

Volume 28, No. 3

Serving the Olympia community and the cause of social justice since 1990.

July 2017

Clean up East Bay Let Moxlie Creek breathe

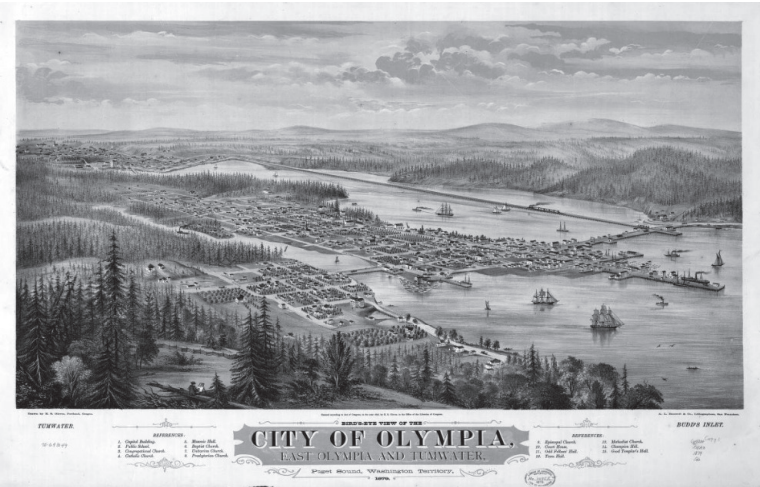
By Harry Branch

Here in Olympia there is a problem in East Bay off of Budd Inlet. The problem is water quality. It does not meet federal clean water standards. Part of the problem is that Moxlie Creek, which flows into East Bay, is encased in a half-mile-long, underground, concrete pipe. This affects the creek's ability to assimilate necessary levels of oxygen from both the atmosphere and the workings of phytoplankton. Moxlie Creek needs to be "daylighted." Daylighting the creek would entail taking it out of the pipe and allowing it to flow above ground. While Olympia public officials tend to view creek daylighting and restoration as an all-or-nothing proposition, in actuality, allowing any section of the creek to "breathe" would likely improve water quality. If only the mouth of the creek, the estuary, were opened, the exchange between salt and fresh water would happen more as it should. Call it Ecosystem Based Management.

Cities up and down the West Coast have restored or are in the process of daylighting streams and restoring estuaries. Some cities, such as Edmonds, have chosen to challenge Washington State's minimal setbacks and other lacking rules and have been victorious

Oceanographically, ecologically, and in every other sense, estuaries are critical to marine environments. Fresh water, being lighter, flows out on the surface drawing salt water in underneath. These and other persistent mixing patterns help phytoplankton proliferate which improves water quality and jump-starts the food web. Stream estuaries in South Puget Sound impact a much broader length of shoreline than river estuaries. They provide important habitat not only for the salmon that spawn in the streams but for salmon that migrate past.

Attached is a bird's eye view of the city of Olympia in 1879. The large inlet in the foreground is the Moxlie Creek estuary. Often there is a stream associated with a river estuary: Hylebos Creek for the Puyallup River, Medicine Creek for the Nisqually River, and so on. These stream estuaries increase the area of tide flats and provide a place where water from the river is re-mixed by the incoming tide. Moxlie Creek was the Deschutes River's companion stream. The estuary of the stream can only exist where it is. It can't be moved. The Port of Olympia currently owns a vacant parcel of land that is the only portion of the historic estuary available for restoration. But a plan is moving forward to build a large, mixed-use building on the site complete with re-



Moxlie Creek is the large inlet in the foreground of this bird's eye view of the city of Olympia, East Olympia and Tumwater in 1879 when Washington was still a territory. The photo is in the Library of Congress collection; contributed by Eli Glover, 1844-1920.

tail space and eighty-five rental units. This site should be restored, not developed. The Walker John real estate development would be on the north side of State Avenue as one passes East Bay Drive near the Hands On Children's Museum. This should be the site of a beautiful, rich estuary. East Bay is out of compliance with

The Port of Olympia owns a vacant parcel of land that is the only portion of the Moxlie Creek estuary available for restoration. But a plan is moving forward to build a large, mixed-use building on the site complete with retail space and eighty-five rental units.

and restoration, East Bay water is out of compliance with several Total Managed Daily Load (TMDL) param-

eters. States are required to study all non-compliant watersheds and come up with a plan to get them compliant. Many have been done, but the hardest cases can drag on in a snail's paced search for non-point pollution. LOTT, the Olympia waste water treatment plant near the Farmer's Market, is likely to face restrictions if Budd Inlet water quality doesn't show improvement. TMDL discussions surrounding numerous concerns pertaining to Budd Inlet and Capitol Lake, the possibility of ensuing EIS (Environmental Impact statement), and other factors are in a state of flux. One of the Department of Ecology's main enforcement tools is the issuance of stormwater permits. Ecology enforces these rules for the Feds. Could the stormwater permit provide leverage to block or modify the Walker John development on Parcels 2&3? A few years ago the Olympia Planning Commission proposed that the city's Comprehensive Plan designate

some portions of the Olympia waterfront as Urban Conservancy. Designations like this are supposed to be based on the goals and aspirations of the community. The Department of Ecology paid a visit to the City Council informing them that this would place unacceptable limits

► **MOXLIE CREEK** continued on page 4

Equity and its discontents: students' education and The Evergreen State College

By Emily Lardner

Readers of *Works in Progress* will likely know that The Evergreen State College closed at the end of May because of an anonymous caller to Thurston County Communications who said, "I'm on my way to Evergreen University now with a .44 Magnum. I am gonna execute as many people on that campus as I can get a hold of." The caller, and others like him, were responding to Evergreen professor Bret Weinstein's claims that the college "had descended into madness" by requiring all white people to leave campus for a day. Weinstein first brought his claims to national attention by appearing on Tucker Carlson's Fox News show segment, "Campus Craziness."

In her June 17 New York Times editorial entitled *The Media Brought the Alt-Right to My Campus*, Evergreen

student Jacqueline Middleton explains that "that coverage hit our campus like a hailstorm. It may not have been his intention, but Mr. Weinstein's many interviews effectively became a call to arms for internet trolls and the alt-right. Online vigilantes from 4chan, Reddit and other forums swarmed to unearth Evergreen students' contact information. They have harassed us with hundreds of phone calls, anonymous texts and terrifyingly specific threats of violence that show they know where we live and work." Middleton continues:

"Mr. Weinstein's story about Evergreen's regressive campus culture fit neatly into many misconceptions about the "new left," so it seemed to go unquestioned. However, for many students, staff and faculty at Evergreen, the harassment that came after

the negative coverage of the protesters was a shocking and bitter twist. It is not lost on us that students of color are the ones who have been disproportionately targeted."

I agree with Middleton's statement that Weinstein's story about the college fit right-wing constructions of the so-called "new left." Additionally, I would argue, at the heart of Weinstein's move to vilify Evergreen students who demonstrated and the faculty and staff who support them, particularly the faculty and staff of color, is his rejection of the principles outlined in Evergreen's new Equity Strategic Plan.

Evergreen's new equity plan, an object of scorn in the right-wing media thanks to Weinstein's tweet and talks, was presented to the campus

► **EQUITY** continued on page 6

Works In Progress

established in 1990 by the
Thurston County Rainbow Coalition

Works In Progress is a free, all volunteer-operated progressive community publication based in Olympia, Washington. Opinions expressed do not necessarily reflect those of *Works In Progress* and are solely those of the authors.

Submissions

Please send text as Word attachments. Artwork and photos can be sent electronically or we can scan them for you as camera-ready/black & white. Works In Progress is committed to stories misrepresented or ignored by the mainstream media. We value local, well-researched news stories, accounts of personal experience and reflections by local authors. Opinion pieces, also valued, are often best supported by facts, examples, and sources, and we encourage writers to include these elements to submissions. WIP reserves the right to publish in whole or part all submissions. For editing purposes, please enclose your phone number. Articles may be reprinted. Please cite sources. If your issue isn't being covered in *Works In Progress*, it's because you aren't writing about it! (Or haven't found someone else to cover it!)

Send submissions and donations to
olywip@gmail.com or mail to Works In Progress, PO Box 295, Olympia, WA 98507-0295.

Governing Tool

The following statement is part of the Editorial Policy and is the governing tool for the Anti-Discrimination Clause: *WIP will make every effort to work with the contributor of material considered by WIP to be offensive in order to reach a mutually agreed upon resolution, but WIP reserves the right as a last resort to edit or not print submitted material.*

Mission Statement


Our aim is to confront injustice and encourage a participatory democracy based on economic, social, and environmental justice. *Works In Progress* is dedicated to providing a voice for those most affected by the exclusionary and unfair practices that seek to silence the oppressed.

