya9v7kak>.

I thought that writing about International Refugee Law and comparing it to American Immigration and Refugee Laws would be a straightforward process. It is not. It is extremely complex. Today every nation has its own individual laws and practices regarding human rights, immigration rights and refugee rights as well as international understandings. The growing global population naturally puts increasing pressure on these laws and practices to change over time.

Visit <https://tinyurl.com/yc8p2pp6> for a European discussion on the issues of migration and asylum. Visit <https://tinyurl.com/y7bv9ccp> to read what Australia thinks about refugees, the issue of identity or lack thereof. It will wake you up about how a host country perceives their responsibilities towards asylum seekers and how it is going to work. Or not.

Meanwhile, because of the complexity of these issues, our discussion will stick to basic refugee law. In 1951 the United States of America agreed to follow specific rules in accordance with the 1951 Refugee Convention enacted under the auspices of the United Nations and signed by 145 U.N. members.

Here are two excerpts from the 1951 Refugee Convention and the 1967 Protocol document presented by the United Nations High Commissioner Refugees (UNHCR) to the world (from <https://tinyurl.com/y8nmhwd0>):

## Why do refugees need protection?

The realities of conflict, violence and persecution continue to cause displacement. Refugee protection remains urgently needed by those forced to leave their countries. The 1951 Convention and its 1967 Protocol are the only global legal instruments explicitly covering the most important aspects of a refugee's life. According to their provisions, refugees deserve, as a minimum, the same standards of

treatment enjoyed by other foreign nationals in a given country and, in many cases, the same treatment as nationals. The 1951 Convention also recognizes the international scope of the refugee problem and the importance of international solidarity and cooperation in trying to resolve them.

## What rights do refugees have under the 1951 Convention?

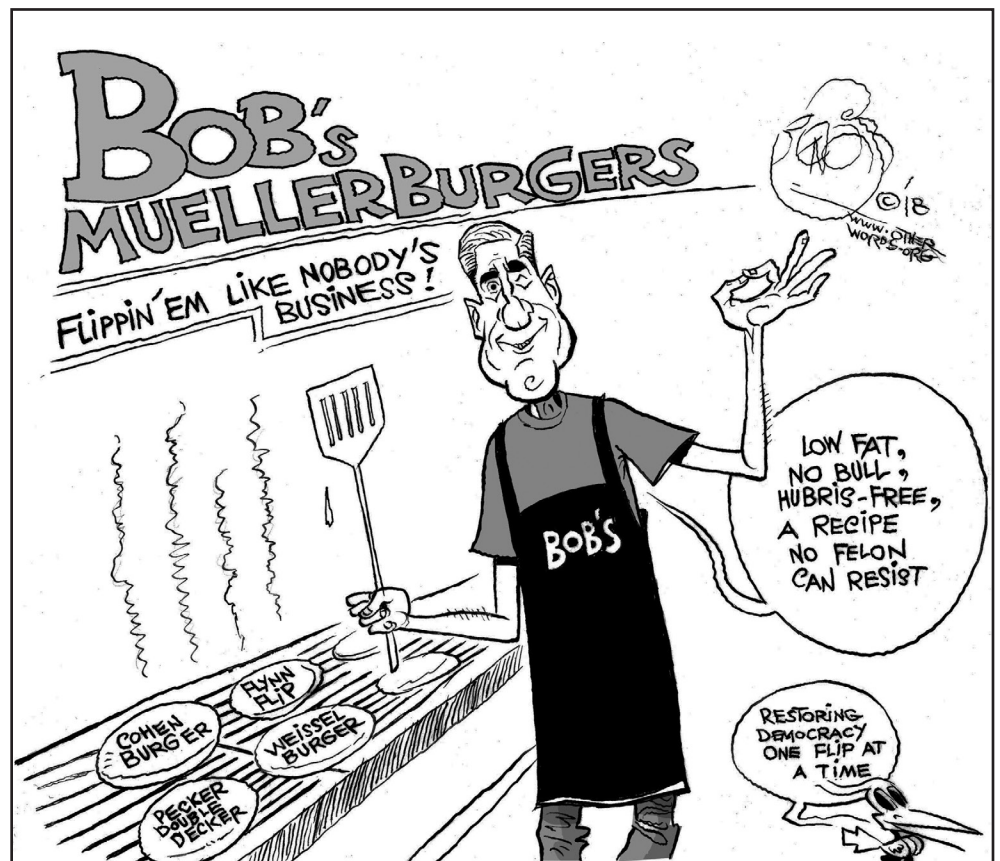
The 1951 Convention contains a number of rights and also highlights the obligations of refugees towards their host country. The cornerstone of the 1951 Convention is the principle of non-refoulement contained in Article 33. According to this principle, a refugee should not be returned to a country where he or she faces serious threats to his or her life or freedom. This protection may not be claimed by refugees who are reasonably regarded as a danger to the security of the country, having been convicted of a particularly serious crime, or are considered a danger to the community. Other rights contained in the 1951 Convention include:

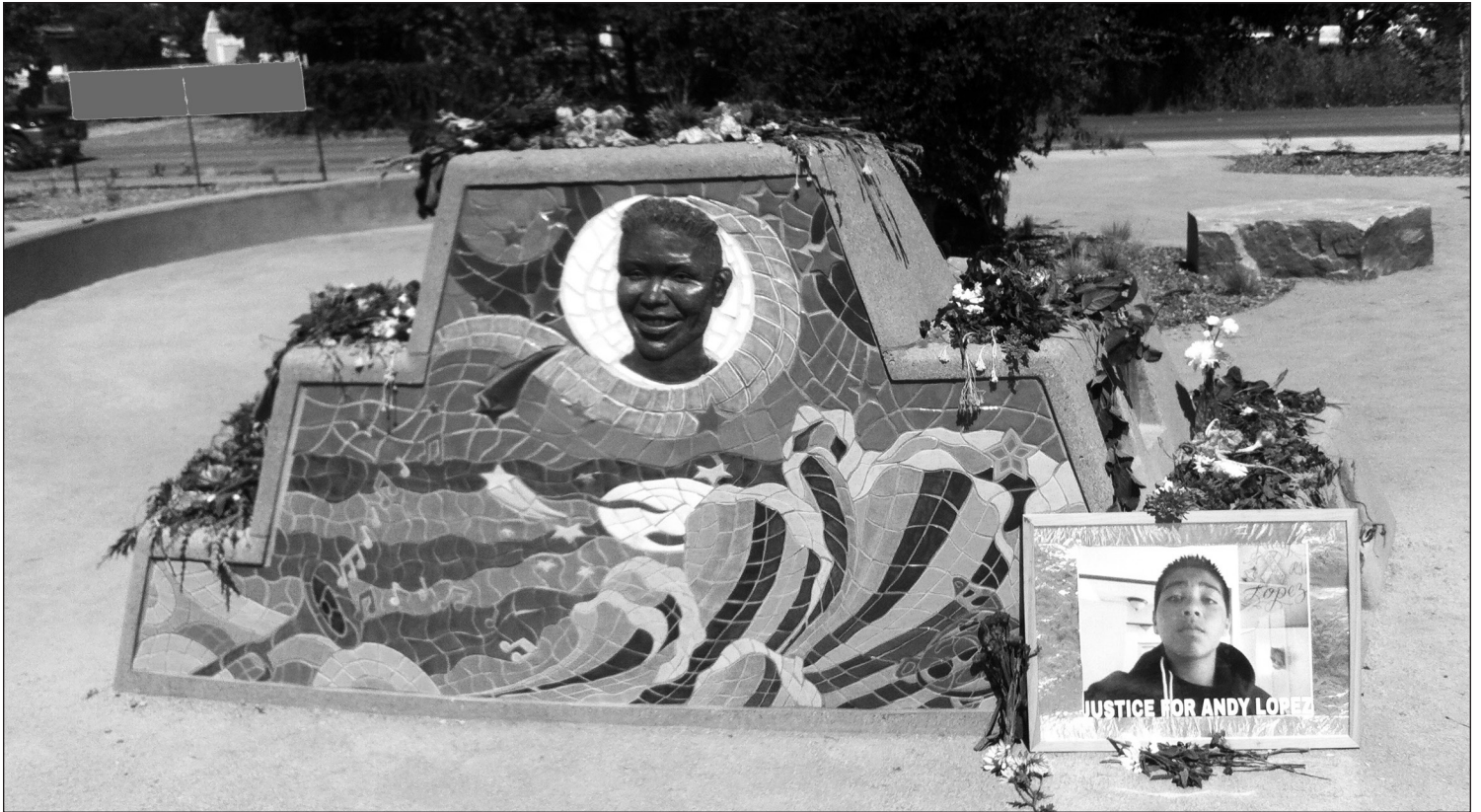
- The right not to be expelled, except under

