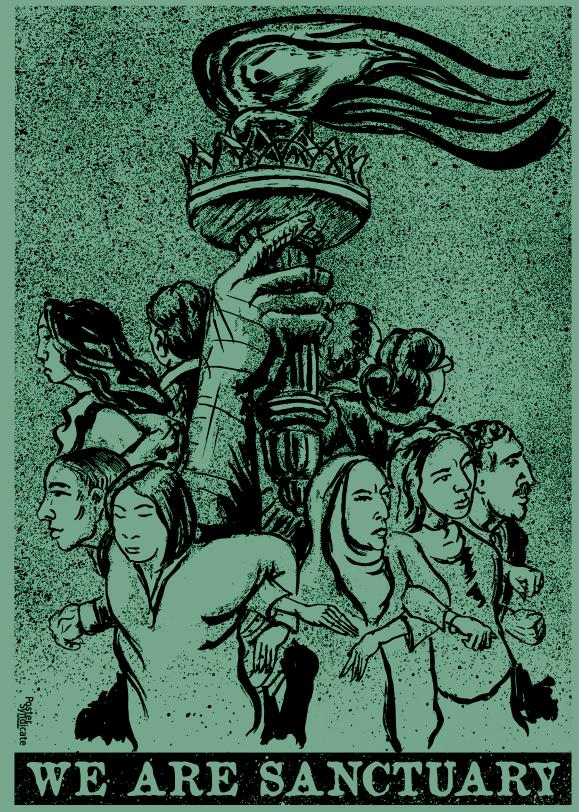


- Getting Centered in Challenging Times
- Racist Lies and Truth Tellers
- Free Movie Nights at the PJC
- The United States of Distraction The 2020 Presidential Election Edition
- Register to Vote! ... much more inside



SONOMA COUNTY SEACE SUCCESS

Newsletter of the Peace & Justice Center of Sonoma County, an affiliate of the Fellowship of Reconciliation (FOR). 467 Sebastopol Avenue, Santa Rosa, CA 95401 Published bi-monthly: Feb., April, June, Aug., Oct., Dec.

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Deadline: Jan. 1, 2020

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.

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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: 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

Getting Centered in Challenging Times

Shekevna Black

"I want you to act as if the house is on fire, because it is."

16-year-old Climate Activist, Greta Thunberg made this closing statement in a speech she gave at the World Economic Forum in Switzerland on January 24, 2019. etting centered and staying centered during challenging times ☐ requires self-reflection and patience. The emergency situation in October in Sonoma County with the power outages, fire danger and evacuations; even though it is over, has had lasting effects on people, emotionally, psychologically and financially. Many people manage to survive financially paycheck to paycheck with very little savings. Likewise, local "Mom & Pop" businesses have a very thin profit margin. Add to the mix, the loss of electric and gas power, which meant many businesses had to close their doors for multiple days. Also, people that require medical equipment – such as oxygen tanks and CPAP machines – had their health in jeopardy without power. Other businesses that did have power were forced to close because owners and employees were under mandatory evacuation orders and there was no one to staff the places.

The fire evacuation locations in Sonoma County and elsewhere quickly filled to capacity as, according to the *L.A. Times*, "the Kincade fire had forced nearly 200,000 people from their homes. And that's not counting those who fled because of Pacific Gas & Electric Co. power outages." (Oct. 29, 2019). Some residents, not under mandatory evacuation orders, were able to shelter in place with or without power. People lost refrigerators full of food. People w ho rely on well water were not able to use the pumps without electricity. People who work in the service industries that rely on tips were without income. People that are employed in other industries also lost income that their companies will not cover.

Homeless Action! issued a press release during the peak of the Kincade fire and power outage, stating, "Meanwhile, most homeless people went about doing what they usually do, living without power, sleeping in the cold and talking to each other to find out

what they need to know. Homeless people live in community and have learned to make do without what people in houses consider necessities." The power outages included several of the homeless shelters and dining halls that feed the homeless people on a daily basis. "All the [emergency] evacuation shelters were said to serve any homeless person who came; they are public services and bound not to discriminate. However, we have reports that some homeless people were turned away," explains the Homeless Action! press release.

The Annual Peacemaker Awards & Fundraiser was on Nov. 9. Thank you to all the Awardees for their heartfelt acceptance speeches. Thank you to the attendees and supporters who showed up for the community event. Thank you to the individuals and businesses who donated wonderful gift certificates and items to the Silent Auction. Thank you to AfroFunk Experience for sharing their conscious music. Thank you to all the Volunteers who helped make the event a success. Thank you to Redwood Cafe for hosting the Annual Peacemaker Awards. The video of the event is archived on Redwood Cafe's Facebook page. Please see this issue of the *Peace Press* for the list of donors and be sure to support the businesses who generously donated to our Silent Auction.

The Fall Appeal letter was mailed to members of the Peace & Justice Center. A benefit of membership is receiving the Sonoma County *Peace Press* in the mail. Please give generously during this end-of-year fund drive. We know that sometimes it may seem like the PJC has a lot of fundraisers; however, it is because we do not receive any government funding or sustaining grants. We rely solely on donations from individual donors. We are a small but, mighty non-profit organization that has been in Sonoma County for 35 years and we are laying the groundwork to continue to be here for a long, long time! 2020 is upon us and perhaps we can, individually and collectively, figure out how we are going to make our communities and our world a better place.

Community Oversight of Local Law Enforcement - At a Critical Crossroad

Susan Lamont

The fate of the Office of Law Enforcement Review and Outreach (IOLERO) and, with it, community oversight of local law enforcement is at a crossroads. The Office is seriously underfunded by the Board of Supervisors and faces continuing resistance from the Sonoma County Sheriff's Office. The proposed solution from the current director, with the implicit approval of Sheriff Mark Essick, is a serious scaling back of the office and its mission. A strong coalition of community members feels differently.

A group of concerned citizens, including the office's retired director and several members of its Community Advisory Council, has come together with a better solution: adequately

fund and staff the office, provide it with improved tools to more effectively achieve its mission and promote the transparency to accomplish that. And we are working to bring those goals to the voters for their support.

At a December 2018 Board of Supervisors meeting and after gaining valuable insight during his three years as IOLERO's first director, Jerry Threet submitted an ordinance that would help the office fulfill the mission given to it in 2015 by the supervisors' 21-member Community and Local Law Enforcement Task Force. Chair David Rabbitt did not bring the ordinance forward for discussion. Now, we are bringing the ordinance to the public.

IOLERO is tasked, through the review of investigations and policy, with making both

Sonoma County residents and law enforcement officers safer and, eventually, increasing community confidence in law enforcement. The office is intended to both react to critical incidents and work to prevent them in the future. Additionally, it is hoped that the everincreasing costs of lawsuits (averaging \$1 million per year at the time and now greater) to the county's taxpayers can be reduced as the Sheriff's Office implements nationally recognized "best practices."