Anti-Discrimination Clause

We will collectively endeavor to be sensitive and respectful to all individuals in this society and their issues. However, if and when we should make a mistake in this regard, we expect to acknowledge it and to express regret for injury or insult given.

Back Issues

WIP is archived on microfilm by the University of Washington Library. Some issues are held in the Timberland Library system. The last five years are online at www.olywip.org



Workers In Progress

Editing:

Bethany Weidner, Emily Lardner, Enrique Quintero, Kylene Ellwood Clayton, Janet Jordan, L. Riner, Sylvia Smith, and Wendy Tanowitz

Graphics:

Sylvia Smith, Lee Miller and WIP staff

Layout:

Lee Miller

Proofreading:

Sylvia Smith, L. Riner, Scott Yoos, Bethany Weidner

Mailings:

Jeff Sowers

Finances:

Pat Tassoni

Website:

Emily Lardner, Anna Zanelli

Distribution:

David Groves, Enrique Quintero, Mike Pelly, Sandia Slaby, Scott Yoos, T. Magster, and room for more!

Submission Deadline

Sunday, July 23
olywip@gmail.com

Proofreading Meeting

Saturday, July 29, 1 pm
Ann Buck's Loft
(upstairs)

Advertising Rates

quarter page.....\$135
2 column square.....\$89
3" by 2 columns.....\$57
business card.....\$30

Special rate for nonprofits*

*Not available with alternative financing

Works In Progress

Remaking the
Port of Olympia for
the 21st Century

By Helen Wheatley

“A Port is something Olympia doesn’t know she has,” the Chamber of Commerce told Thurston County voters nearly a century ago. When the people of Thurston County created the public Port of Olympia in 1922, the area was riding high on the great western timber boom. A Port District could dredge a channel for ocean-going vessels, build land for industrial sites and “facilities for better markets, industrially and agriculturally.” Instead of using the harbor as a log yard, more mills could turn raw logs into lumber, adding economic value and creating jobs. Plus, with a Port District, Olympia won the agreement of the US Army to dredge the approach channel. An army of lobbyist had been unable to wring this concession from the engineers and Congress when they had pushed for federal dredging before World War I. Now in the boom years, 25 billion board feet of timber beckoned, along with sand and gravel for the explosion of building that lay ahead. **Broader local benefit.** The Port gained county-wide acceptance once the case was made that the Port could benefit the whole county and not just the timber trade. Many believed that the South Sound was positioned to become a major center of fruit, berry and nursery production, just as it had become famous for canning oysters, and it was seeing huge growth in dairy and poultry. From the start, the Port was supposed to provide warehousing and other facilities to support local agriculture. **Struggling to refine its mission.** The following years saw many changes, from the Great Depression to high-tech mills, to oil tanks and a sewer plant. The Port picked up an airport along the way. By the 1960s, the Port no longer served as a log-fueled industrial hub. The industrial promise of earlier days gave way to brown fields and marinas. The Port still faces costs in the range of \$100 million or more for cleaning up old sites even after years of work on polluted areas such as the Cascade Pole Superfund site. When the marine terminal of the Port was built, I-5 did not exist. Breakbulk cargo was the norm. Industry had not migrated to Asia. Irrigation had not yet transformed Eastern Washington into an unbeatable paradise for industrialized agriculture. Yet even then, the Port was in stiff competition with similar ports like Grays Harbor. Local boosters spent years touting the idea of constructing a canal that would carry ship traffic through the Sound in a clockwise circle, connecting back to the Pacific via a system linking Olympia to the Chehalis River. This was part of a recurrent pattern of looking to the federal or state governments to subsidize the local economy. Olympia didn't get a canal, and its role as the seat of state government quickly became the most important aspect of Thurston's economy. **The export trap.** It is a good thing the Port's maritime ambitions did not be-

come the focal point of the local economy. In January of 2017, the Washington Public Ports Association (WPPA) published a draft of its periodic Marine Cargo Forecast. The report shows that the shipping industry is now utterly dependent on the rise and fall of Asia, which accounts for over 90% of Washington's container imports and exports. If Thurston County had placed its bets on timber over state government, the results could have been disastrous. Olympia still exports logs—as it always has. Yet the economy and environment of Thurston County have changed profoundly. The scale of Northwest logging remains huge, but there will not be another great timber boom. State log exports have leveled off, and will either decline very slightly, or grow regionally by 2.2% at best over the coming two decades according to the WPPA study. Compare this to the rise of Washington auto exports, largely to China: 23% growth between 2000 and 2015, with projected future growth of at least 5%. Now the main and most reliable tenant at the Port of Olympia, Weyerhaeuser, tells its investors it has faith over the short term that demand from key overseas customers, Japan and China, will continue steady for a while. Yet there are no assurances that Weyerhaeuser will keep drawing so heavily from Washington forests to supply its customers. How much longer can this global company continue to cut at its current furious pace in the forest lands of Washington? **Race to the bottom.** Weyerhaeuser chooses to ship out of Olympia for now because of the very favorable deal it made to lease Port property. The Port must shave its margins very thin, to the point of losing money, in order to secure customers. For instance, while Port officials have been eager to see an end to a contract involving highly visible and controversial ceramic fracking proppants, it got stuck with storing the material—for no additional charge—when the market dried up. The Port moves much of its cargo on a single rate per ton—a little over \$20 per ton for the proppants. It does not protect itself with such niceties as specifying a date by which the material must leave the Port. At a recent information session convened by Commissioner E J Zita, outgoing Port Finance Director Jeff Smith explained the Port's race to the bottom this way: “The Port is competing with every other port to get breakbulk cargo so that we can help pay for the marine terminal. Some people compare it to a utility, but we're not a utility, because a utility has a group of ratepayers that can't move and they can't change. This is not a monopoly. Our customers can go anywhere where the prices are cheapest.” **It won't get better.** According to the WPPA, breakbulk cargo volumes of all sorts “will grow slowly due to contain-

July 2017

Special events

Fellowship of Reconciliation (FOR) Annual Regional Conference
Saturday to Tuesday, July 1-4, 2017 • Held at Seabeck in Kitsap County, WA
“Building Powerful Communities: Shattering Oppressive Systems with Love”

Congressional Recess

Monday–Thursday, July 3-7
Federal legislators potentially back in their districts. Go lobby them.

Tumwater Independence Day Parade
Tuesday, July 4, 11 AM Starts at Capitol Blvd and Lee St, Tumwater
March with the Our Revolution Thurston group, or your favorite candidate for office

Walk to Protect & Restore Our Salish Sea
Friday, July 7, 2 PM, to Sunday, July 9, 2 PM
31-mile walk from Myrtle Edwards Park, Seattle, to Tacoma Harbor. Hosted by Pro-tectors of the Salish Sea and Bellingham #NoDAPL Coalition

Green Party Fundraiser
Wednesday, July 5, 7 PM
Obsidian Café
Showing movie “The Candidate”

Fundraiser for Fishburn for Port Campaign
Thursday, July 6, 5:30 PM
Urban Futures Farm, 928 Wilson St. NE, Olympia, 98506.
Live music, local beers, food; candidate's views on how the Port of Olympia could better support local farmers and the Farmers Market. Co-hosted by TJ Johnson, EJ Zita, and Karen Valenzuela.

Strategic Planning to Win in 2018
Workshop with David Cobb
Sunday, July 9, 9 AM - 3 PM
IntraSpace: 3100 Airport Way S Set 24-108, Seattle
Hosted by the Green Party of Washington State

City Council Weekly Session
Tuesday, July 11, 6:30 PM
Public comments will include info on a resolution to impeach President D.J. Trump • Sponsored by Puget Sound Communities4Impeachment

FOR Book Discussion
Tuesday, July 11, 6:00 PM
Jim Bellinger's house: 1515 Tullis St NE, Olympia, 360-359-2212
Your choice of book, on the topic of electoral politics.

Tenino's Oregon Trail Days
Saturday & Sunday, July 22-23,
Railroad Depot Museum and Ticknor Schoolhouse, Tenino
Learn pioneer skills such as notching logs for a cabin, making an axe handle with a draw knife, making candles, spinning wool, weaving Hosted by Puget Sound Free Trappers and the Tenino Area Chamber of Commerce.

Forum on a Just Transition to a Clean Energy Future
Thursday July 13, 7:00 PM
Traditions Café, 5th and Water Streets, Olympia
Sameer Ranade will speak. Sponsored by the Thurston Climate Action Team (TCAT)

Global Days of Listening
Friday, July 21, 8:30 PM
Home of Chuck Schultz and Rozanne Rants
Three-hour conversation with peace supporters worldwide. Sign up at globaldaysoflistening@yahoo.com. Sponsored by FOR.