certain, strictly defined conditions (Article 32);

- The right not to be punished for illegal entry into the territory of a contracting State (Article 31);
- The right to work (Articles 17 to 19);
- The right to housing (Article 21);
- The right to education (Article 22);
- The right to public relief and assistance (Article 23);
- The right to freedom of religion (Article 4);
- The right to access the courts (Article 16);
- The right to freedom of movement within the territory (Article 26); and
- The right to be issued identity and travel documents (Articles 27 and 28)."

It's clear the United States of America's current government has violated the 1951 Refugee Convention and 1967 Protocol in almost every area. Can we be trusted again? What has become of the promise of the American dream? Is 2018 America's perfect storm brought to its knees by the statistical probability of human nature? It took over 200 years, but the bell is ringing violently. Can you hear it? 🕊





Andy Lopez Memorial at Andy's Unity Park in the Moorland neighborhood. October 22 will be the 5th anniversary of the shooting death of Andy Lopez, 13 years old at the time, by Sonoma County Sheriff Deputy Eric Gelhaus. There will be an annual gathering at the park to commemorate Andy's death. Details to be announced about the upcoming event.

# Dedication Speech at the Opening of Andy's Unity Park

*Greg Sarris*

Sat., June 2, 2018

To Rodrigo y Sujay, Anthony and Sujay [Andy's father, mother, brother and sister], I am here today – we are all here today – with you, the parents and brother and sister of Andy Lopez. We are here with Andy and each of you in our hearts. Anthony, several years ago, my Tribe, the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria, gave your family a check to help pay for the burial of your brother.

I will never forget how you came up on stage and hugged me and held on after you received the check. In that moment, my heart broke. It split into two and in that open space between the two halves of my heart, anger grew. Anger grew particularly after I had just listened to several local politicians and others talk about how we had to heal and get past what happened. Get past what happened? I simply could not understand. We mow these people's lawns, we wash their dishes, take care of their old people and grow and harvest their food, and then they come into our neighborhoods and shoot our children.

Get over this? Get past this? Again, I simply couldn't understand. I was extremely upset. Here today, several years later, we are dedicating this park in the memory of your son and brother, Andy Lopez. I'd like to talk about real healing. I'd like to imagine what it might look like – in the memory of Andy.

We will heal when police protect and care, when they know us and show love for us. We will heal when we see the police helping las abuelas y los niños cross the street. We will heal when our parents can trust the police, when the police can give loving advice and attention to our children and to help our parents enable our children to love and respect themselves and their larger community.

We will heal when our young people don't turn on one another, when they can dispense with violence. We will heal when we stop any violence against anger, violence amongst ourselves, that in the end only weakens us for the larger fight, the larger war against racism in this community.

We must make sure that our young people

feel, that in fact, there is something to bond together for, that there is something worth the fight – that we must fight to protect and help all of us understand one another better. We will heal when all of us can feel one another's pain and sorrow, when empathy is in our hearts and indeed the mode of the day. We will heal when each of us takes a chance and say to one another "hello" and "hola."

We will heal when we know, as in the words of my Native ancestors that all life is sacred: humans, animals, the four-legged, the winged, the mountains and the trees, the water and the rocks.

Then, we indeed will heal, we will truly have followed the Lord's Prayer that so many of us pray, that is, to make Heaven here on Earth. Then, we will show that we remember Andy Lopez, son, brother and friend. Then indeed, we will know and remember that today at this moment dedicating this park to his memory, we have truly started something that will make a difference that will heal. 🙏

*Greg Sarris is Tribal Chairman of the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria*

# Farming is a Form of Resistance in Palestine

*Linda Sartor*

Linda Sartor went to the West Bank of Palestine/Israel June 24-July 24 with Meta Peace Team (MPT) as an unarmed civilian peacekeeper to do what is known as third party nonviolent intervention (TPNI). TPNI actions include: human rights monitoring/reporting, offering a protective presence or accompaniment, and interpositioning (putting our bodies between conflicting parties). MPT's vision is a just world grounded in nonviolence and respect for the sacred interconnectedness of all life.

"It's haram for Muslims to use chemicals on food plants because it harms the people who eat that food." According to Islam, haram is an act that is forbidden by Allah and anything that causes harm to anyone is haram.

We were in Bil'in because Sunday and Monday are nights Israeli forces often arrest young men from their homes there. The reason given for the arrests is that they have photographs of these young men when they were involved in protests in years past. If there is an arrest in the night while we are there, the local night watchmen will call us to go and witness (sort of like our Emergency Response Network back home). The local Palestinians need to stay inside at such times.

This town is actively involved in resistance and has been for many years. Modlilin Illit is a settlement close by with population 70,000, mostly people from New York. High profile protests forced Israel to move the wall 500 meters out in 2011. I wonder if the reason for the harassment now is this victory in the past. My impression is that much of the activity in

the West Bank now on the part of the Israeli government (financially supported by our tax money) is with the intention of driving the Palestinian people away from their homeland – gradual ethnic cleansing kept below the radar of the international community.

Besides regular protests in Bil'in, another act of resistance is to reduce the people's dependence on Israel by supporting families to grow their own organic food on the lands where Israelis have destroyed their olive trees. So they have put in 15 family greenhouses, which provide work for the people as well as a sustainable source of food for their tables. The non-governmental organization called Friends of Freedom seeks organizations to help support the project, one family at a time. In this way, the donating organizations can be directly in touch with a family they are supporting.

Another farmer we got to know, Abu is discouraged due to the step by step harassment and incremental removal of rights. His land was split by the fence/wall. The agricultural (ag) gate opens for passage 6 am, 11:30 am and 3:30pm. But no one can work in the middle of the day because it is so hot, so essentially he and his workers can only work his farm 6:00-11:30 am and time is lost in the whole process of waiting to be checked at the gate coming and going. Then there is the irregularity of the schedule. "They can do whatever they want." Once he couldn't get in for 17 days. His cucumbers grew to the size of watermelons. He has 10 workers and has to get permits for all of them. The permits can get taken away at any point. He cannot be present in the night to see

if someone comes to cause any harm. Also, he is facing difficulty with wild pigs and porcupines coming in the night. "Farmers need more freedom to be on their land when they need to be on their land." While Abu talks he circles his chest with his hand. He seems to be saying his heart hurts.