Three-and-one-half years after the creation of IOLERO, its mission remains unfulfilled for lack of money, inadequate staffing, and the Sheriff's Office withholding of access to information controlled by them.

Community Oversight...see page 10

UndocuFund for Fire Relief Activated to Support Victims of Kinkaid Fire

Mara Ventura, Executive Director, North Bay Jobs with Justice

The UndocuFund for Fire Relief in Sonoma County is currently raising funds to assist the victims of the Kincade Fire, which has grown to over 25,000 acres.

The number of families impacted is still unknown as the fires currently spread and more evacuations are being ordered. However, the impact is real and for undocumented families, federal help is not available. An estimated 38,500 undocumented immigrants live in Sonoma County. Unlike other victims,

undocumented immigrants do not qualify for assistance from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).

Even when they do qualify for services, many undocumented immigrants are unlikely to pursue those benefits due to fear of immigration enforcement, lack of familiarity with official institutions, and limited English proficiency. At every turn, our undocumented neighbors face barriers and challenges to recovering from the fires.

In the wake of the 2017 Tubbs Fires UndocuFund distributed \$6 million to nearly 2,000 families who lost homes, possessions and earnings in the fires. Many thanks to the hundreds of donors who made our work possible.

With the 2019 Kincade fires we now call on you to help again. Please donate at www. UndocuFund.org on our homepage.

For More information Contact UndocuFund Steering Committee: Omar Medina, omedina@me.com 707-318-6631; Christy Lubin, christy@gratondaylabor.org 707-758-3672; Mara Ventura, mara@northbayjwj.org 541-653-3837; Susan Shaw, sshaw@northbayop.org 707-481-2970.

US Supreme Court Rejects Sonoma County Appeal Over Seizure of Vehicles

Alicia Roman

On October 7, 2019, the US Supreme Court declined to hear Sonoma County's appeal over its impoundment of vehicles and whether they are required to comply with the

4th Amendment when seizing vehicles.

With its order, the Supreme Court let stand a decision by the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals in San Francisco which held in December 2018 that the County violated Rafael Sandoval's 4th Amendment rights when a Sonoma County Deputy on January 27, 2011, seized and refused to return Sandoval's vehicle when there was no 4th Amendment justification.

The 4th Amendment requires that prior to the seizure of property which includes a vehicle, a law enforcement officer must comply with the 4th Amendment warrant requirement. This means that prior to taking property from an individual, law enforcement officials must first obtain a warrant or establish an exception to the warrant requirement. One such requirement is the community caretaking doctrine which allows a vehicle to be seized when it is impeding traffic or creating a hazard such as when a vehicle is blocking a fire hydrant or parked in a red zone. The courts have been unwilling to expand the community caretaker doctrine and have refused to allow impounding of vehicles simply to deter unlawful conduct. (Miranda v. City of Cornelius).

The County argued in its appeal that the 4th Amendment did not apply to the continued retention of the vehicle and that the County was justified in relying on state law to justify the impoundment.

The case was brought against both the County and City but only the County appealed the 9th Circuit's decision.

The case is Sandoval v. County of Sonoma. The US Supreme Court Link is as follows: www.supremecourt.gov/search.aspx?filename=/docket/docketfiles/html/public/18-1466.html

PJC FREE MOVIE SIGHTS

THIRD FRIDAY OF EACH MONTH (NO MOVIE IN DECEMBER)

Sponsored by the Sonoma County Socialists, a loosely affiliated reading group. We are showing a series of powerful films, which we hope will invite conversation, build community and create a space to discuss pressing social justice issues. All movies are free, with a small donation appreciated to cover costs of the PJC's facility use. All movies will be shown at the Peace & Justice Center, 467 Sebastopol Ave., Santa Rosa.

Fri. Jan. 17, 7:00 PM "GIRLS OF THE SUN"

A powerful film based on the ISIS overrun of the Sinjar Mountains in northern Iraq in 2014. It follows the lives of the women who were then sold into sexual bondage and eventually became a women's battalion within the Kurdish army. The movie follows these women, along with Mathilde, a French journalist, who reports the story of these exceptional warriors. With their lives turned upside down, they fight for the causes of women, life and liberty. A nominee for the Palme d'Or at the Cannes Film Festival (subtitled).

Fri. Feb. 21, 7:00 PM "WHAT IS DEMOCRACY?"

Director Astra Taylor's idiosyncratic, philosophical journey spans millennia and continents: from ancient Athens' groundbreaking experiment in self-government to capitalism's roots in medieval Italy; from modern-day Greece grappling with financial collapse and a mounting refugee crisis to the United States reckoning with its racist past and the growing gap between rich and poor.

Featuring a diverse cast – including celebrated theorists, trauma surgeons, activists, factory workers, asylum seekers, and former prime ministers – this urgent film connects the past and the present, the emotional and the intellectual, the personal and the political, in order to provoke and inspire. If we want to live in democracy, we must first ask what the word even means.

THE IMMIGRATION CRISIS

What we can do in Sonoma County to support our undocumented neighbors

Join the North Bay Rapid Response Network

The North Bay Rapid Response network was formed to protect our neighbors from ICE raids. The network has several components:
1) training legal observers; 2) providing Know Your Rights trainings; 3) organizing accompaniment teams; 4) immigrant legal defense. The network operates a 24-hour hotline and dispatches trained legal observers to the raid location to document the raid. The accompaniment teams work to support victims and families after a raid – in Sonoma County, accompaniment teams are currently supporting 4 families.

For more information: 707-481-2970 ornorthbayop.org/rapidresponse

Protect your own workplace and workers from ICE raids

In California, ICE must have a warrant signed by a federal judge to enter your workplace.

Know Your Rights as an employer or worker, and how to protect any undocumented employees or co-workers. Contact Mara Ventura at North Bay Jobs with Justice, mara@northbayjwj.com, to schedule a Know Your Rights at the Workplace training for either employers or employees, offered in both Spanish and English. Visit NorthBayJobsWithJustice. org for more information.

· Teach English with the Sonoma County Library Adult Literacy program

Many undocumented and immigrant people struggle with learning English as a second language. The Sonoma County Public Library provides FREE individualized English tutoring at flexible hours for adults, and trains and coordinates volunteer tutors. Contact Melissa Trunick, tutor coordinator at 707-544-2622 or for more information: sonomalibrary.org/locations/adult-literacy-program.