Command and Control
Sunday, July 23, 3pm
Obsidian (backroom)
414- 4th Avenue downtown Olympia.
This white-knuckle film documents a terrifying, true story of an accident involving a nuclear missile in the states. Join in the discussion afterwards about what we can do to stop the growing nuclear arms race. Brought to you by the Olympia Fellowship of Reconciliation, OMJP & Vets for Peace. TC

Democrats Annual Summer Picnic/BBQ and July Meeting
Monday, July 24, 5-7 PM
Place TBA

continued on next page

►PORT continued on page 4

Does Thurston County need a convention district?

By Emmett O’Connell

It feels like we just had this talk. But it was actually ten years ago.

Despite mentioning the topic rarely – if ever—during their campaigns last year, Thurston County commissioners have started the process for building a convention center.

The weirdest part of their action is that they’re choosing an archaic mechanism: an old law allowing the creation of convention districts rather than the more recent Public Facilities District law (PFD). The law creating Public Facilities Districts was passed in 1988 (and expanded to cities in 1999), while convention districts were created in 1982 and never seemed to get off the ground. Instead of pursuing a Public Facilities District (of which we already have one), the commissioners are initiating a process under the Cultural Arts, Stadium and Convention District law. The primary difference between the older convention district and the newer Public Facility Districts is that the convention districts were much more democratic. Convention districts require a series of elections, each of which makes an opportunity for the process to break down. Therefore, it is much easier for the public to oppose funding. Public Facility Districts need only the support of a combination of willing city and county legislative boards. While the public can engage with those elected boards, it isn’t like they have a direct say in an election. Today, there are at least 25 Public Facility Districts operating across Washington State and not a single convention district. In fact, in the late 1980s Snohomish County strug-

gled for years to use a convention district to build a convention center in Lynnwood. Finally in the late 90s, as city-based PFDs were coming on line, the Lynnwood convention district made one last try and failed. From the *Seattle Times* in 1998: “For the third time since 1986, voters this week squelched a district proposal to build some combination of a performing-arts theater and convention hall. But this defeat was the most crushing, with 75 percent of nearly 79,500 voters saying ‘no.’”

The leading theory behind the loss: Voters didn’t want property taxes to pay for a project that would benefit private businesses—especially Lynnwood hotels, restaurants and pubs. One study found the project would directly pump \$9.1 million per year into the local economy; with indirect benefits, that figure would jump to \$16.2 million.

The next year, the legislature gave Snohomish County the ability to quickly kill their failed convention district, but also the tools to start up a more nimble and less democratic Public Facilities District. Using the PFD model that doesn’t actually have to go to the voters for funding, Lynnwood was later able to build their convention center. From the *Seattle Times* in 2005:

“The \$34 million Lynnwood Convention Center opened May 1 with lofty expectations of drawing thousands of people to the city’s restaurants, hotels and shops.

“The convention center’s success was immediate. Gross revenue through November was \$650,000, 15 percent more than anticipated. In its first seven months, the center hosted

208 events, said Grant Dull, the executive director of the Lynnwood Public Facilities District.”

It’s not yet known how much of that success has trickled down to the city and local businesses, but they are expected to reap \$13 million in annual economic benefits by the center’s third year.

So, why is Thurston County choosing a less likely to succeed method to build a public facility? One reason is obvious. We already have an operating Public Facilities District in Thurston County. It is run by the three cities and Thurston County and funds, at least in part, the Hands on Children’s Museum and the Regional Athletic Center. With that route taken up, the only taxing district option to build a convention center is the old convention district process.

Which also sort of begs the question, when the local Public Facilities District started up, why didn’t they build a convention center? Turns out it was a pretty unpopular idea. Even in the less democratic process, people in Olympia engaged and turned out to vote for candidates that did not support spending public money on a convention center downtown. Makes you think it would be hard for something like that to actually survive a public vote.

Emmett O’Connell lives in Olympia and blogs about the region at olympiaticom

For more information: Cultural Arts, Stadium and Convention Districts RCW Title 67.38 - Public Facilities Districts RCW Title 36.100. Capital Area Regional PFD – lacey.wa.us – boards-commissions.

Taxpayer-funded convention centers: gambling away public money?

By Linda Smithe

Our Thurston County Commissioners on June 5 passed a resolution saying that the Olympia area needs a special taxing district to build a convention center because “the lack of public improvements, such as convention centers, hinders the economic vitality of Thurston County.” Building convention centers is said to help a local economy “by encouraging investment in job producing private development that expands the tax-base;” and by attracting visitors who would otherwise spend their money elsewhere.

In the book «Convention Center Fol-lies,» by Heywood Sanders, a professor at the University of Texas - San Antonio, argues that convention center feasibility studies dramatically overestimate economic impact -- they are often written by developer interests. Sanders tells of convention centers that were built and expanded at a record pace—even though they almost

always failed to deliver the promised benefits. He points out that there was a little over 36 million sq. ft.of exhibition space in the US in 1989. By 2011, the amount had nearly doubled to 70.5 million. The problem is that in the midst of this decades-long explosion, demand for convention centers remained flat. (Though that that didn’t stop the proponents.)

One measure of success is said to be the number of additional hotel room stays the conventions generate. But it has been found that convention attendees are often locals, who spend their nights at home. Sanders’ book gives examples: Washington, D.C.’s new convention center was supposed to deliver nearly 730,000 room-nights by 2010; the actual number for that year was less than 275,000. Austin, Texas’ expanded center was supposed to bring 314,000 room-nights by 2005 but produced just 149,000. The 2003 expansion of Portland, OR.’s convention center was expected to yield

between 280,000 and 290,000 room-nights, but the actual number was 127,000 -- far less than before the center’s expansion. Atlanta, Chicago, Dallas, Milwaukee, Minneapolis, Pittsburgh and Seattle are among other cities that have had similar experiences. We do not want Thurston County to be the next in line for this failure, wasting tax payer money.

When convention centers fail to generate adequate funds, the debt service on the money borrowed to build them mounts. Then the paid consultant might advocate “ a «head-quarters hotel,” which again requires a large public subsidy—more tax-payer money. Sometimes the lack of developer interest results in the hotel being publicly owned. So tax payers get fleeced again.

In his book, Sanders quotes one consultant, Charles H. Johnson, from a 2005 legal deposition: «Once the deal is done, if we’re not engaged, we ... give them our report, our final invoice, and wish them good luck.»

Thurston County taxpayers deserve an honest debate about building and paying for convention centers or stadiums, one that isn’t rushed along so fast that no one knows what’s at stake.. The debate should be informed by realistic economic-impact projections. What we don’t need is a continuation of the charade in which elected officials, local business leaders and convention consultants tout benefits that do not exist.

Linda Smithe is a 30-year resident of Thurston County. She looks forward to a realistic debate on the Convention Center proposal.

Tell County Commissioners what you think about a new Convention Taxing District

A public hearing to receive comments from Thurston County residents has been set for Tuesday, July 25, at 5:30 p.m. Thurston County Courthouse, 2000 Lakeridge Drive SW, Olympia WA, Building 1, Room 280. Written comments can be emailed to Ramiro Chavez, County Manager, at chavezr@co.thurston.wa.us, or hand delivered or mailed to: Thurston County Board of County Commissioners, Attn: Ramiro Chavez, 2000 Lakeridge Drive SW, Olympia, WA 98502. The deadline for written comments is 5:00 p.m. Monday, July 24, 2017. County Commissioners may choose to move forward with creating the district at the end of the July 25 public hearing, or they may request staff to provide more information prior to making a decision.

Under state law, each jurisdiction in Thurston County can participate and hold a seat on the governing board for creating the district; or may opt out by submitting a copy of an adopted resolution requesting its deletion from the proposed district to the Board prior to the July 25, public hearing. If no response, the jurisdiction will automatically be included in the district. Within two years of the public hearing, the Board of County Commissioners may pass a resolution to approve a ballot measure to put the creation of the district in front of the voters. Find a copy of the resolution at **Board of County Commissioners Resolution 15476**



Special events

Continued from page 2

Thurston County Board of Commissioners Public Hearing
Tuesday, July 25, 5:30 PM
Thurston County Courthouse
(2000 Lakeridge Drive SW, Olympia, 98502)
Public Hearing on proposed creation of a cultural arts, stadium, and convention district.

“Localize This: Backbone Campaign”
Tuesday, July 25 - Tuesday, August 1
Vashon Island
Learn to design actions that not only earn media attention, but also pressure decision-makers . . .Go to www.backbonecampaign.org for information and to apply.