We visited Abad, another farmer whose land is separated by the wall. His grandfather was a farmer here since 1952. The message they want people to get from this farm is that there is enough water, power and food for all. They don't want to buy power or water from Israel. "We don't need guns. If we just boycott Israel's products we will win." They are experimenting with developing hydroponics. Students from the University next door come to learn here. Abad shows us how the water from the tank full of fish "excrement" provides fertilizer in the hydroponic tanks. He also shows us a tank where he is capturing methane for electricity and preventing it from producing greenhouse gases. 🌱

*Linda Sartor is the volunteer coordinator for the PJC. Read her book: Turning Fear Into Power: How I Confronted the War on Terror to learn more about her life since 9/11.*

**To set up a slide presentation about her month in Palestine, contact [linda@monansrill.org](mailto:linda@monansrill.org) Also, Linda may lead a trip to Palestine in Feb. 2020. Send email if you want her to stay in touch about that.**

## A Conspiracy of Silence

*Rebel Fagin*

Censorship in this country is often subtle. It frequently takes the form of omissions and the careful selection of words. This is uniformly applied by US corporate media with issues concerning Palestine and Israel.

Sometimes it's personal. CNN's Wolf Blitzer has worked for an Israeli lobby. Former Time magazine Bureau Chief, now Jerusalem Bureau Chief, Joel Greenberg served in the Israeli army. Staffers at the *Atlantic*, *US News & World Report*, foreign correspondents, NPR, AP and *New York Times* editors and reporters have either served in the Israeli military or their loved ones have. This impacts the integrity of their reporting.

One example of this prejudice is the ways that children killed in the violence are presented. Palestinian children killed are under-

reported while Israeli children are reported 5 times greater than their actual number. The reality is that between September 29, 2000 and March 1, 2018 2,167 Palestinian children and 134 Israeli children were killed. When Israeli's die we get their names, photos, brief life histories, pictures of grieving relatives. With Palestinians we get numbers. There are no Israelis in Palestinian prisons. No Israeli homes have been demolished to make way for Palestinian homes and there are no Palestinian settlements on Israeli land.

US corporate media use specific words when framing issues concerning Palestine and Israel. Occupied land is referred to as disputed land. It is only in recent times that the word Palestinian has been used as a noun and not an adjective affixed to the word terrorist. When

Hamas sent out their army to quell Fatah militants, ABC News referred to them on 5/9/06 as "gunmen from Hamas." Is that how your local law enforcement is referred to by the press? Jim Lehrer on 6/27/06 called the duly elected government of Hamas a "militant group." I don't hear him saying that when referring to the Likud government of Israel. On 6/15/07, Fox reported, "Imagine a government run by masked terrorists." Charles Krauthammer of Fox said that Hamas is "a terrorist party who are in control of Gaza." CNN's Blitzer simply calls Hamas "gangsters." On 6/17/07 Krauthammer said, "People have always assumed what the Palestinians wanted was a state. What they actually had wanted was the destruction of Israel."

This constant barrage of comments wash  
*A Conspiracy of Silence...see page 6*

# Mountain Climbing Diplomacy

*Heather Stephenson,  
reprinted from Tufts Now*

**F**red Ptucha, 65, has summited many mountains around the world to promote peace. But his latest climb tested his commitment to international good will more than any before it.

“We’ve never had the countries so at odds,” Ptucha said, describing his July trip to climb Mount Damavand in Iran as tensions simmered between that country and the United States. “This whole thing came close to collapsing half a dozen times.”

When Ptucha started planning the trip in late 2015, the political mood was hopeful. The Iran nuclear deal had just been announced and the country seemed like the perfect destination for Ptucha’s group, Climbers for Peace, to advance its mission of cross-cultural friendship and cooperation.

Ptucha co-founded Climbers for Peace in 1997, putting together an international group to summit Mount Elbrus in Russia. He thought it would be a one-time event, but the camaraderie was so great that he invited some Ukrainian participants to climb Mount Shasta in California the next year. Climbers for Peace has now organized nearly a dozen expeditions.

Ptucha, a retired financial advisor based in Santa Rosa, California, served as a Navy lieutenant during four tours of duty in Vietnam, for which he was awarded the Bronze Star. He said his activism is partly fueled by guilt over not having the courage to speak out during that war.

The idea to go to Iran came to him and some friends while they were hiking in the Alps. They set their sights on Mount Damavand, which holds a special place in Persian literature and is the highest volcanic mountain in Asia at 18,406 feet.

Just getting there was a challenge. The US State Department warns American travelers not to go to Iran because of the “very high risk” of arbitrary arrest and detention. “It was tough to recruit people,” Ptucha said. Even after the group had received an official invitation from the president of an Iranian mountaineering federation, who also offered a subsidy of \$600 per climber as a gesture of encouragement, two would-be participants from the United States were denied visas by Iran.

Then President Trump announced in May that the United States would withdraw from the Iran nuclear accord, which lifted economic sanctions in exchange for Iran curtailing its



Climbers for Peace and 18,600 foot Damavand. Left to right: Dave Wahlstrom, Dave Roskelly, Xavier Polk, Fred Ptucha Kevin Paul, Greg Paul, kneeling in front Sahar an Iranian guide.

nuclear program. Protesters hit the streets in Iran, and Ptucha considered canceling the trip.

But when he and five other American climbers arrived on July 1, they were warmly welcomed. Iranians approached them wherever they went, often asking to take photos with them and saying they loved Americans, Ptucha said. “They knew what Trump was doing, but they clearly differentiated between the American people and our government.”

Only four of the six men were able to summit Mount Damavand – one was sidelined by illness and another by altitude sickness. But Ptucha, the oldest in the group at seventy-five, made it to the top, where he met climbers from Turkey, the United Kingdom, Germany, Spain, and Greece. “It was like a UN meeting,” he said.

After the climb, he and the other Americans engaged in informal citizen diplomacy, talking with at least one hundred Iranians they encountered during a week of touring cultural and historical sites.

One day, a career military man in his late fifties saw Ptucha wearing his expedition T-shirt (with the words “May Peace Prevail on Earth” across the back and the silhouette of Mount

Damavand on the front) and approached him in a park. They exchanged stories of losing friends in battle – the Iranian in his country’s eight-year war with Iraq, Ptucha in Vietnam – then Ptucha took the Veterans for Peace pin off his own hat and pinned it to the man’s lapel. “He teared up and we embraced,” Ptucha said, his own voice catching.

Moments like that – and the ability to share them with Americans who know little about Iran – made the trip worthwhile, Ptucha said. To continue the cross-cultural exchange, he has invited Iranians to the United States to participate in a 2019 mountain climbing expedition and in Veterans for Peace conferences. Unfortunately, he said, they may not be able to come because of the Trump administration’s ban on travel from several predominantly Muslim countries, including Iran.

Still, Ptucha hoped that the trip would in a small way help make another war in the Middle East less likely. While admitting that citizen diplomacy efforts might seem insignificant, he said, “I believe it is better to light candles of peace than to curse the darkness.” ✌

*Heather Stephenson can be reached at [heather.stephenson@tufts.edu](mailto:heather.stephenson@tufts.edu).*

## A Conspiracy of Silence

... from page 4

over us unchallenged and given time and repetition, people begin to believe them. The violence is called a war, or at best a conflict, implying that two armies are facing each other and not the fourth most powerful military in the world attacking, well, you and your neighbors. This is not a war. It is a colonial settler occupation with all the power dynamics that implies.