Hire day laborers and domestic workers from Graton Day Labor Center

The Graton Day Labor Center/Centro Laboral de Graton is a worker-led center where workers collectively set wages and terms of employment. Sonoma County day laborers have built a cooperative process since 2001, and opened the workers' center at 2981 Bowen Street in Graton in 2007. To hire a day laborer or domestic worker, and support fair hiring

practices and working conditions, contact them at 707-829-1864 or go to: gratondaylabor.org/

Support/Join Comité VIDA (Volunteer Immigrant Defense Action) or the Immigrant Defense Taskforce of NBOP

Comité VIDA and the Immigrant Defense Taskforce of the North Bay Organizing Project are organizations active in supporting immigrant communities in Sonoma County. The Mission of Comité VIDA is: To educate and mobilize residents of Sonoma County about legal and social justice issues affecting the lives of immigrants and our entire community for positive action. Comité VIDA meets the first Wednesday of every month from 6-8 PM at 2150 Giffen Ave., Santa Rosa, CA 95407 (off Stony Point Road). Meetings are held in Spanish (with English interpretation). facebook.com/Comité-VIDA

NBOP's Immigrant Defense Taskforce has been working for the County to adopt language justice policies during emergency response and for County government. They meet the second Tuesday of every month from 6-7:30 at 2000 Humboldt Street in Santa Rosa. northbayop.org/

Support divesting County funds from immigration detention centers

A local coalition has formed to focus public attention on the connection between taxpayer money, major financial institutions, and the

for-profit private prison industry. The divestment campaign in Sonoma County is part of a national campaign to starve these corporations that profit from the pain and separation of families. The local coalition is called Divest from Immigrant Detention Center (DIDC) and consists of: Comité VIDA, Healthcare Professionals for Equality and Community Empowerment (H-PEACE), North Bay Jobs with Justice, the Peace & Justice Center, ALMAS (Alianza de Mujeres Activas y Solidarias), and the Immigrant Defense Taskforce of North Bay Organizing Project. You can contact DIDC at DivestfromICE@gmail.com

Call on the Board of Supervisors to divest Sonoma County funds from immigration detention centers

Please call, write, or email your County Supervisor. Tell them you don't want County money invested in Wells Fargo, Bank of the West, or other banks that invest in for-profit immigration detention corporations.

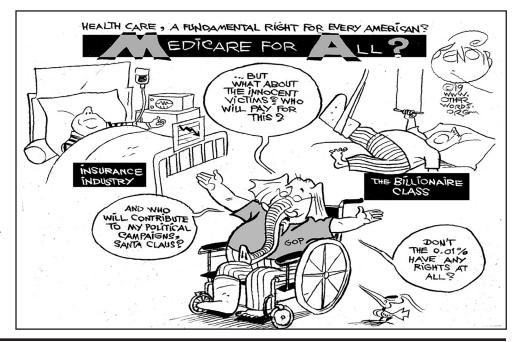
Board of Supervisors telephone:

707-565-2241

Emails:

Susan.Gorin@sonoma-county.org; David.Rabbitt@sonoma-county.org; Shirlee.Zane@sonoma-county.org; district4@sonoma-county.org

(Sup. James Gore); district5@sonoma-county.org (Sup. Lynda Hopkins)



The United States of Distraction

The 2020 Presidential Election Edition

Mickey Huff and Nolan Higdon

n early read of the 2020 primary debates illuminates the ways in which America has further morphed into the United States of Distraction. The success of Donald Trump's campaign and governing style is a symptom of our broken media and education systems. Trump will one day be gone, but the problems he symbolizes will remain unless we take action.

Currently, our dominant corporate media system privileges sensationalistic tweets and hyper-partisan discourse over critical thinking and democratic principles. It is no wonder that Trump, a former reality television celebrity with a tenuous grasp on the truth and dedication to "winning" at all costs, is president. Surpassing FDR's fireside chats, Ronald Reagan's "great communicator" poise, and Barack Obama's email blasts, Trump has mastered Twitter in an era defined by soundbites and outrage. Almost daily, he (or his staff) sets the news media agenda with a tweet that the so-called free press republishes and analyzes for hours, sometimes days.

In some cases, CNN invites 10 people to provide analysis about the 280 characters for 3-hours of 7-minute segments. The coverage focuses on the outrageous nature of the tweets, usually involves various demands for an apology, and is followed by a "debate" about whether, or how, Trump will respond.

Usually, Trump responds, but he reframes the subject of the tweet, or switches to a different topic altogether. Rather than ask useful critical questions, like *what is he hiding?* or *what is happening that is not on Twitter?*, the press uses his response as a way to start the cycle over again. And the ratings, along with the ad dollars, keep racking up.

In a recent example from earlier this summer, Trump attacked four Congresswomen of color – Reps. Ilhan Omar (MN), Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez (NY), Rashida Tlaib (MI), and Ayanna Pressley (MA) – with the xenophobic and racist tweet, "go back and help fix the totally broken and crime infested places from which they came. Then come back and show us how it is done." Rather than investigate the timing of the tweet, which distracted from the US and its allies provoking and engaging the Iranian military, the media focused on the sensational war of words between Trump and "the Squad" (as Cortez called the group) that followed.

The corporate media scrutinized the back and forth statements, debating if racism or sexism played a role. Eventually, Trump responded, claiming that it was the Squad, not himself, that was racist. Just like that the cycle began again, with no notable coverage of the dubious attempts to stoke the flames of war with Iran. Instead, the news media reacted as if hundreds of years of American history have

not provided ample evidence that sexism and racism motivate the actions and behaviors of politicians and their supporters, especially the current president. Although major media outlets may have believed the sensational feud between Trump and the Squad was good television, and it might be for a World Wrestling Entertainment style program, it did nothing for democracy or the public other than distract voters' attention while furthering hyper-partisan discourse.

As for the Democrats, rather than arduously working to end Trump's distractionary style of politics, they've engaged in a game of *if* we can't beat him, join him. The popularity of "Moscow Mitch" points to one of the most pernicious ways in which the Democrats are adopting Trumpian style politics. By repeating and insinuating a Russian connection to the Trump, Democrats attempt to distract from their own failed messaging and campaigns, where they, too, have yet to seriously address key issues that matter most to the public, from a stagnant economy for working people to spiraling healthcare and education costs.

This style of politics begets a critical question – once Trump is gone, what sort of "democracy" will we have? Can we address our historical challenges as a country when the public is uninformed, misinformed, and disinformed as a matter of institutional ritual? Can we really debate each other in the public square, now run by big tech companies, with algorithms that feed our insatiable appetite to be "right," while only serving to appease our confirmation biases?

Let's not get distracted. We should focus not on the ongoing saga of Russiagate, nor on presidential tweets or "gotcha" personal politics, but rather on the many key issues we face as a society, from addressing the climate crisis and the costs of our sprawling empire, to learning how to live together in a diverse culture that once upon a time had ideals of liberty and equality for all. We all deserve nothing less.