Reinventing Re-Entry Conference
Friday, July 28, 9 AM - 3 PM
At the Tacoma campus of TESC
(1210 6th Avenue, Tacoma, 98405)
Making community resources readily available to people formerly incarcerated. Sponsored by PROGRESSION, Preventing Recidivism through Post-Secondary Education

Congressional Recess
July 31 - September 4
Federal Legislators potentially back in their districts. Go lobby them.

Little Hollywood

A blog about the local news and events of and around Olympia, Washington.

Police Use of Deadly Force Study Underway ♦ Breathing Spaces: Mt. Rainier National Park ♦ Dennis Mahar Remembered ♦ Task Force on Use of Deadly Force in Community Policing ♦ Two-Alarm Fire in Downtown Olympia Destroys Warehouse ♦ Lakefair Parade Float Denied Entry by Organizers . . .

Tip or story idea? Email Janine Gates at Ja9gates@aol.com

Remaking the port

From page 2

erization and structural changes in the industries that produce these cargoes.” Even in the very best case scenario, breakbulk imports will only grow by 2.4% per year throughout the whole Pacific Northwest.

In this world of growing competition and shrinking demand, the Port has landed some strange cargoes besides the unpopular fracking proppants: cattle exported for massive industrial dairies in Vietnam; gold ore imported from North Ireland over the objections of local residents who fear the despoiling of Irish farmlands and wilderness to little local benefit; and corn imported from Europe for “organic” dairy cow feedlots—contrary to the hopes of Thurston County farmers who had voted for a public port to export our agricultural goods to the world, not the other way around.

The critical challenge for Washington ports, besides surviving competition with Southern California and British Columbia, is to improve the railway and highway systems that choke off the flow of goods to and from terminals. Compared to mega-Ports Tacoma or Seattle, Olympia seems far from the front of the line to receive the benefits.

The fate of the marine terminal poses a tough challenge for its three Port Commissioners. So far, the Port has not taken a realistic approach to addressing the long and inevitable decline of the marine terminal in the face of profound structural changes to the industry.

How well does the Port serve the local economy? That is not a simple question, and the Port has not tried to find out. In 2014 the Port of Olympia commissioned an “Economic Benefit Study” by a firm that specializes in “impact analysis.” The contractor, Martin Associates, was careful to state that “the impacts measured in this study are the current jobs, income and taxes generated” by Port tenants and commercial cargo activity. But they added, these were “not necessarily net economic impacts in the sense that if the Port were to disappear, these jobs would be lost from the economy.” Not only does the study fail to consider the relative economic good the Port provides compared to other possible uses, but it does not even weight the benefits against costs. That is not the kind of “impact” modelling that Martin sold to the Port.

Even so, the results did not come out well. According to the Port overview of the study, 643 direct jobs were lost between 2009 and 2014 (the latest year for which figures are given). The comparative loss of annual business revenue was over \$774 million, with similar relative losses in taxes and local purchases. One of the government jobs lost in 2017 is that of Finance Director. Despite the desperate need for good economic analysis and management in these troubled times for the Port, two commissioners—Downing and McGregor—preferred to outsource that job to a contractor.

The Benefit Study claims that there were 2400 direct jobs created by Port activity in 2014, mostly generated by port tenants. Full time Port staff numbered 44 in 2009; and the peak year of

cialty food and beverage stores), specialty trade contractors (professional, scientific and technical service) and e-commerce.

The Port is moving toward the retail and rental sectors, following the lead of the Washington Public Ports Association in promoting tourism. Yet the retail sector is among the worst-paying

based industries on the Port Peninsula; jobs that would provide steady work and lift family incomes. That dream sprouted and died quickly, leaving behind a polluted landscape and trapping the Port in a continuing downward spiral handling breakbulk cargo. This is a common fate in the world of globalized trade, but that doesn't make it any easier to live with.

Steering the Port into the new economy. People no longer hope or expect the Port to drive Thurston County economically, if indeed they ever did. Its main line of business, the Marine Terminal, shows no hope of improvement. Swantown Marina is not expected to do much more than break even, rendering it more of a cultural asset than an economic one. Yet the Port is still valued, and is gaining recognition for the role it plays in the life of the community.

At the direction of the Port's newest commissioner, EJ Zita, the Port has begun to study other ports to find better opportunities for the marine terminal; opportunities that might promise good wages while adding jobs through incubator hubs, food hubs and light industrial activities, among other options.

A century on, many of the things that make this place beloved, are touched by the Port: the Farmer's Market, Percival Landing, the Airport, and even the Weyerhaeuser forest lands. The Port may find a way to reshape its role for Thurston County once again, but only by looking at its own situation as honestly as possible and finding a way forward through sustained, serious and inclusive conversation with the whole community.

Helen Wheatley is a historian, activist and writer who has lived in Olympia with her family for fifteen years. She also serves on the Hanford Advisory Board on behalf of the citizen watchdog group Heart of America Northwest.



Part of a recent shipment through Port of Olympia of ceramic proppant, used in fracking. Photo by Janine Gates, Little Hollywood

2013 saw the equivalent of 32 full time longshore jobs — double the number

for the County. Simply bringing in people to buy things, or to rent space,

beloved,

At the direction of the Port’s newest commissioner, EJ Zita, the Port has begun to study other ports to find better opportunities for the marine terminal; opportunities that might promise good wages while adding jobs through incubator hubs, food hubs and light industrial activities, among other options.

for 2012. For comparison, there were 108,500 jobs in Thurston County at that time, and a third of them were in government.

The future direction of the county economy. According to the Washington State Employment Security Department, recent growth areas for taxable sales in terms of dollar value for Thurston County have been in auto dealers, accommodation and food services (with particularly rapid growth in spe-

does not foster the kinds of jobs that truly benefit the community. In terms of providing a living family wage to the average Thurston County resident, government jobs still lead the way.

Stuck in the extraction economy? Over the years the Port has struggled to reinvent itself, yet it has also stood by its old mission of delivering the bounty of our forests to the world. In the 1920s many hoped that raw logs would give way to modern timber-

Moxlie Creek

From page 1

on business as usual thus violating divine edict number one. The City immediately pulled the proposal and drew a red line around maps of the waterfront declaring that management of the waterfront would be entirely under the control of the State. Given that the State only enforces current rules, the vision for the Olympia waterfront is now a matter of whatever one can get away with. According to the Puget Sound Partnership, it is primarily up to “city and county governments to address Puget Sound restoration priorities and implement the Action Agenda. Coordination between the state and local governments is critical because of the role cities and counties play as local implementers of the Action Agenda.” Both state and local governing bodies are looking toward the other. Given the current regulatory vacuum, the loss of this greatest opportunity

is understandable. There is however one more regulatory chance to stop the development

There is one more regulatory chance to stop the development of parcels 2&3. The Port of Olympia still must obtain some permits and the public has until July 11th to comment on these permits. Please do so!

of parcels 2&3. The Port of Olympia still must obtain some permits and the public has until July 11th to comment on these permits. **Please do so!** Below is the information necessary to submit with your comments; **#3301 Port of Olympia, Rachael Jamison, 606 Columbia St NW Ste 300 Olympia, WA 98501**, is seeking coverage under the Washington State Department of Ecology's Construction



Stormwater NPDES and State Waste Discharge General Permit. The proposed project, Eastbay Redevelopment Site, is located at Intersection of Marine Dr NE and Olympia Ave NE. Generally Bounded by Jefferson St NE to the West and Chestnut Street to the East. Generally Bounded by State Ave NE to the South. Latitude: 47.04685 Longitude: -122.89595 in Olympia in Thurston county. Project involves 5.7 acres of soil disturbance for other (MTCA Remediation) construction activities. The receiving waterbody is Budd Inlet.

Ecology reviews public comments and considers whether discharges from this project would cause a measurable change in receiving water quality, and, if so, whether the project is necessary and in the overriding public interest according to Tier II antidegradation requirements under WAC 173-201A-320. Comments can be submitted to: Department of Ecology Attn: Water Quality Program, Construction Stormwater P.O. Box 47696, Olympia, WA 98504-7696 Publish: June 11, 2017

Harry Branch is a long time local resident who has worked on ecologically oriented projects here and abroad. He loves to spend time sailing.

Eastside Smoke Company

Affordable local glass and much more.