US corporate media is further complicit in this deliberate misdirection with their choice of spokespersons. Palestine Media Watch conducted a study of the *Wall Street Journal*, *New York Times*, *LA Times*, *USA Today* and the *Washington Post* from September 29, 2000 to December 31, 2005. During this time 680 op-eds were published concerning Palestine/Israel. 214 were pro-Israel while 86 were pro-Palestinian. Pro-Israel op-eds were published 2-1/2 times more often than pro-Palestinian ones. 201 op-eds were by Jewish Israelis, 1 by a Palestinian Israeli. Of the 2.6 million Palestinian refugees living in the Middle East but outside of the occupied territories, 1 op-ed was printed. Pro-Israeli columnists like Charles Krauthammer, George Will, Jeff Jacoby, Mort Zuckerman, Jonah Goldberg, David Brooks and Max Boot regularly contribute pro-Israeli pieces to these five papers. There are no pro-Palestinian counterpoints. Palestinians are never allowed to speak for themselves in US corporate media unless they have been groomed to appeal to US ears, like Mahmoud Abbas or Khalil Shikaki.

US corporate media never show us terrified Palestinian families unable to seek protection from law enforcement, for the source of their terror is this same law enforcement. We never see Palestinian children ripped from the arms of their families by armed soldiers and taken away for military interrogation that often includes torture. You can see this in European, Australian and even Israeli media but not with US corporate media. The US corporate media has much to answer for in their furtherance of the suffering in Palestine.

Sources: Censored 2009; gcml.org, 2/4/17; ifamericansknew.org. Read more at gcml.org. 🌱

## Register and Vote ... from page 1

they must have something to offer and stop being watered-down Republicans. Drop the white collars of Silicon Valley and embrace the blue collars of Hunter's Point. Drop candidates like Hillary Clinton and support candidates like Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez. Only then will people have a reason to support the Democratic Party. Not being Trump is simply not enough.

Sources: www.270towin.com, Bureau of labor statistics, gregpalast.com, sourcewatch.org, fairvote.org. Read more at gcml.org. 🌱



Elbert Big Man Howard and Steve McCutchen at West Oakland Library Black History event.

PHOTO BY CAROLE HYAMS HOWARD.

# ACTION IS SUPREME

## A tribute to Elbert 'Big Man' Howard

Poor is the word without the deeds  
 poor the deeds without the WORD –  
 During the time of Big Man his words were commitment to action  
 his determination exposed the people's cries we HEARD –  
 Where the spectator merely shouts creates noise that static sound without rhythm or RHYME –  
 Big Man stood front and center at the eye of the storm in the arena of struggle  
 and intoned the poor and oppressed will rise time after time after TIME –  
 We think of originals Malcolm X Harriet Tubman Sojourner Truth  
 Muhammad Ali our brother and comrade is kindred spirit to them ALL –  
 body and soul back to back heart to heart here is the best of humanity  
 Toe-to-toe with the message get up move something even  
 with your back pressed against the WALL –  
 When Panther needed words Big Man held the pen in one HAND –  
 when a presence was needed between the oppressor and oppressed he was  
 There to run the doomsayers' gauntlet holding high the banner of freedom's DEMAND –  
 We saw him dressed Panther-down that classic black and blue –  
 yet day to day he wore that badge of history a suit of destiny  
 The audacious style and swagger the oppressors never KNEW –  
 the image and action said here I stand we are here to claim  
 that promissory note of freedoms too damn long OVERDUE –

2.

He walked with Huey chairman Bobby and Lil' Bobby Hutton way before  
 Panther rushed out of Oakland into the world SPOTLIGHT –  
 What he did loudly proclaimed I'm here for the good fight  
 even if struggle brings about a war to the KNIFE –  
 Deputy Minister of Information Panther international spokesman  
 oh he was so much more than any title or some appointed ROLE –  
 Big Man brought that storm  
 that down home stump jumpin' flavor to the table shared the  
 visions that the POWER of the people is  
 not subject to the oppressor's CONTROL –  
 When all around Panther the storms of oppression and repression were routine  
 like mail the postman would BRING –  
 Big Man rolled up his sleeves dug in for the long march his actions spoke



## A Tribute to Elbert 'Big Man' Howard... from page 6

let's get busy transform Babylon so one day we all hear the sounds of  
Freedom RING –  
Now this may sound like fiction out of Aesop's fables or  
street legends from the hood or round the WAY –  
But reality speaks to a true icon an ox for the people to ride  
among the first of the vanguard holding all enemies of humanity at BAY –  
Now as we celebrate his presence we relieve him from his post  
at the front gates of his people's survival and LIBERATION –

3.  
He NOW moves ahead into the ages but look skyward some nights  
among people's CONSTELLATION –  
There will be another star among the others reminding each simply that  
what we will is what we CAN –  
That star will signify our protracted struggle THAT we are not America's also-RAN –  
It will pulse the light seeming to ebb and flow a reminder  
a renewed message the oppressor cannot hide  
from true freedoms one generation to the next DEMAND –  
a bright new member among the line of freedom fighters now shines so GRAND –  
call that honored arrival our beloved Speaker of the House  
None other than the indomitable BIG MAN.  
His voice is still heard actions resound with vision and deeds that transcend the TIMES –  
Through us for us not for the one but for the whole  
Eloquently but simply I speak for the voiceless I come for what's MINE.

*Reprinted from the San Francisco Bay View Newspaper.*

*Steve D. McCutchen, known as Lil' Masai, a Baltimore native, is a 10-year veteran of the Baltimore and Oakland branches of the Black Panther Party, 1969-1979. Moving to Oakland in 1972, as a rank-and-file Panther, he taught math and physical education at the Party's Oakland Community School and directed the Oakland Community Learning Center Martial Arts Program, later making a career of teaching in Oakland public schools – first math, later, at Castlemont, history and ethnic studies. He is the author of "We Were Free for a While: Back to Back in the Black Panther Party" (2008) and contributed a chapter to the 1998 classic "The Black Panther Party (Reconsidered)." He currently serves on the Communications Committee of the National Alumni Association of the Black Panther Party (NAABPP) and can be reached at sevshadow@earthlink.net.*



## Dubi-i Lechuga, Presente!

*Larry Hall*

On Friday, July 27, 2018, we lost a great advocate in Dubi-i Lechuga. Dubi-i was a champion advocate not just for the visually impaired community, but for all disability groups. Dubi-i was not a follower, but a leader in her own way. She would be out advocating seven days a week, rain or shine. On Sundays, she would be out with a sign that said: We are not blind to the issues. Dubii was not blind to the issues.

Dubi-i was on top of everything that was going on. She was very involved with the Earle Baum Center, a member of the Redwood Empire Chapter of the California Council of the Blind, and a member of the Occupy group! She has done much to further the cause for many individuals. Dubi-i is a person that will be sorely missed. She did not get press clippings, a spot on the Today show or much mention in the newspapers. However, her legacy is imprinted on the memories of many people forever! 🙏

# What is Veganic Farming and Why Should We Bother?

*Kamal Prasad*

A recent study out of Oxford University states that going vegan is the single best thing anyone can do to fight climate change. Indeed, the evidence that animal agriculture decimates the environment has been mounting for years.

Land and water pollution aside, consumption of animal products wreaks havoc on human health, not to mention the billions of land animals who are bred and killed unnecessarily every year. The oceans are not immune to human greed for animal products; it is predicted at current fishing levels oceans will be devoid of fish by 2050.

While the reasons for giving up consuming animals are numerous, how to do it is rarely discussed. For example, how are we going to grow enough food for people if we are not using animal inputs like manure and bone/blood meal to fertilize our farms? While our first inclination might be to breed animals more sustainably, as some have proposed, this idea is as misguided as clean coal and more fuel-efficient SUVs. Independent research has shown that breeding animals for human consumption, even in the best-case scenarios, has a net detrimental effect on the environment.