Nolan Higdon teaches at Cal State University, East Bay and University of San Francisco and co-hosts the Along the Line podcast. Mickey Huff is director of Project Censored, president of the Media Freedom Foundation, teaches social science, history and communications. Learn more at www. projectcensored.org.

Register to Vote

Last Day to Register to Vote in the 2020 Primary Election: Feb. 17, 2020

How to register to vote: Pick up a paper voter registration application at any Department of Motor Vehicles, Post Office, Public Library, or County Voter Registrar Office. You can Pre-register at age 16 and 17, then Vote when you turn 18.

Register to Vote and Check or Change Registration: usa.gov/register-to-vote or Google: **registering to vote online**

More information: sonomacounty.ca.gov/CRA/Registrar-of-Voters You must re-register any time you change your name, residence address, or political party. You will receive a confirmation of your registration.

In California, voters may check "Decline to State" a political party affiliation on the voter registration form. Voters who choose not to affiliate are commonly referred to as "independent" not to be confused with the conservative political party, American Independent. If you don't choose a political party be sure to select: Decline to State on your registration form. For more information, refer to the Political Party Affiliation section of the March 3, 2020 Presidential Primary Election Guide.

Marianne Williamson Speaks to My Heart and Soul

Linda Sartor

was moved to tears when I heard what Marianne Williamson said in an interview with Trevor Noah on the Daily Show following the second debate. I have not identified as a Democrat for decades now and I certainly don't expect that Williamson will get close to being selected as the party's candidate for the 2020 election, but I am moved to see some of what I feel in the depths of my heart and soul getting heard in such a mainstream public forum.

Marianne addresses the separation of soul and morality from government in recent times. In the interview, she says, "People have a deeper conversation than the establishment presents. People understand that more is going on than externalities and if you're going to transform your life, you're going to have to address things on a deeper level than the fixes on the outside." She points out that Bobby

Kennedy talked about the soul of America and Franklin Roosevelt said that the primary role of the presidency is moral leadership.

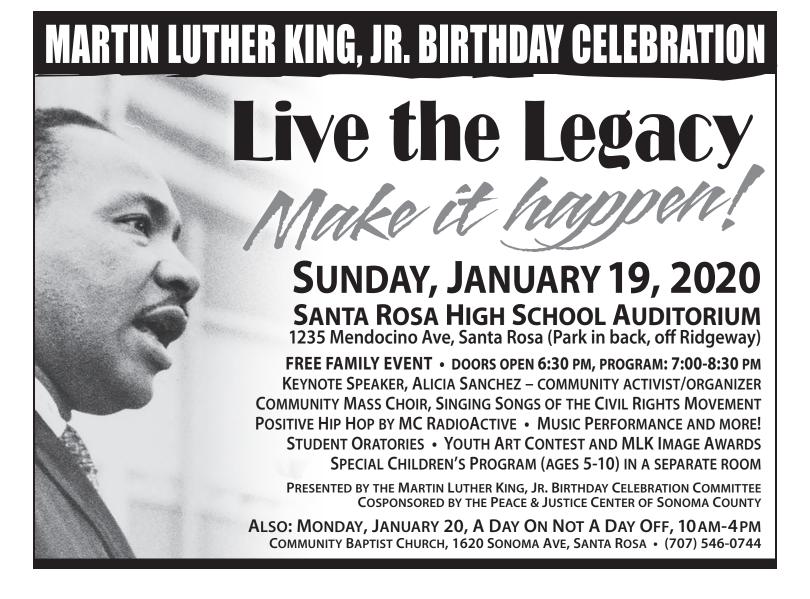
I personally think our out-of-control capitalistic system has degraded the soul of America and so I find it refreshing that Williamson addresses some of the more dangerous partnerships between corporations and our government. "We know that greed led to predatory practices on big pharma... Clearly, the FAA was too cozy with Boeing or we wouldn't have Boeing mass disasters. Clearly, the EPA is too cozy with Dow Chemical or we wouldn't be selling these pesticides that we know harm a developing child's brain. And clearly the FDA have been too close with big pharma in the fact that we have this opioid crisis. This is not dangerous to discuss. People are saying I'm crazy and dangerous; I think what's crazy and dangerous is that we're not discussing it."

Another issue Williamson addresses is

the need for reparations. On her website she says, "America needs to reconcile with our racial history – seeking genuine atonement and making meaningful amends" and "Until this is dealt with, we will continue to play out over and over again the cycle of violence at its core."

It's difficult for us white people to deal emotionally with systemic racism in the US, which is why many of us choose not to, and "it's difficult to have an authentic conversation when half of the people involved in the dialogue have over two hundred years of understandable rage to express." I must add that we white people in the US continue to commit often unconscious acts that lead to further reasons for rage. "It is time for America to atone for our past in both word and deed, and to heal our weary soul," she said.

Linda Sartor is an activist for social justice, author, and Volunteer Coordinator for the PJC.



Racist Lies and Truth Tellers

Rebel Fagin

A facade built from the sand of lies, cracks and collapses over time.

In September, Israel held an election for Prime Minister... for the second time. Israel has a parliamentary system where the party that earns a majority of the 120 seats in their legislature, the Knesset, forms the government. No party won a majority. The two that came

third election? No one knows. One thing we do know, no matter who takes power, Israel's imperialistic expansionism will continue. Said Jonathan Cook of Mondoweiss, "In political terms, there is nothing divided about Israel. In this month's general election, 90% of Israeli Jews voted for parties that identify as being either on the militaristic anti-Arab right or the religious, anti-Arab far right."

You can learn more by listening to *Speaking of Palestine* on KBBF, 89.1 FM from 4-5 pm on the first Monday of the month, with an encore presentation on the third Monday.

the closest were Likud, led by Benjamin Netanyahu and Kahol Lavan, or Blue and White, led by Benny Gantz, aka Commander Gantz, invader of Gaza. It was a tight race with 32 seats for Likud and 33 for Kahol Lavan. The number of recommendations for Prime Minister is 55 for Netanyahu and 54 for Gantz. Clearly a coalition government is called for, but by the end of October that hadn't happened.

This election featured more attacks on the media, more racist incitement campaigns, disinformation, misinformation and fake news than ever before. The main targets for all this vitriol were Israel's Palestinian citizens, around 20% of the population. Worst of all, these racist, anti-democratic outbursts are being normalized as election year rhetoric. The harm this does to Israeli democracy shouldn't be ignored.

Netanyahu encourages the establishment of right-wing media platforms on his powerful social media channels. His son, Yair, the "defender in chief," uses a small army of right-wing trolls to repeat the trope that left-wingers are traitors. He does this without holding any governmental position.