Open daily 11 am - 8 pm ■ eastsidesmokecompany.com

2008 State Avenue NE in Olympia ■ 360-350-0385



2017 Olympia City Council Primary Elections, August 1st

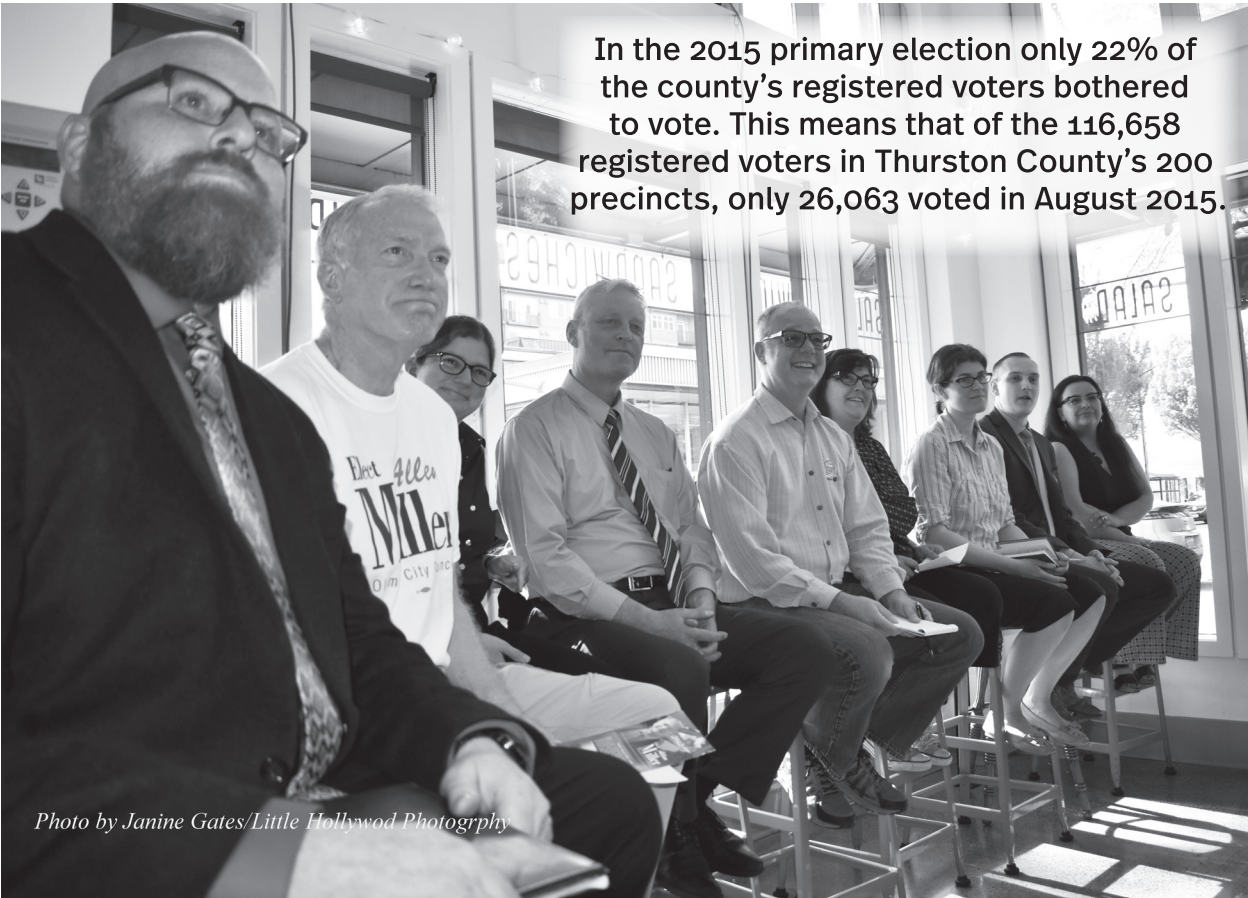
A majority of the Olympia City Council positions are up for election this year. Three of those four positions have a primary. The Thurston County Elections Office will mail your voter pamphlet to you on July 5th. On July 12th, they will mail your primary ballot to you.

In the 2015 primary election only 22% of the county's registered voters bothered to vote. This means that of the 116,658 registered voters in Thurston County's 200 precincts, only 26,063 voted in August 2015. This does not produce government by the majority. *Works in Progress* hopes that the turnout this August will be a great deal

higher. **The primary itself is August 1st.** All registered voters in Olympia can vote

in this primary election. All these positions are nonpartisan. To find out more about each candidate, check the

link provided. If you have not registered to vote, you must come into the Thurston County Auditor's Election Office by July 24th in order to vote in the primary election. Elections office phone: (360) 786-5408. City Council Position 5 has three new contestants, Lisa Parshley, Deborah S. Lee and Allen Miller. No incumbent is running for this position. Lisa Parshley, lisa.parshley@ovccpets.com (503) 729-0238. Deborah S. Lee, deborah4oly@gmail.com. (360) 515-5538. Allen Miller, allen@atmlawoffice.com (360) 754-9156. City Council Position 6 has incumbent City Council member Jeannine Roe. Challengers are Renata Rollins and Michael Snodgrass. Jeannineroe2009@yahoo.com (360) 789-8352, Renata Rollins, renataforcouncil@gmail.com (360) 481-5753, Michael Snodgrass, elect.snodgrass.forcouncil@gmail.com City Council Position 7 has incumbent City Council member Jim Cooper. Challengers are Daniel (Danny) Marsh and Heather Wood. Jim Cooper, jim@electjimcooper.com (360) 451-9053, Daniel (Danny) Marsh, daniel@electdanielmarsh.com (206) 708-5455, Heather Wood, honorableheatherwood2017@gmail.com (360) 551-0674. *Dan Leahy is a citizen.*



Eleven candidates for Olympia City Council met with members of the public on June 5 in downtown Olympia. Left to right: Daniel Marsh, Allen Miller, Lisa Parshley, Michael Snodgrass, Clark Gilman, Heather Wood, Renata Rollins, Max Brown, and Deborah Lee. Photo by Janine Gates/Little Hollywood Photography

How Moxlie Creek takes care of us

the best place to see Moxlie Creek is on the loop trail in Watershed Park. Moxlie Creek starts out as an artesian spring at the southern end of the park. As it flows through the park northward towards Budd Inlet, the creek is joined by more springs and groundwater from the forested wetland. After leaving the park, the creek is piped under I-5, through the City of Olympia's Maintenance Yard, then under and along the side of Henderson Boulevard. Indian Creek joins Moxlie Creek just before the intersection of Plum Street and Union Avenue. Both creeks are piped under Union Avenue and northward two-thirds mile to East Bay. Inside the 6-foot pipe, Moxlie Creek is joined by a network of stormwater pipes that carry the runoff from the roads, parking lots and roof tops from downtown Olympia. At East Bay, the pipe discharges the ancient artesian fresh water, Indian Creek's waters—and today's polluted runoff—into Puget Sound.

—from the *Thurston County StreamTeam* website. You can find out more about our streams and learn about volunteering at www.streamteam.info.

Commissioner EJ Zita works to see that the Port responds to the people of Thurston County

By Logan Reed

EJ Zita's re-election campaign motto is: Port for the People. She wants a Port that represents the people of Thurston County and works for them. Since taking office as Port Commissioner in 2014—an election that was cheered as a triumph for the people of Thurston County—Zita has been working to make changes to the ways that the Port does business. Zita focuses on three paths or principles to create lasting change at the Port, shaking up business as usual and increasing the positive impact that the Port has on our community. These paths are economic sustainability, environmental stewardship and community engagement. Many residents of Thurston County don't realize that their Port is losing millions of dollars every year, even as they continue to provide the tax dollars that keep it running. This is where Zita's progressive agenda of economic sustainability, environmental stewardship and community engagement offers a vital opportunity to create a Port for the People. Economic sustainability requires that the Port work for the whole community, not the special interests and corporations. A real financial return on investment has been lacking at the Port and there needs to be a clear focus on direct public benefits. The question our Port needs to answer for each venture is: how does this activity benefit our community? Environmental stewardship is especially important to Zita, who is a farmer and a scientist and knows firsthand the importance of environmental health. One concern for the Port is storm water treatment. Storm water runoff due to the marine terminal's operations debarking trees to be stored on Port property causes harm to Puget Sound. Zita knows just how crucial it is for all Thurston County residents that

we have clean water for fish and wildlife. Community engagement is the third success factor for creating a Port for the People. Commissioner Ziata seeks to open a regular dialogue with local tribal leaders, municipalities and community members to have all voices heard. By listening, asking questions and collaborating with Thurston County residents, Zita is able to represent their interests during Port planning and implementation meetings. Historically, the turnout for an off election year is 33% in Thurston County. Zita and her campaign are hard at work, motivating more people to vote and participate in creating a Port for the

People. The future looks bright as more progressive candidates step forward to participate in the future of Thurston County. Bill Fishburn is running to join Zita on the Port Commission. He's running to "make the Port of Olympia the People's Port of Thurston County". Only with your voice, your input and your participation in the upcoming election will Zita be able to address the Port's current issues and continue to move the progressive agenda forward. Together, we can truly make ours a Port for the People!