There just isn't enough land to breed animals to meet current and future demands of animal products. Forty-one percent of land used for any purpose in the US is directly related to animal farming (by far the largest amount) and over 95% of that is devoted to concentrated animal feeding operations (CAFOs), otherwise known as factory farms. Reducing our consumption of animal products will only serve to create a new class division of people between those who can afford to purchase the less available, higher priced "sustainable" animal products and those who cannot.

Veganic (an amalgamation of vegan and organic), otherwise known as stock-free agriculture, addresses most, if not all the problems with our current agricultural practices. In brief,

*Veganic Farming...see page 10*

# Democratic Socialism on the Rise

Yasha

Democratic Socialism has generated a lot of news lately and for good reason. Class consciousness is on the rise in the US as poor and working class folks realize they are increasingly being exploited and oppressed by the ultra-rich, their puppet politicians on both sides of the aisle, rising white nationalism and the violent militarized police state on our streets.

This consciousness is being reflected at the polls. Alexandria Ocasio Cortez and others across the country have shown that Democratic Socialism can win primaries and elections.

The North Bay chapter of Democratic Socialists of America (DSA) is a group of organizers, activists and concerned humans working to bring Democratic Socialist values to our local political scene and beyond. With all the talk about Democratic Socialism, many of us close to the movement find the confusion in the media as to the goals and means of Democratic Socialism to be predictable, yet frustrating. Let's put one common misconception to rest right now:

DSA is *in no way* affiliated with the Democrat party.

DSA, the largest leftist group in the US, is a big-tent leftist organization, which means we work side-by-side with "comrades" (as we often call each other) from across the leftist spectrum: Marxist-Leninists, Anarcho-Socialists and those who are becoming class-conscious but aren't quite sure which socialist school of thought to call home. Given the broad nature of the organization, it's difficult to speak on behalf of everyone, but the following themes are pretty common in DSA.

## Anti-Capitalism

The ills plaguing humanity today: environmental collapse, war, genocide, slavery and poverty all share a common cause: Capitalism (and the colonial/imperialist machine that reinforces it).

Many people in the US revere the ideology of Capitalism because they conflate it with "free enterprise" – the freedom to earn a good living by working hard. This is NOT Capitalism. In fact, Capitalism exploits working people by paying them less than their labor is worth and hoarding the profits for the benefit of just a few.

It's common for DSA as an organization as well as chapters and individuals within

DSA to stand in solidarity with anti-colonial, anti-imperialist and anti-capitalist movements across the globe, from the Water is Life movement fighting to block oil pipelines and protect environmental and indigenous rights, to the Palestinians continuing to fight for their homes, to the fight to Abolish ICE in the US. But we don't define ourselves only by what we're against...

## Radical Democracy

The "democratic" system in the US systematically disenfranchises poor and working class people while devoting all representation to corporations and their ultra-rich shareholders. Each person should be properly represented by, and have the opportunity to positively consent to, the form of government in which they live. We run our chapter the way we think democracy should work.

## Seeking to Build Socialism

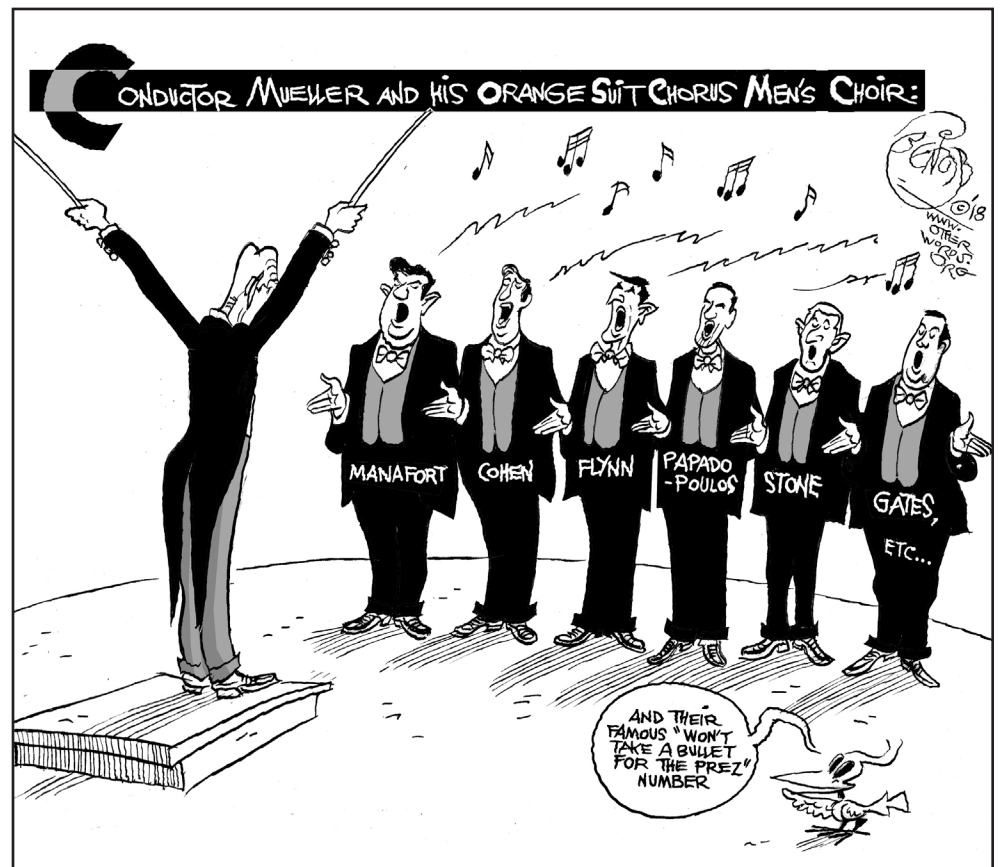
All humans should have the opportunity to live in harmony with their surroundings, work for their own benefit and that of their immediate community (rather than for the rich) and enjoy their lives. A better world is not just possible,

it's necessary.

There's no prescribed roadmap for achieving Socialism, but at the very least we need to organize around principles such as taxing the rich to provide radical reforms to social services, empowering labor, abolishing racist prisons, policing and immigration policies, and reforming the electoral system.

It's clear leftist policies attract poor and working class voters. The left continues to gain momentum as more individuals wake up to the fact that the vast majority of the population is on the losing end of a brutal system that only benefits a few. As more folks realize that "an injury to one is an injury to all" we find identity politics actually unites the working class rather than divides it, which is all too common under liberal and centrist ideologies.

DSA North Bay welcomes discussions to put together a left coalition in the region for ongoing collaboration and organizing. We're always welcoming new members. Please check us out at @dsanorthbay on Twitter and Facebook or email us at dsanorthbay@gmail.com. ✂  
Yasha can be reached at @socialistadad on Twitter.



# Giants: The Global Power Elite

*Peter Phillips*

My new book, *Giants: The Global Power Elite* follows in the tradition of C. Wright Mills' work, the *Power Elite*, which was published in 1956. Like Mills, I am seeking to bring a consciousness of power networks affecting our lives and the state of society to the broader public. Mills described how the power elite were those "who decide whatever is decided" of major consequence. Sixty-two years later, power elites have globalized and built institutions for preserving and protecting capital investments everywhere in the world.

Central to the idea of a globalized power elite is the concept of a transnational capitalist class theorized in academic literature for some 20 years. *Giants* reviews the transition from national state power elites, as described by Mills, to a transnational power elite centralized on the control of global capital around the world.