For months before Election Day, unfounded reports that Palestinians wanted to destroy Jews and that elected Palestinian leaders supported "bloodthirsty" terrorists were rampant. The right even attacked the legitimacy of the Palestinian-Israeli vote.

One reason why these lies work is because most Jewish Israelis don't encounter their Palestinian neighbors very often. This leaves the Palestinians vulnerable to rumors.

Will there be a coalition government or a

Israel's facade of democracy is cracking. One crack is coming from soldiers serving in the Palestinian town of Hebron. These

whistleblowers have produced a revealing booklet called, *Breaking the Silence*. It documents daily life there with testimonies from the perpetrators of the occupation. Over and over again we read accounts of soldiers sent to Hebron to protect the few Jews living there, no matter what they do. Palestinians have no legal protection and are treated as suspects and criminals in their own homes.

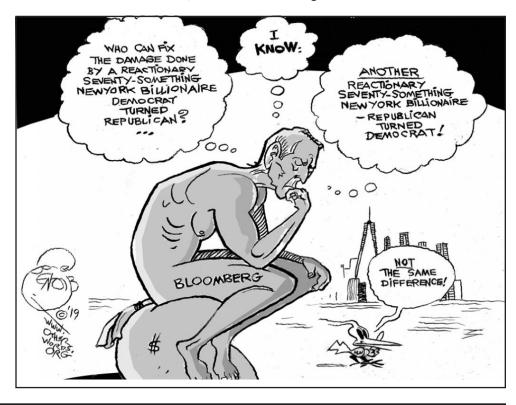
There is one testimony where a Palestinian woman is told to open an onion by an Israeli soldier. When she reaches for a knife, the soldiers

freak out. A Palestinian with a knife! Yikes! Eventually she tore the onion open with her fingers. This is a result of the fears that the Israeli education system embeds in their own citizens.

We read about Palestinians going through check points just outside their homes while being harassed by Jewish settlers who scream, "Kill them," to the Israeli soldiers standing by. When the soldiers don't kill the Palestinians, the settlers call them Nazis. The reports in *Breaking the Silence* show the brutal racism that is reality in the occupied territories of Palestine.

You can learn more by listening to *Speaking of Palestine* on KBBF, 89.1 FM from 4-5 pm on the first Monday of the month, with an encore presentation on the third Monday. Hear previous shows at archive.org by typing *Speaking of Palestine* in the search window. Previous shows have included interviews with members of Friends of Sabeel North America, Students for Justice in Palestine, Jewish Voice for Peace, Defense of Children International – Palestine, Breaking the Silence, Professor Stephen Zunes and others. Arm yourself with information so you can fight for justice, for only through justice can a lasting peace be found.

Sources: Mondoweiss, 10/7/19; Haaretz, 9/25, 9/27 & 10/2/19, https://breakingthesilence.org.il



The Environmental Crisis in Gaza Threatens Israel

Lois Pearlman

srael ignores most of the laws that nations of the world have hammered out together since the end of World War II, but there is one law it can't escape – the law of karma. According to a recently released report, Israel is beginning to experience the effects of the environmental catastrophe it has perpetrated upon the people of Gaza.

In Gaza the 12-year Israeli blockade and repeated Israeli military attacks have left the 141 square mile Palestinian territory without adequate sewage disposal or safe drinking water. As a result, experts predict that Gaza will be uninhabitable by 2020.

And because fences and walls do not stop pollution, it comes as no surprise that a study commissioned by EcoPeace Middle East says the environmental crisis in Gaza is also posing a serious threat to Israel – encroaching upon Israel's beaches and desalinization plants. EcoPeace Middle East is a joint venture between Jordan, Palestine and Israel.

Because Israeli bombing has destroyed most of Gaza's sanitation plants and limited fuel provides only a few hours of electricity every day to operate whatever sanitations systems are intact, 70% of Gaza's sewage goes straight into the sea. In Gaza half of the beaches are unswimmable and 97% of house-

hold water is undrinkable, forcing Gazans to purchase bottled water.

Now the pollution is beginning to affect Israel as well. Three years ago Israel shut down the desalinization plant in Ashdod due to contamination and the untreated sewage from Gaza threatens the groundwater southeast of Ashkelon. Both cities are on the Mediterranean coast between Gaza City and Tel Aviv.

Meanwhile in Gaza, where waterborne disease is the major killer of young children, the environmental crisis has already hit full force. Diarrheal diseases have doubled, reaching epidemic proportions and salmonella and typhoid fever are on the rise.

But the lack of safe water isn't its only environmental problem. Under the constant threat of attack and due to the lack of resources, Gaza has been unable to develop an adequate garbage disposal system, so Gazans usually burn their trash. This pollutes the air in Gaza as well as nearby parts of Israel.

Adding to the pollution, the Israeli army regularly sprays the fields on the Gaza side of its barrier fence, usually with glyphosate, a known carcinogen, contaminating both the soil and the water table. Gaza also suffers from the effects of heavy metals from the weapons used by the Israeli army during its incursion, and possibly from depleted

uranium and white phosphorus in the bombs the Israeli army drops when it attacks the territory.

According to Dr. Shira Efron, one of three researchers who conducted an environmental study of Gaza for the RAND Corporation last year, these environmental problems need to be resolved before they result in epidemics – not only in Gaza, but also in Israel and Egypt, which borders Gaza on the south. And she says there are solutions, but the obstacles are mainly political.

"Although the debate on Gaza turns mainly on mutual recriminations over who is responsible, it's not in the interest of any player for an epidemic to erupt," she said. "It's a humanmade crisis and has technical solutions, but the obstacles are political."

Sources: Haaretz (Yaniv Kubovich and Zafir Rinat) and Al Jazeera (Ramzy Baroud and Romana Rubeo).

A Christmas Carol

Larry Robinson

Away in a manger
or a crack house
or under a bridge
or in a bombed-out village
or a refugee camp
or in the mesquite shade close to
the border wall
some Mary is giving birth.

Even as you read this a child is being born.

What if one of these were the promised one, the beacon of hope, the seed of a new light in a dark time?

What if they all were?
What gifts would you bring
if you were wise?

Personal Comments on the Occupation of Palestine

Chuck Sher

s a Jew, I am appalled at Israel's illegal and heartless occupation of the Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza. It is a complete abdication of the long-standing moral heritage handed down to us from our ancestors. Rationalizations notwithstanding, the history is clear that the Israelis bear the main culpability for the conflict in the Holy Land – even David Ben-Gurion admitted that.