Logan Reed is a local business owner, longtime supporter of EJ Zita and newly awakened political activist.

STYLING · CUTS · COLOR · PERMS

FREE CONSULTATIONS · FREE BANG TRIMS

DEEP CONDITIONING · MANICURES · PEDICURES · MASSAGE · ASTROLOGY · TAROT

"We'll trim it, rub it, or read it"

JAMIE LEE & COMPANY

309 E. 4TH AVE.
OLYMPIA, WA 98501

360-786-6027
JAMIELEEANDCOMPANY.COM

KAOS patron business.

BOTANICAL HAIR CARE PRODUCTS

Equity

From page 1

last November, six months before the demonstrations as well as Weinstein's national media campaign and the campus closures. Contrary to the narrative Weinstein has been promoting, the Equity Plan outlines the college's commitment to equity and recognizes that the experiences of students of color and white students on predominantly white campuses are different. The plan asserts that race has meaning in the US. Weinstein, who is white, claims to be comfortable with discussions of race when they are framed through a scientific/evolutionary lens (campus email, March 15). Evergreen's Equity Plan, however, addresses race through historical, sociological, and educational perspectives. That's the real rub.

Taking on color blindness

H. Richard Milner IV, director for the Center for Urban Education at the University of Pittsburg, has developed what he calls “an opportunity gap framework” to be used by teachers and scholars across the U.S. to identify strategies for creating more equitable learning opportunities for all students. This framework, Milner argues, can be used as a heuristic to help teachers reflect on their practices, given their aim to help all their students succeed. The first element in the framework identifies color-blindness—the degree to which white educators in particular refuse to “see color”.

In “Beyond a Test Score: Explaining Opportunity Gaps in Educational Practice,” published in *Journal of Black Studies* in September 2012, Milner

Weinstein’s objection to the Equity Plan, and to the newly forged link between faculty teaching and student learning, was that it would limit his freedom. Freedom, he said at a faculty meeting, was really all an Evergreen faculty member had—the freedom to teach whatever they wanted.

writes: “Research is clear that when educators adopt color-blind beliefs, ideologies, worldviews, and consequently, practices (Chapman, 2007; Howard, 2010; Johnson, 2002; Lewis,

2001; Milner, 2010), they can run the risk of consciously and subconsciously avoiding, missing, and overlooking an important identity characteristic of students: race. When educators pretend to be color-blind, they are, in effect, constructing and enacting curriculum and instructional practices for students they see as incomplete rather than the complete beings students are (Johnson, 2002).” Race is part of everyone's identity, and Evergreen's Equity Plan acknowledged this.

The Equity Plan was a response to findings that identified what Milner would describe as opportunity gaps at Evergreen—not all students experienced the same levels of support and recognition as learners. As

► EQUITY continued on next page

Context and corrective on events at The Evergreen State College

Evergreen State College is always an unusual school, located on the outskirts of the eclectic town of Olympia, Wash., but something about the end of the school year inspires people to really let their freak flags fly. Drum circles and students with colorful hair and piercings are commonplace, and it's not out of the ordinary to see the circus club practicing acrobatics.

This year is different. Many students are leaving campus as quickly as they can, and some, fearing for their safety, say they won't come back.

A few weeks ago, a video clip of students demonstrating outside the office of Bret Weinstein, a biology professor, went viral. In the clip, students can be seen shouting at Mr. Weinstein and calling him racist. Mr. Weinstein appeared on Tucker Carlson's Fox News show in a “Campus Craziness” segment and sat for interviews with many other media outlets.

In an op-ed for *The Wall Street Journal*, Mr. Weinstein wrote that students attacked him verbally “seemingly out of the blue” after he objected to an event in which “white people were

asked to leave campus” for a day. He said that the college had “slipped into madness.”

As a student here, I know that the truth is more complicated. The protests were part of a planned week of action over several incidents that had sparked a schoolwide discussion on race. A series of emails that Mr. Weinstein sent to an all-faculty list were a small part of this. In one email, he objected to the design of an equity council that would guide faculty hiring to improve racial equity. In another, he voiced his opposition to a new structure for the Day of Absence, an Evergreen tradition since the 1970s.

The tradition was inspired by a Douglas Turner Ward play in which all the black residents of a town disappear so that the populace is forced to recognize their vital contributions. In previous years, students and faculty of color would leave Evergreen for a day and hold off-site workshops while white students stayed on campus.

This year, the organizers decided to hold workshops for white people off-campus instead—a reversal of the

original concept. The intention was to put the focus on students of color, and highlight their contributions within the Evergreen space. The off-campus event was optional, and students who wanted to participate had to enroll: The workshops could hold only 200 people. Evergreen has about 4,000 students. There was no way the whole school could have been forced to participate.

Yet Mr. Weinstein declared that this event structure was “an act of oppression” against white people.

It is important to point out that Mr. Weinstein was within his rights to question how these initiatives were structured. But his critiques seemed to diminish the very purpose of them. Students wanted him to understand why these initiatives were so important to so many in our community.

What can't be seen in the viral video of the student protest in his office is that students started by calmly stating their concerns. The way he responded to those concerns made students feel invalidated. It may have seemed inappropriate that they let their emotions escalate in frustration, but that doesn't mean there was no context.

But the media saw in Mr. Weinstein a self-proclaimed progressive who appeared to be vilified simply for voicing a dissenting opinion. Evergreen students were accused of violence and of trying to enforce a divisive political correctness.

The fallout from that coverage hit our campus like a hailstorm. It may not have been his intention, but Mr. Weinstein's many interviews effectively became a call to arms for internet trolls and the alt-right. Online vigilantes from 4chan, Reddit and other forums swarmed to unearth Evergreen students' contact information. They have harassed us with hundreds of phone calls, anonymous texts and terrifyingly specific threats of violence that show they know where we live and work.

After I published an essay on Medium to explain the protesters' side of the story, my full name, phone number and home address were posted online, and I was bombarded with hate-filled messages. I found my name and personal information on message boards, along with rape threats and discussions about which racial slur fit me best (the consensus was the N-word). It took three days to get my personal information taken down, and for others it took longer.

In the past few weeks, the school has been shut down four times because of threats, including one from an anonymous caller who said, “I'm on my way to Evergreen University now with a

.44 Magnum. I am gonna execute as many people on that campus as I can get a hold of.”

Downtown Olympia has seen a sudden influx of visitors wearing Nazi and white supremacist regalia. Campus buildings have been scrawled with graffiti that says, “Diversity Equals White Genocide” and “No Safe Space For Commies.” Swastikas and racial slurs have been chalked and painted on Evergreen property.

Yesterday, the campus was mostly shut down after 3 p.m. because Patriot Prayer, a right-leaning protest group that espouses a love for guns and President Trump and a hatred for so-called snowflakes, descended on the campus for a “free speech” rally. Patriot Prayer was recently in the news for marching in Portland, Ore., after the killing of two people by a white supremacist who was aligned with the group, even though the mayor of Portland pleaded with them to postpone their event.