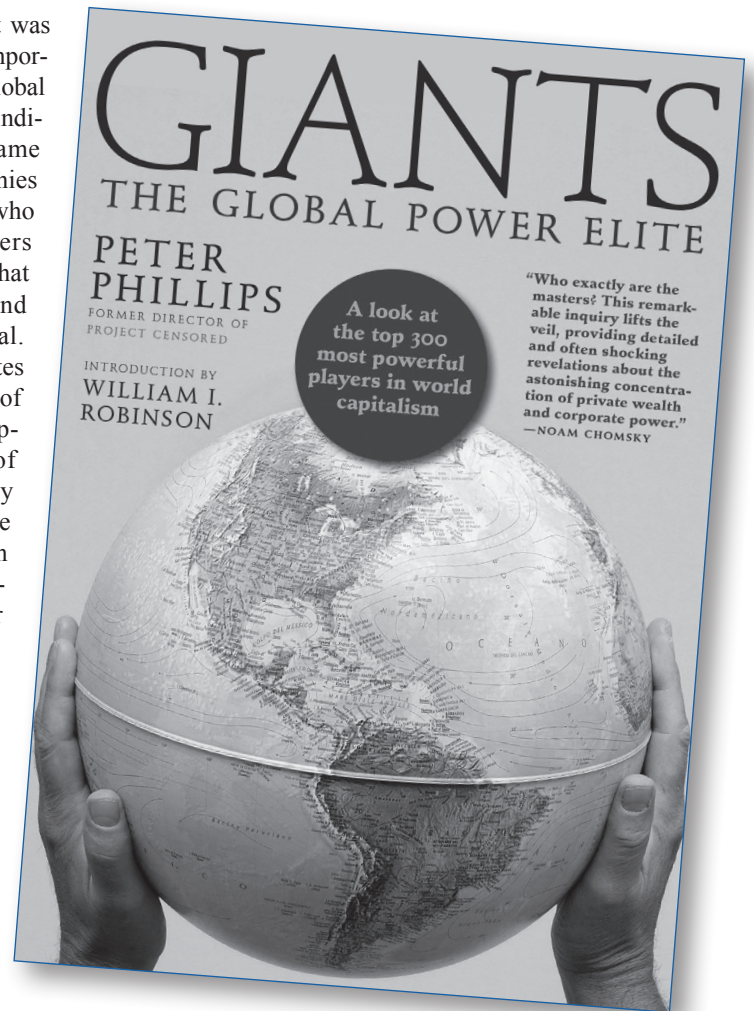
The global power elite function as a non-governmental network of similarly educated, wealthy people with common interests of managing and protecting concentrated global wealth and insuring its continued growth. Global power elites influence and use international institutions controlled by governmental authorities like the World Bank, International Monetary Fund (IMF), North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), World Trade Association (WTO), G-7, G-20 and others. These world governmental institutions receive instructions and recommendations for policy actions from networks of non-governmental global power elite organizations and associations.

The global 1% comprise over 36 million millionaires and 2,400 billionaires who employ their excess capital with investment management firms like BlackRock and J.P.Morgan Chase. The top 17 of these trillion-dollar investment management firms – which I call the Giants – controlled \$41.1 trillion dollars in 2017. These firms are all directly invested in each other and managed by only 199 people who are the decision makers on how and where global capital will be invested. Their biggest problem is they have more capital than there are safe investment opportunities, which leads to risky speculative investments, increased war spending and the privatization of the public commons.

My research effort was to identify the most important networks of the global power elite and the individuals therein. I name and provide biographies for over 300 people who are the core members of power networks that manage, facilitate and protect global capital. The global power elites are the activist core of the transnational capitalist class – 1% of the world's wealthy people. They serve the uniting function of providing ideological justifications for their shared interests through the corporate media and they establish the parameters of needed actions for implementation by transnational governmental organizations and capitalist nation-states.

The global power elites who direct the world's corporate giants overlap with the leadership of organizations such as the Council of Thirty, the Trilateral Commission and the Atlantic Council. These privately-funded non-governmental organizations provide direct instruction and policy recommendation to governments, international institutions, the G-7 and their intelligence agencies and other top capitalist countries. The US/NATO military empire operates in nearly every country of the world to protect global capital and the wealthy 1%.

The global power elite are self-aware of their existence as a numerical minority in the vast sea of impoverished humanity. Roughly 80% of the world's population lives on less than ten dollars a day and half live on less than three dollars a day. This concentration of protected wealth leads to a crisis of humanity whereby poverty, war, starvation, mass alienation, media propaganda and environmental devastation are reaching levels that threaten our species' future. Organizing resistance and challenging the global power elite should be foremost on the agendas of democracy movements everywhere, now and in the near future. Addressing top-down economic controls, monopolistic power and the specifics of the global power elites' activities



will require challenging mobilizations and social movements worldwide.

The act of identifying the global power elite by name may persuade some of them to recognize their own humanity and take corrective action to save the world. Global power elites are probably the only ones capable of correcting this crisis without major civil unrest, war and chaos. *Giants* is an effort to bring a consciousness of the importance of systemic change and redistribution of wealth to the 99% and to global power elites themselves, in the hope that we all can collectively begin the process of saving humanity. In that effort, I highly recommend using the Universal Declaration of Human Rights as a moral base to offer a united thread of consciousness for all seeking human betterment. Humankind deserves nothing less. ✌

*Peter Phillips is a professor of political sociology at Sonoma State University, where he has taught since 1994. He teaches courses in Political Sociology, Sociology of Power, Sociology of Media, Sociology of Conspiracies and Investigative Sociology. He served as director of Project Censored from 1996 to 2010 and as president of Media Freedom Foundation from 2003 to 2017. Giants: The Global Power Elite is his 18th book from Seven Stories Press. It will be released in August 2018.*

## Veganic Farming... from page 7

veganic agriculture combines the best of organic farming practices, such as avoidance of GMOs, synthetic fertilizers, insecticides and pesticides with the elimination of animal inputs like manure, fish emulsion and feather, blood and bone meal.

This doesn't mean that animals are not a part of a veganic farm. Veganic farms work in symbiosis with native species who would naturally exist on or around the farm land. For example, native bees and butterflies contribute to pollination and birds and ladybugs help control pests.

The benefits of veganic farming are plenty: increased soil organic matter (a great indication of carbon sequestration), increased biodiversity of native animals and increased worker and consumer safety by elimination of pathogens that result from animal inputs. It allows farmers to become more resilient by encouraging them to grow crops whose waste products (stems, leaves, etc. not used or fit for human consumption) can be turned into fertilizer for future plantings. (Passing plant matter through animals doesn't miraculously add nutrients that cannot be obtained through composting.)

One may be tempted to dismiss veganic agriculture as a new and untested method of farming. Remember that organic practices existed for hundreds of years prior to it being given a name. This is also true for veganic farming practices.

Crop yields for veganic farms are as good as or better than conventional organic farms. Given that plant-foods require much less land than animal foods, veganic agriculture will further reduce the amount of land used. Supplementary animals will not be needed to supply veganic farms with inputs to grow healthy, nutritious foods. Food waste can also be reduced drastically as crops grown veganically are not susceptible to E. Coli and salmonella contamination that affects conventionally grown organic produce exposed to animal manure. This will result in fewer food recalls.

To fight climate change and increase food security and safety, we need to rethink the way we do agriculture. We can choose to delude ourselves that animal agriculture is necessary and can be made sustainable when evidence says otherwise, or we can start to heal the soil and ensure that future generations have abundant, healthy foods to nourish them and repair the damage we've done thus far to the planet.

Outskirts Farm in Petaluma is a veganic farm that is open for visitors and business. (I have no affiliation with them.) Learn more about veganic agriculture by visiting <https://veganic.world>. 🌱

# Free Health Care and More for Those in Need

Donna Waldman

We are writing this article today to inform the Peace and Justice Center's members and supporters about a grassroots organization in our community that is indeed a local treasure. Founded by a small group of local community activists who believed that everyone should have a place to access affordable health care, the Jewish Community Free Clinic (JCFC) was created to provide completely free health care and social services to anyone having trouble accessing affordable care. Our clinic provides primary care medicine, employment evaluations, women's health care, medications, laboratory services, mental health services and acupuncture. All of these services are available completely free of charge. Clinic volunteers offer not only medical and nursing care, but also social services, and referrals to other community resources.