But condemning Israeli actions against the Palestinians should not devolve into judging the character of the Jewish people as a whole, because Israel's actions did not come out of the blue. To put it in historical context, the Israelis are relative newbies at oppressing another people. However, they learned their lesson well at the feet of the master – the Christian world that has fomented irrational hatred against the Jewish people, leading to the repression, vilification and murder of Jews periodically throughout the last 2000 years. That's a long time, folks.

So we can and should demand justice for the Palestinians, but when it comes to blaming a whole people, as Jesus said, "Let him who is without sin cast the first stone."



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2019 PJC Awards Event

Much Thanks to the Silent Auction Donors! Alice Waco Ann Tompkins (RIP) Audrianna Jones

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Bruce Alan Rhodes, Unsung Hero Awardee



Members of the PJC Board: Susan Chunco, Audrianna Jones, Rebel Fagin (not in photo), Alice Waco (Advisory Board), Linda Sartor (Volunteer Coordinator).

Youth Activist Award recipient, Lucia Garay, was unable to attend the event.

The Voice of Your Community

Serena Makofsky

"The best kept secret of all Sonoma County is the KBBF radio station." These are the words of Alicia Sanchez, pre sident of the board of directors. However, since the bilingual community radio station's groundbreaking coverage of the Sonoma County blazes in 2017 and the Kincade fire this past October, the secret is out.

In 2017, when media throughout California and the country were covering the wildfires, KBBF emerged as the only radio station airing live information 24/7 in Spanish. Reporters and other volunteers provided breaking news about the fires, containment, and evacuations. KBBF also aired in-depth information and interviews from people on the front lines and impacted areas.

This work sparked a change in how officials handled information. Some press conferences switched from being English-only to including translators or, occasionally, offering primary coverage in Spanish.

Reflecting on the critical moments as fires were breaking out, Sanchez remarked that it was evident the community recognized KBBF's role as "the first responders in the Spanish-speaking community." People rose up to support the station, bringing donations of cash and household items for those impacted by the fires.

Sanchez credits the station's volunteers and listeners as being rich resources. She shared, "I am amazed at the level of love that this community shows for each other. The community has come together, and together we are going to give each other hope and strength..."

During the Kincade fire, KBBF's responsiveness was already established, but something new emerged. Board Secretary Michaele Morales explained, "KBBF yet again stepped up to the plate, providing information, and



food distribution, to not only the Spanish-speaking community, but also our indigenous communities." Under the leadership of Edgar Avila, Director of Programming, bilingual and trilingual volunteers fluent in Mixteco and Triqui made this original reporting possible.

Sanchez observed, "I am extremely proud of and grateful to the incredible team of volunteers. They truly fulfilled KBBF founders' vision of creating a strong multilingual voice student. She observed, "No wonder KBBF connects so well to the community it serves."

In the KBBF newsletter *En Frecuencia*, Sanchez reflected, "In the past nine years that I have been volunteering for KBBF, we have, to name just a few achievements, provided a healing voice during the Andy Lopez killing, provided a lifeline and donation center during the October 2017 fires, and provided important news and information to Spanish-speakers

Now, over 40 years since its founding, KBBF's mission remains the same: To create a strong multilingual voice that empowers and engages the community to achieve social justice through education, celebration of culture, and local and international news coverage.

that empowers and engages the community through its 24-hour coverage in four languages during this year's Kincade fires."

Such coverage has pushed KBBF into the spotlight, but it has long been a community anchor. Since 1973, the station has been "La Voz de Tu Comunidad," the Voice of Your Community. It all began as the dream of a group of students at Sonoma State University. They envisioned it as a community resource, non-commercial, dedicated to serving audiences with multilingual, multicultural, and educational programming. They sought to promote social change and advocate for the poor as well as the Spanish-speaking community.

In 2006, US Representative Lynn C. Woolsey made a speech to the House of Representatives in which she credited KBBF's founding Board of Directors as being comprised of diverse, everyday people, including a farmworker, a housewife, a professor, and a college

impacted by the recent flooding disaster."

Los Cien, a nonprofit comprised of Latinos, honored Sanchez at its Puente & Ganas Awards with the title of Campeón. The award recognizes the vital work KBBF does on a day-to-day basis to inform and entertain the community. In her remarks to the crowd, Sanchez said, "I want you to know that your support rejuvenates me and all of us at the station. With your spirit at our backs, we will carry on the good fight."

Now, over 40 years since its founding, KBBF's mission remains the same: To create a strong multilingual voice that empowers and engages the community to achieve social justice through education, celebration of culture, and local and international news coverage.

Join KBBF in its noble mission and keep multilingual, multicultural community radio alive! See the station's website at KBBF.org for instructions on how you can make a onetime or ongoing donation.

Global Warning #2 — Vicious Cycle of War, Empire and Environment

Barry Barnett

President Donald Trump is grabbing Mother Earth by the pussy. The current environmental emergency is the most serious problem human beings have ever faced, but no issue occurs in isolation. For example, virtually all US presidents have sacrificed the supposedly public ecology and economy as well as the lives of indigenous and enslaved peoples for the sake of elite business and national "security" interests.

President Obama's Energy Independence policy gave lip service to environmental protection, but accelerated mining, drilling, clear-cutting and gigantic federal subsidies to fossil fuel and otherwise moribund nuclear energy corporations outweighed the benefits of legislation like the Clean Water Act.

That has morphed into Trump's "full spectrum" Energy Dominance, an assault on public lands, seas and air that has driven the US contribution of greenhouse gases (GHG) to a 3.4% increase in 2018. Trump claims that his administration has produced "the cleanest air and cleanest water on the planet." Actually, after a period of lower US GHG emissions, they have been climbing again, along with dangerous pesticides, heavy metals and other poisons that have been deregulated since January 2017.

As human population accelerated exponentially in the 20th century, use of petroleum increased proportionally. By August 2019, the oil industry produced 272 barrels annually for each person on Earth – about 2.09 trillion barrels, with current population at 7.7 billion. This and other sources release 40 billion tons of CO2 into the atmosphere a year, averaging 5.2 tons per capita. We would collectively

need to reduce that to 3 tons per person to bring the current 415 ppm of CO2 down to the safe pre-industrial level of 300 ppm, a 42.25% reduction.

Of course, not all pollution is created equally. The biggest institutional consumer of fuel on Earth, and producer of GHG, is the vast military of the US empire. The pentagon uses 340,000 barrels of oil a day in the world's largest fleet of aircraft, ships and vehicles, or over 124 million barrels a year. That's greater than the aggregate consumption of 175 countries. The US military generates more than 70% of America's GHG emissions according to the CIA World Factbook.

Of course, Obama's and Trump's rampedup energy policies are in support of empire and so is war. The stated rationale (propaganda) is that wars are for liberation or humanitarian aid. In actuality, the US military learned that access to oil won WWII and has since made control of world petroleum markets the top national security priority. "Our" military forces are fighting for US transnational corporations, which in turn guarantee an open tap for the (corporate) war machine: the military-petroleum complex.