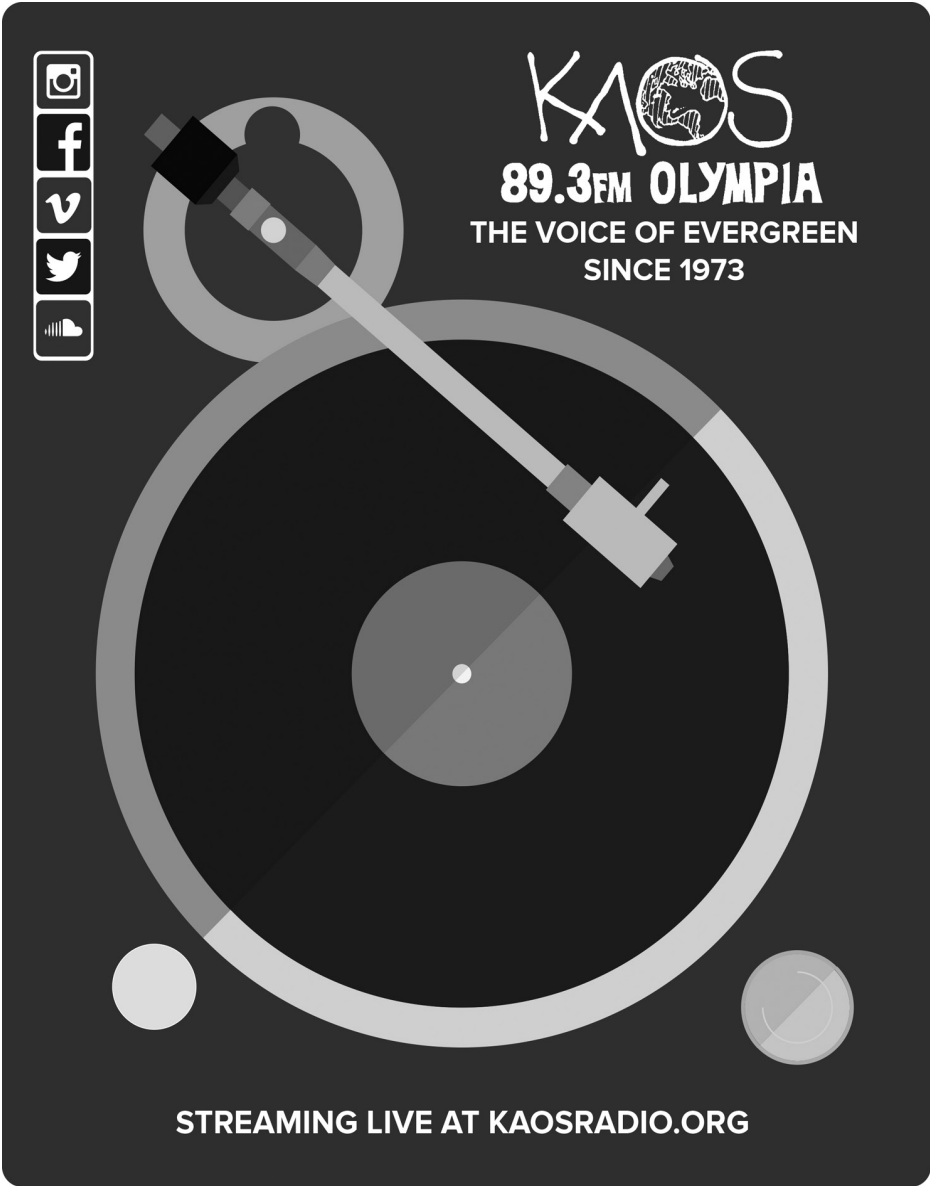
While recent events may have brought negative attention to my school, I am proud of students here who found a way to create change. In the movies, protests always look heroic, but they tend to be messy in real life. Weren't the protests of the 1960s unpopular and messy sometimes, too?

After a series of petitions and protests by students, George Bridges, the president of Evergreen, agreed to require bias training for the staff and faculty and create better protections for undocumented students. It wasn't everything the students had asked for, but it was a step in the right direction.

Bret Weinstein's interview with Tucker Carlson aired on the same day students met with President Bridges. We were surprised to hear Mr. Weinstein's claims, which seemed far removed from what we had witnessed, and saddened to see how almost overnight his version of events became the entire narrative.

Mr. Weinstein's story about Evergreen's regressive campus culture fit neatly into many misconceptions about the “new left,” so it seemed to go unquestioned. However, for many students, staff and faculty at Evergreen, the harassment that came after the negative coverage of the protesters was a shocking and bitter twist. It is not lost on us that students of color are the ones who have been disproportionately targeted.

The author is a student at The Evergreen State College, writing in the immediate aftermath of events that led to the closing of the school on three occasions.



Equity

From previous page

the plan put it, “a review of our quantitative and qualitative institutional data, including student voices (most recently, the formal requests of Trans and African American students) makes clear that equity gaps persist. In order to close these gaps, the Council suggests that the College move from a diversity agenda focused on intercultural understanding, to an equity agenda, an agenda that recognizes the existence of equity gaps and strives to close them.” A concrete example given was an assessment of Academic Statements submitted by Evergreen graduates to their transcripts—a new Evergreen requirement. In a blind reading conducted in January 2016, low-income students and African American students had statistically significant lower scores on measures of written English than did white students and students from families that were not low-income. The central goal of the



Equity Plan was to “substantially improve the experiences of underserved students on our campus so that we close equity gaps in student learning and student success.” Weinstein objected to this goal. **Dissent Among Faculty** As part of a string of emails he wrote to the whole campus voicing concerns about the Equity Plan, Weinstein wrote on March 7 that he had two concerns about Evergreen: “The first is a precipitous slide away from an inclusive, diverse and horizontal college, to a lopsided, hierarchical, authoritarian one.” As evidence of this slide, he pointed to the creation of new administrative positions, including a new vice-president/vice-provost for equity and inclusion, and to the Equity Council’s declaration that through the Equity Plan, the college was affirming its commitment to helping all students meet *Evergreen’s expectations for*

graduates—Evergreen’s equivalent of other colleges’ general education outcomes, which are required in order to be accredited. Until the Equity Strategic Plan, academic administrators and faculty at Evergreen had managed to keep separate their expectations about what graduates should know and be able to do, from expectations about what faculty would teach. For example, all Evergreen graduates are expected to be able to “communicate clearly and creatively.” However, Evergreen students have no guarantee that they will find opportunities to learn to communicate clearly and creatively—it’s the luck of the draw in terms of which programs or courses they choose, and whether faculty in those programs and courses have both the skills and the desire to help them develop those skills. The launch of the Equity Strategic Plan foretold a change, a change that Weinstein objected to. In that same all-campus email, Weinstein asserted that the other thing he objected to in the Equity Plan was the discussion of equity and equity gaps. He wrote: “the proposed remedies for these gaps are either entirely inappropriate, or spectacularly ill advised, depending on whether Evergreen is seeking equality of opportunity (an honorable and viable objective), or equality of result (a concept with a deeply dubious history, that cannot be logically defended in the context of

a public institution on a limited budget). If we accept such analyses and prescriptions as normal, we have no business claiming to be an educational institution.” In the spirit of debate, I wrote back to Weinstein (not to the whole campus) to say I disagreed with his position and explained why: Across the country, faculty, staff, and administrators at public colleges with limited resources are embracing the challenge of doing their level best to ensure that the quality of the degrees earned by students on their campus means something. “Quality of degree” signifies more than credit earning—it refers to the knowledge, skills, and abilities that graduates have when they leave the institution. The best work on creating equality of opportunity is always linked to an assessment of “results”—what students are actually learning. That’s how campuses can tell, for instance, that their math sequences aren’t working for students, or that classic “weed-out” courses are functioning as “weed-outs.” No other course of action can be logically defended within public institutions, especially those, like ours, like most regional public four-years, with relatively non-selective admissions. Campuses with integrity not only take students’ money, encourage the taking on of debt, but faculty, staff, and administrators also work their tails off to try to make sure that those students leave with a good—as in measurable and describe-able by non-reductive measures—education. I concluded my email by saying I would be glad to share resources and talk further. Weinstein never responded. Instead, as became clear, he found another way to make his point of view heard. **Students’ Right to Dissent – Students are Right to Dissent** Meanwhile, as Weinstein was saturating the campus with emails expounding on his views, students were growing increasingly angry. For more than a year, students—and particularly students of color—had been demanding that the college do something to address racists incidents that were occurring, from encounters with campus police to awkward or embarrassing moments in classes. Faculty, they said, needed some training to be better teachers. Students were right to take their concerns outside of normal channels, because ironically, at a college known for being progressive, students’ perspectives on their experiences of learning have very little standing. At most colleges, students fill out end-of-term evaluations of their courses. Especially at teaching-centered colleges, those student evaluations play a role in determining faculty tenure and promotion, and faculty raises. This is only partly true at Evergreen. While students’ evaluations of new full-time faculty and all adjunct faculty are reviewed by an academic dean (annually, or every two years), once faculty have Evergreen’s equivalent of tenure, those reviews only happen every five years. No written records are kept. No matter what students say in their evaluations of faculty, those evaluations have no impact on faculty raises. Everyone gets the same raise every year, regardless of performance. An unintended consequence of this once-innovative evaluation system is that, in order to make their voices heard—to be taken seriously as stakeholders in their own learning, students need to work outside normal channels. Weinstein’s objection to the Equity Plan, and to the newly forged link between faculty teaching and student learning, was that it would limit his freedom. Freedom, he said at a faculty meeting, was really all an Evergreen faculty member had—the

Ground rules and tips for productive engagement with the right

Do Your Homework

Recognize that the Right is a complex movement. No one organization “controls” the Right. No single funder is “behind” the Right. Some large organizations are important, but many others appear to be more influential than they really are. Recognize that there are multiple networks of organizations and funders with differing and sometimes competing agendas. Find out as much as you can about the groups you see. Incorporate this information in your educational work. It is helpful in organizing to know a great deal about your opponents. Be alert to evidence of the Right’s “new racism.” The Right has replaced simple racist rhetoric with a more complex, “colorblind” political agenda which actually attacks the rights of people of color.