In response to the North Bay fires, the Jewish Community Free Clinic has expanded its case management and mental health services. A new mental health program, *JCFC Solution Focused Brief Therapy*, began serving clients in July. The program's goal is to provide much needed mental health and support services to clients needing one-on-one psychological support, including those affected by the devastating fires. Based on our volunteer model, volunteer therapists offer completely free short-term therapy to those in need. To learn more about the program, adults over 18 are encouraged to come to one of the JCFC's drop-in clinics to get the process started, or call the clinic during any of our regularly scheduled clinics to speak with a nurse who will do a short intake interview to see if the program is suitable and appropriate.

Another new JCFC program is the free Acupuncture clinic. Holistic health services that can help with chronic pain, anxiety and a

wide array of other ailments are available by appointment. Clients should come to one of the JCFC's weekly drop-in medical clinics to see a provider and ask for a referral to get started. Like our other medical services, volunteers are needed to assure services to anyone in need. If you are a licensed acupuncturist or you know someone who is, please let them know about this wonderful way to ensure that anyone who could benefit from acupuncture has the opportunity to receive this service.

The great beauty of the JCFC is our ability to treat a large number of clients at a low cost. This is due to the fact that everyone who provides services does so as a volunteer. Coming together as a community, ordinary local professionals and support staff have the opportunity to carry out random acts of kindness by providing medical care and social services to those in need.

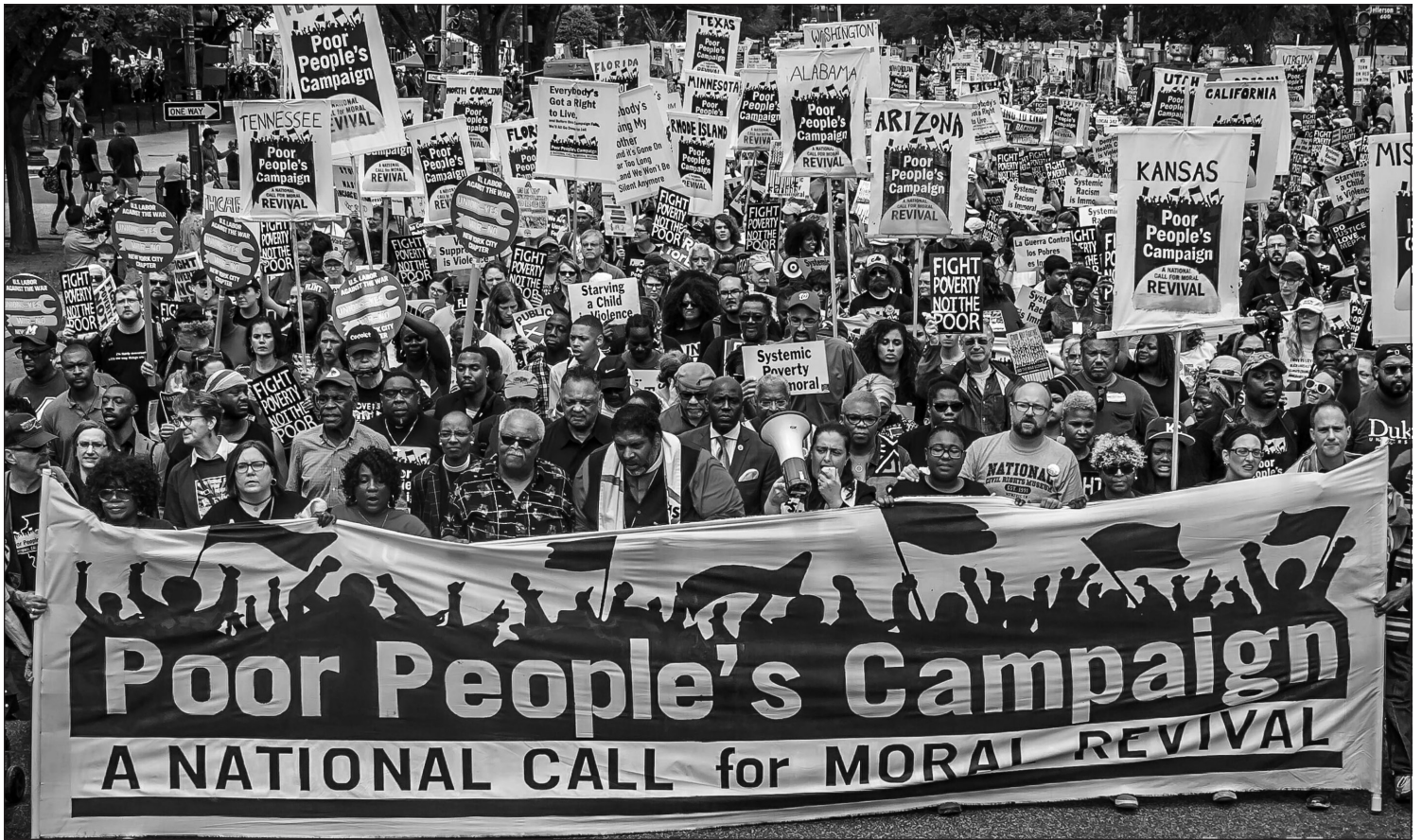
In order to be successful as an organization, the Jewish Community Free Clinic relies on a steady stream of medical providers and support staff to cover four weekly drop-in shifts as well as our specialty clinics. Volunteers are always needed to build capacity and meet demand in all areas of our clinic work.

Physicians, Nurses, Mental Health Providers, Front Desk, Translators and Administrative Support Personnel, Acupuncturists and Special Project Interns are all encouraged to apply to volunteer at the JCFC. If you've got a skill that you think could be an asset to our community-run organization, reach out to let us know what it is. To learn more about our organization, please check our website at [www.jewishfreeclinic.org](http://www.jewishfreeclinic.org). To set up a clinic tour to see what we do first-hand and how you can help carry out our mission, please email director.jcfc@gmail.com. 🌱

Donna Waldman is the Executive Director of the Jewish Community Free Clinic in Santa Rosa

"I think it's terrible the way people don't share things in this country. I think it's a heartless government that will let one baby be born owning a big piece of the country, the way I was born, and let another baby be born without owning anything. The least a government could do, it seems to me, is to divide things up fairly among the babies."

– Kurt Vonnegut,



June 24, 2018, D.C. Rally Ends the Initial Phase of Poor People’s Campaign. More than 10,000 participants in the *Poor People’s Campaign: A National Call for Moral Revival* converged on the U.S. Capitol on Saturday to kick off a major voter engagement and power-building initiative aimed at mobilizing poor and low-income people to the polls across the South and beyond. (PHOTO: MICHAEL NIGRO, TRUTHDIG.COM)

**Mico Sorrel and Dinah Bachrach**

Are you among those who, upon hearing the words “poor people’s campaign” scratch your head or look blankly, seeking more information? You are not alone. Perhaps the first thing you thought of was Dr. Martin Luther King’s Poor People’s Campaign, either because you were alive to know about it in 1968 or because you had an excellent teacher and were listening attentively to the civil rights legacy of MLK when you were in school. Indeed, Dr. King mounted the original Poor People’s Campaign shortly before he was killed and many believe that it was this campaign, not his long-term work for civil rights, that led to his assassination. He was eloquent in looking at the intersectionality between racism, poverty and militarism.