Burning oil propels wars, and wars secure oil, which in turn is used to fuel wars to protect control of oil, and so on. A similar reinforcing feedback loop exists for war and the poisonous products of war – extremely toxic jet fuel, "depleted" uranium, exploded bombs and the blown-up objects of those explosions, etc. – are catastrophically polluting and destructive not only to war zones but to the whole planetary environment. This causes what the pentagon has termed a "threat multiplier," because the resulting global warming,

land and habitat destruction, desertification and drought, leading to crop failure, resource depletion and competition and mass migration, are seen as national security threats, which are met with... greater militarization and "defenses." Unless we get off a fossil fuel economy – and a war economy – Mother Nature will win her assault case and it will be too late for an appeal.

Check out Congresswoman and Presidential Candidate Tulsi Gabbard's Off Fossil Fuels (OFF) bill. Push for a Green New Deal. The Sunrise Movement, Extinction Rebellion, Poor People's Campaign, Bernie Sanders' Our Revolution and other groups are involved in actions or are excellent organizations for networking. If you are a student, you can boycott classes on Greta Thunberg's Fridays For the Future. Civil disobedience and many other actions are spreading like wildfire, which is appropriate. We must create and save our future and our millions of sister species on this green planet.

Sources: Politico 7/8/19 - Fact Check: Trump's Environmental Rhetoric Versus His Record, Alex Guillén, Annie Snider and Eric Wolff; Insider Climate News 7/9/19 - Central America's Choice: Pray for Rain or Migrate; Counterpunch 5/24/19 - War is War on Mother Earth, Richard Moser; Counterpunch 6/5/19 - Our Globally Warming Civilization, Manuel Garcia, Jr.; Common Dreams 7/31/18 - Is Climate the Worst Casualty of War?, Stacy Bannerman.

Barry Barnett is a writer, activist, health professional and musician living on the left coast of the US Empire. Follow him on Twitter, and in Counterpunch archives, and Patreon.com/BarryBarnett, with 50+ political and environmental articles, satire, stories and poetry, all free of charge to read.

Community Oversight... from page 1

Even with these limitations, IOLERO has had significant successes. IOLERO and its Community Advisory Council (CAC) worked closely with the Sheriff's Office, the community, and subject matter experts to recommend valuable policy revisions in the areas of limiting the Sheriff's cooperation with federal immigration enforcement, treating homeless people with dignity and sensitivity, and equipping deputies in the jail with body worn cameras. Should the proposed measure appear on the ballot and be passed, the public can expect even more successes of this kind that bring the public into the process.

The County Counsel titles ordinances and ours has the awkward title of "Ordinance To Repeal

and Replace Article XXVII of the Sonoma County Code Establishing the Independent Office of Law Enforcement Review and Outreach (IOLERO)." Oh, well.

The ordinance requires greater qualifications and protections for the Director. It creates a stronger investigation and complaint review process, with greater access to individuals involved and information than the Sheriff currently grants. It is also more specific about what actions warrant review. It would set the budget at 1% of that of the Sheriff's Office, a nationally accepted standard.

The ordinance also sets standards for the appointment, diversity and qualifications of the CAC and confirms its role in reviewing and establishing of Sheriff-Coroner policies, procedures, practices, trainings, and initiatives.

We will need you to help us get the word out, collect signatures (21,000 by 4/6/20!) and raise money. With your help, we hope to see this ordinance on the ballot in November of 2020 to more successfully fulfill the goals envisioned by the task force in 2015.

Please visit us, the Committee To Support An Effective IOLERO, at our website socoeffective-oversight.org to read the full ordinance or email us at info@socoeffectiveoversight.org to see how you can become involved. Author's note: For the history and current status of IOLERO, please refer to my article in the Oct./Nov. 2019 issue of the *Peace Press*.

A Sustainable Future

Erica Diamond

Even the most optimistic scientists say we only have a matter of years to reverse our course before we run out of water and cause a host of other deadly consequences due to out-of-control, man-made global warming and persistent poverty.

t is of vital importance that we work together to hold all levels of government accountable for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and all their targets. The urgency could not be greater.

A handful of the wealthiest individuals own as much wealth as the bottom half of the planet. If the resources of the world were prioritized for the needs of the world's people – rather than increasing economic inequality – we could implement the SDGs in their totality within a relatively short period. The US has only 5% of the world's population and uses 20% of the world's resources. 60% of the federal government's resources are presently spent on the military.

Making the SDGs a reality will not be accomplished without considerable struggle, but we are in the wealthiest state in the wealthiest country. California has the ability to do it. The state provides billions in tax breaks and subsidies every year to the largest corporations. In our over 100 years as an oil-producing state, we have never imposed a tax on the extraction of fossil fuels by the oil companies, which extracted over 165,000,000 barrels of oil from California this year alone.

Movements to address climate change have, in the past, become divorced from movements to address poverty. California Homemakers Association (CHA) has built a membership of low-income workers through canvassing door-to-door in low-income neighborhoods, offering organization and immediate sup-

port through our self-help benefit program, including emergency food, clothing and volunteer doctors, dentists and lawyers, all free-of-charge. We have also run 24/7 ad hoc Disaster Relief Units to assist with immediate relief needs and enable victims to fight for long-term recovery.

Over 600 wildfires burned throughout the state in late October, leaving thousands of our neighbors fighting to overcome physical and economic destruction of homes, health and livelihoods. We are extremely concerned with how the state and federal government have neglected forest management for years, leading to the most devastating fires in the history of our state and county. The carbon emitted from wildfires has canceled what gains California made through carbon-cutting measures.

The federal government manages more than 58% of California's forests, and in spite of identifying 77,000 communities throughout the country at risk of catastrophic wildfires, the federal government cut last year's forest service budget by nearly \$500 million.

CalFire itself admits that due to budget restrictions, it is behind in vegetation management for millions of acres, which need routine maintenance. Instead of prioritizing funding on costly suppression of large fires, CalFire would save money by investing in prevention through controlled burns and vegetation management, and provide living wage jobs for Californians trying to survive on minimum wage.

California must divest from all fossil fuels

and invest in clean, emission-free, sustainable energy.

The changes required to put in the SDGs are entirely achievable -it's a matter of people organizing together to demand that our government implement them. Not implementing the SDGs in their entirety as soon as possible must be considered a human rights violation and a crime against the future generations who will suffer rising oceans, increasing heat and flooding, fires and extreme weather events, drought and loss of human life.

Low-income workers and aged, blind and disabled workers on low-fixed incomes own no assets to pay for extraordinary loss and expenses. CHA's members and 99.99% of the population do not need another "wake-up" call; we need policy change and tangible action, now.

Since the adoption of the SDGs in 2015 by 193 member nations of the UN, including the United States, CHA has promoted the SDGs as being consistent with our goals. We believe that to achieve a sustainable future, we must not only take urgent action to combat climate change, but also eliminate poverty in all its forms everywhere, per Goal #1 of the SDGs.

To volunteer, become a member, invite a speaker or for more information, please call CHA at 707-591-9573.

Erica Diamond is the Operation Manager of California Homemakers Association, an all-volunteer, grassroots organizing drive of over 19,000 Sonoma County low-paid workers, including in-home caregivers, service workers, farm workers and elderly and disabled workers.

Climate Change is Real!

George Romandy

You can help slow down global warming by simply changing to a plant-based diet. Get the basic information by watching these three videos on Netflix: Cowspiracy. What the health? Game changers.

If you find these videos helpful, you might also look up the following YouTubes. Dr. Michael Greger, Dr. Michael Klaper, Dr. Garth Davis, Plant Based News, That Vegan Couple.

If you are still interested in finding out more, check out a TED talk called: What Does It Take to Save the World? by Patrik Barboumain (YouTube TED Talks). Good luck to all of us.

A UN report states that "a shift toward plant-based diets" is one of the most significant ways to reduce greenhouse gases from the agriculture sector. ... All that food has a big carbon footprint — if food waste were a country, it would the world's third largest emitter of greenhouse gases, after the US and China.

See: www.earthday.org/2019/08/08/un-report-plant-based-diets-provide-major-opportunities-to-address-climate-crisis/

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The Nature of Change

e.g. singer

At this time of year, it is appropriate that reflection be given to the events that have taken place in the recent past few years, both here in the United States and around the world.

Today, we are facing events that appear overwhelming to many of us, here and abroad. Governments around the world are in paralysis, unwilling or unable to find reasons to behave in ways that would display a fundamental understanding of what constitutes basic human needs: food, shelter, health-care and education – the hallmarks of civilized societies. Governments that recognize those very needs as rights, not privileges, and not proscribed by individual economic status, will fare far better in the long run. Our current governmental policies, both domestic and foreign, continue to exacerbate the problems, with the resulting "social unrest" – a response that accompanies such inequitable conditions.

Many people – family members, friends, workers and, yes, business people – have been affected by the downturn, worldwide.

Sadly, there seems to be less and less common ground anymore between people. The fabric of communities continues to fray, social safety nets unravel before our very eyes. It has become them vs. us mentality, not only between nations, but also within nations, that has become the new normal.

Understanding the past history of nations seems to be a portal into possibly resolving more effectively the current issues that confront us. To study history is to become acquainted with and to understand the social and cultural issues and the cyclical nature that past civilizations faced in their respective marches forward and oftentimes backwards, (ours included). Failures of governments' past on how to address the basic human issues of their citizenry have defined and often sealed the fate of those respective political and economic systems. Sadly, we have read about, discussed and analyzed these issues and still for some "legitimate reason" cannot find consensus and a way to move forward. Some say that is the price to be paid for living in Western democracies. But one only needs to see the social progress by Western democracies made in the last half of the 20th century, and what was accomplished within and between nations, to be reminded what is possible, with some imagination, unity and will.

Governments or regimes do not fall, because one fruit vendor in the Mideast, denied a license to sell, protests and commits suicide by self-immolation, prompting a domino effect in the region; neither does a World War start because of the assassination of royalty; nor does civil rights become the "law of the land," as a result of the outright murder of a few citizens, black and white. The reality is, it has taken decades to create these very toxic soils that have produced such a bitter harvest for people, at home and worldwide, over the last decades. It is obvious from the continuing global crisis we confront daily that we had better learn some lessons from the past, and a bit more quickly. This is not the time for social amnesia to be the general diagnosis of the government and its people... there is too much on the line!

What is to be done? The truth is: change is slow, change is difficult, and change takes patience and perseverance, will and faith. And change as we have seen, from history's past, usually comes from the bottom, up, which sometimes translate as a young Bob Dylan once wrote and sang, "When you got nothing, you got nothing left to lose."

And in some circuitous way, this reflection comes back to Sonoma County, to my community and my home. I withdrew and closed my account, from one large, corporate bank and transferred the savings into a small, local bank. We must all try and do what little we can now in hopes that it will make a big difference later. Perhaps through our small, individual actions we can dig down, amend and enrich the soil and pull the weeds that have been choking our garden. And to once again savor the small victories gained, grieve our losses, bind our wounds, and come out committed again to the causes we hold dear.

e.g. singer is a photographer and writer and long-time resident of Sonoma County.

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Sonoma County Social Justice Groups

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

HPEACE – Health Professionals for Equality and Community Empowerment. hpeacesonomacounty.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@qmail.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

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

National Women's History Project – coordinates obser vances 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, North Bay Jobs With Justice Ph: 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.

ALL PHONE AREA CODES ARE (707)
UNLESS NOTED OTHERWISE

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. 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 SonomaCounty-CAN@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. 792-4422.

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

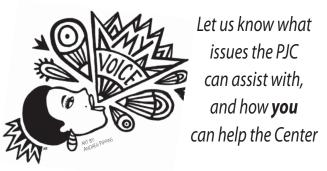
SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS AT THE PJC

Sun	1st • Democratic Socialists of America, 1–4 PM
Mon	 3rd North Coast Coalition for Palestine, 3:30–5 PM 3rd Cocupy 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
Fri	3rd ● Free Movie Night, 7–9 PM
Sat	2nd Allies Safety Network, 10 AM—12 noon 3rd Sonoma Solidarity with Standing Rock, 3-5 PM 4th Autistic Rebel Family, 1—3 PM

If we missed you or if your times change, please contact us. All times subject to change between publications.

To receive the full PJC weekly email calendar, call 575-8902

Add Your Voice to the Vision of the Pence & Justice 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

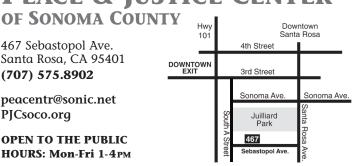
Please call (707) **575-8902** or visit **PJCsoco.org**

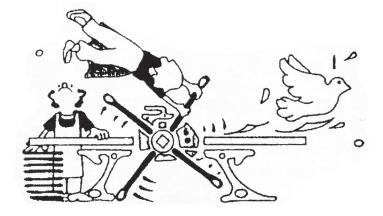
PEACE & JUSTICE CENTER

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

peacentr@sonic.net PJCsoco.org

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





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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 Signature: Print name ___ Address 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 PJCsoco.org for activities and hours.