Here we are at the 50th anniversary of King’s death and the Reverend Dr. William J Barber II is speaking eloquently on this intersectionality again. But the current Poor People’s Campaign is also recognizing another enormous force we are facing: ecological devastation. This multi-year campaign is a grassroots movement to bring to this nation a new moral agenda. Rev. Barber has spent the last three years researching the facts and gathering around him those who

share this vision, including the co-chair of the campaign, Reverend Dr. Liz Theoharis. In May of this year, after a full year of articulating issues and engaging in demonstrations at the North Carolina capital (Dr. Barber’s home state), including many arrests for non-violent direct action civil disobedience, the Poor People’s Campaign has become a national movement. And of course, if you have been in the dark about it, you know why. Who controls the media?

In the first six weeks of the campaign on “Moral Mondays” rallies, trainings and non-violent direct actions took place in over 30 state capitals. More than one hundred people were arrested. Each of the Mondays featured speakers whose lives have been directly affected by the issues articulated in the campaign. The areas of focus for the first five weeks were:

- Women, youth and people with disabilities living in poverty;
- Connecting systemic racism and economic justice, voting rights and immigration;
- Veterans, our war economy and militarism;
- The right to health for people and planet; and
- Everybody’s got a right to live – living wages, guaranteed income, unions, housing and social services.

We went to Sacramento for the final “Moral

Monday” on June 18: “A new and unsettling force: Challenging our nation’s distorted moral narrative with a moral fusion movement.” We were among the over 50 people who risked arrest on that date. Our group attended the Senate sessions and began to read as plaintiffs in a legal case, the charges we hold against the State of California for failing to live up to its promises in the State’s Constitution. Our choice not to disperse when instructed caused our arrest and subsequent 8-24 hours in the Sacramento County Jail. Suffice it to say that it was, for us and our highly diverse group of co-arrestees, an opportunity to get proximate with injustice, what attorney Bryan Stevenson asserts is necessary in order to work for justice. We would do it again in a heartbeat.

The current focus of the Poor People’s Campaign is working with disenfranchised voters, especially in the South, and encouraging engagement with this movement. It is bigger than “getting out the vote,” incorporating deep listening, empowering people and addressing gerrymandering and voter suppression. For more information about the Poor People’s Campaign, check out <https://www.poorpeoplescampaign.org/> and the California Poor People’s Campaign facebook page. Please spread the word. 🙌

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# Untitled

Granny Vee

Ghostly night in Sonoma County  
 Acrid smoke and skies aglow  
 Fire's bone dry fuel bounty  
 torched while storm-force wind gusts blow.  
 Oh dear Sonoma County,  
 what happened to your bounty?  
 Lots lost, lots lost.

Fickle winds make the conflagration  
 hopscotch-hurry into town.  
 Sirens spur mass evacuations,  
 while whole neighborhoods burn down.  
 Oh City of Santa Rosa,  
 once Luther Burbank's chosen...  
 Lives lost, lives lost.

Firefighters, first responders -  
 local and from far and wide -  
 Leadership, all working wonders  
 faced with blazes North Bay-wide.  
 Oh models for the nation  
 of true cooperation:  
 Thanks lots, thanks lots!

Ravages of the longest fortnight  
 People still in shock and awe,  
 questioning their lack of foresight,  
 nature spurned its fatal flaw.  
 Oh State of California,  
 droughts, fires, floods, they warn ya:  
 Climes change a lot!

Newfound hope in a can-do spirit.  
 Optimism trumps despair.  
 Humor helps to grin and bear it:  
 Love much thicker than smoke in air.  
 So many touched by fire  
 together aiming higher  
 Gain lots, gain lots.  
 They will gain so much!

## ENGAGE YOUR GOV.

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District 2 - David.Rabbitt@sonoma-county.org  
District 3 - Shirlee.Zane@sonoma-county.org  
District 4 - James.Gore@sonoma-county.org  
District 5 - Linda.Hopkins@sonoma-county.org

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senator.McGuire@sen.ca.gov

#### State Senator Mark Leno

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Sacramento, CA 95814 Tel. (916) 651-4003  
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San Francisco (415) 479-1146

#### Assemblymember Marc Levine

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Tel: (707) 576-2631, Fax: (707) 576-2735  
Rattigan State Building, Santa Rosa  
50 D Street, Suite 301, Santa Rosa, CA 95404  
Tel: (707) 576-2631, Fax: (707) 576-2735

#### Assemblymember Jim Wood

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California Assembly Website: assembly.ca.gov

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Relay Fax: 202-224-0454

harris.senate.gov/content/contact-senator

#### U.S. Senator Dianne Feinstein

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Fax: (202) 228-3954  
feinstein@senate.gov

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governor@governor.ca.gov

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president@whitehouse.gov

## Sonoma County Social Justice Groups

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UNLESS NOTED OTHERWISE

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

**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

**CAC (Community Action Coalition)** – facebook.com/actioncoalitionofsonomacounty/

**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

**GMO Free Sonoma County** – Working to protect farms and families from transgenic (GMO) contamination. gmofreesonomacounty.com

**Green Party of Sonoma County** – sonomagreenparty.org

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

**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**

**It Won't Happen Here** – Petitions cities and the County of Sonoma County to protect the community from discriminatory orders and laws. itwon'thappenhere.org.

**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 and racial discrimination. 953-2011

**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 aware-

ness 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 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. 707-874-2695, 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: (707) 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 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

<b>Sun</b>	1st ♦ Democratic Socialists of America, 1–4 PM
<b>Mon</b>	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
<b>Tues</b>	1st, 2nd, 3rd ♦ Community Action Coalition, 6–8 PM
<b>Wed</b>	1st ♦ Raging Grannies, 4:30–6 PM 3rd ♦ 350 Sonoma, 7–9 PM
<b>Thur</b>	1st ♦ Peace & Justice Center Board, 5:30–8 PM
<b>Sat</b>	2nd ♦ Solidarity with Standing Rock, 2–6 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

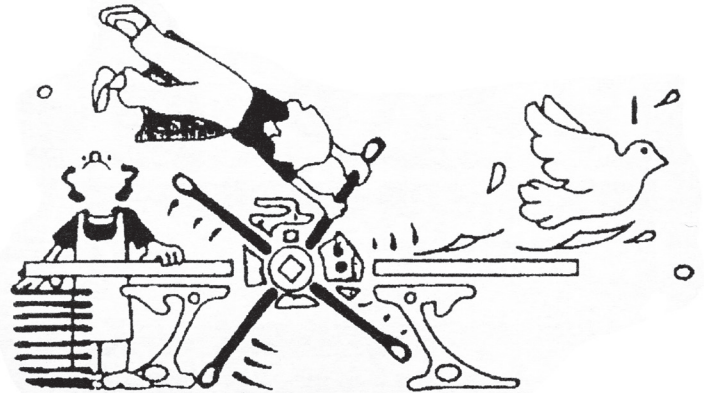
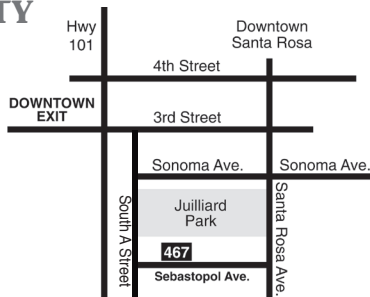
Please call 575-8902 or visit [PJCso.org](http://PJCso.org)

## PEACE & JUSTICE CENTER OF SONOMA COUNTY

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

peacentr@sonic.net  
PJCso.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.org](http://PJCso.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 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: \_\_\_\_\_

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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 [pjconoma.org](http://pjconoma.org) for activities and hours.