Decode the Right’s agenda on your issue.

The Right often attempts to pass laws that take rights away from groups or individuals. Under the guise of addressing some compelling societal need, they often frame the issue by appealing to prejudice, myth, irrational belief, inaccurate information, pseudoscience, or sometimes even by using outright lies. Further, right-wing organizers often appropriate the rhetoric of the Civil Rights and civil liberties movements to portray themselves as victims of discrimination. Actually, they most often are seeking to undermine the existing protection of individual rights, increase their freedom to accumulate profit, and undermine the wall of separation between church and state.

Be careful to respect people’s right to hold opinions and religious beliefs that you may find offensive.

Everyone has an absolute right to seek redress of their grievances. This is equally true when those grievances are based on religious beliefs. In an

open and democratic society, it is important to listen to the grievances of all members of society and take them seriously, even when we might be vehemently opposed to them. They do not, however, have a right to impose those beliefs on others.

Distinguish between leaders and followers in right-wing



The alt-right at Evergreen. Photo by Zoltan Grossman.

organizations.

Leaders are often “professional” right-wingers. They’ve made a career of promoting a rightist agenda and attacking progressives and progressive issues. Followers, on the other hand, may not be well-informed. They are often mobilized by fears about family and future based on information that, if true, would indeed be frightening. This so-called “education” is often skillful, deceitful, and convincing. These followers may take positions that are more extreme than those of the leaders, but on the other hand, they may not know exactly what they are supporting by attending a certain organization’s rally or conference. To critique and expose the leaders of right-wing organizations is the work of a good progressive organizer, writers, and activists. In the case of the followers, however, it is important to reserve judgment and listen to their grievances. Do not assume that they

are all sophisticated political agents or have access to a variety of information sources.

Rebut, Rebuke, Reaffirm.

It’s important to remember that while the tactics of the Right may be obvious to you, they are not necessarily obvious to others, even though they might be part of the political process. The ways in which the Right distorts and misleads the public must be carefully explained. Use a three-step process. 1) Rebut false and inaccurate claims. 2) Rebuke those who use scapegoating or demagoguery. 3) Reaffirm what a progressive goal or agenda would accomplish for the betterment of society.

Stay Cool in Public

Use the opportunity of public forums to present your position. Approach any public event as a chance to state your case. Come fully prepared to explain why you are right. Although your audience may be unfriendly, remember that you are often an invited guest at such events. Audience members are expecting you to represent your group, even though they may not expect to agree with you. Your task is to convince these listeners, not the representatives of the Right who may be your debating opponents or fellow panelists. Do so using short, clear sentences, not long, abstract paragraphs. Many audience members are your potential supporters, available to join your ranks. Provide them with reasons and ways to do so.

Demand documentation.

Common tactics of the Right include distorting the truth and manipulating facts and figures in order to deceive the public. You can often expose false charges and baseless claims by de-

YWCA Olympia 2017 Racial Justice Summit: Intent vs. Impact

YWCA staff

YWCA Olympia held their first annual Racial Justice Summit on May 6, 2017. As the issue of racism in our community has become more broadly known and discussed, the Summit's "Intent vs. Impact" theme proved to be a timely focus. Before the November election, YWCA Olympia began cataloging the escalating number of race-related hate crimes in Thurston County. While interpersonal racism and discrimination are not uncommon experiences for many Black and Brown people in our community, physical and verbal violence against a person's body or home further heightens levels of legitimate stress and anxiety, and greatly decreases one's sense of safety. Generational trauma, oppression, discrimination, and police brutality are public health issues. People who regularly experience the effects of these issues are re-traumatized when hate-crimes occur in our community, and we cannot ignore this reality.

Bystander Trainings. YWCA Olympia heard from people in various parts of Thurston County who expressed concerns for the safety and wellbeing of themselves, their family, and children. In an effort to equip community members to interrupt acts of hate, the agency held two Bystander Trainings in November and December. Both trainings filled quickly, and it was evident that many people were looking for ways to further engage. While YWCA Olympia had planned to hold a Racial Justice Summit at a later date, it was clear that the community urgently needed a platform to understand how racism plays out in our community, and how

eliminating racism
empowering women

ywca



to resist it on multiple levels. A planning committee of twelve women and femmes of color organized the Summit as a rapid -response community action.

Over 200 people attended. The day-long Summit was held at South Puget Sound Community College and had over 200 attendees. The morning opened with recognition that the work was taking place on traditional Squaxin, Nisqually, Puyallup and the Medicine Creek Treaty Nations land.

Through spoken-word, local artists shared about their identity-development journeys and experiences of facing racism in our community. Nikkita Oliver, a Seattle-based creative, teaching artist, and anti-racist organizer delivered a

powerful keynote address. Nikkita emphasized the need to recognize the deep and lasting impact of systemic racism and white supremacy in communities, and stirred her audience to take every opportunity to engage, and resist. Through song and spoken word, Nikkita encouraged communities of color to continue pursuing healing together, as she lovingly proclaimed that "We ARE our own medicine."

The value of facilitated panels. While Nikkita's words brought inspiration and fire, the facilitated community panel seems to have provided the most profound and lasting takeaway for the majority of those who attended. With participants representing a diverse spectrum of the community, the panelists answered questions from a moderator and described many ways they experience both interpersonal and systemic racism in our community. They courageously spoke openly and honestly of how they are frequently perceived by

others, the ways in which their experiences are questioned or minimized; the assumptions that are made about them, the things they have to think about when getting dressed in the morning, of how prevalent and problematic the "White-Savior Industrial Complex" is in the Olympia community, and how apologies and words of intent are not enough. One thing that all five panelists seemed to share in common was an intense feeling of being unsafe in our community. From feeling physically at risk navigating public spaces, to the intense emotional labor and fatigue that comes with both experiencing, and speaking about racial trauma.

As there seems to never be enough awareness about the realities that members of marginalized communities face, in the coming months YWCA Olympia will be organizing more opportunities for individuals to share their experiences and perspectives.



Nikkita Oliver, keynote speaker.

Group caucuses. Ramirez Family Restaurant catered a delicious lunch which was followed by caucusing and workshops for the remainder of the afternoon. While not commonly practiced at public events in the Olympia area, caucusing provides the important function of creating space for groups to do interpersonal work with other individ-

uals who share their racial identity. To accomplish this, YWCA partnered with Full Circle United, a group of Black and Indigenous organizers who center the wellness and healing of People of Color (POC), and Showing Up For Racial Justice Olympia (SURJ), which is part of a national network of groups and individuals educating, mobilizing & organizing white people within a multi-racial movement for racial justice. SURJ organizers facilitated two White Anti-Racism Caucus (Beginning, and Continuing), while local educators facilitated workshops on internalized racism and identity development in the People of Color Caucus. Throughout the entire event, Full Circle United maintained a POC Healing Space that was filled with donations of flowers, medicines, refreshments and opportunity for individuals to take a break from the intensity of discussing / hearing about racism and race-related trauma, or simply to connect with other People of Color. The Healing Space was visited by over 60 people and was welcomed and appreciated by many, as there is frequently a sense of isolation among communities of color in our community.

Community "give backs." At the end of the day, everyone reunited to do "community give-backs," where individuals were able to share a few words with those who had participated, shared or organized the event. While the event was complex, and broached one of the most contentious subjects that can be discussed, it was deemed a great success. YWCA is already looking ahead to what we will do next year. In all of our work at YWCA, we emphasize a high level of accountability to communities of color, especially in our anti-racist work. In doing this, we were particularly thankful to receive excellent feedback about how POC experienced the event. The post-Summit survey was returned by over 50 responses, with every one noting something positive about what the event accomplished, how it was organized, or simply appreciated:

"The Summit reinforced how pervasive, persistent, and pernicious a problem we are facing. Racism is alive and active at all levels and all facets of our society. Its destructive power operates in obvious and subliminal channels."

"I learned that I have a community and that I never have to be alone anymore. I also learned how to cope with my identity and really define my stage."

"I realized how caucusing gives us the opportunity to explicitly examine our defensive, protective, and healing behaviors. During the afternoon POC caucus, I realized that I often don't give myself permission at all to cry in public, and specifically in front of white people, and this is part of a larger pattern of projecting strength that is related to both my struggles with assimilation and my fear that vulnerability will be taken advantage of by white people in order to put me or my loved ones in danger. I know consciously that this is a trap, a form of self-policing behavior, but I am very grateful for the opportunity to trust and care, while confronting how our behaviors and our social desires are impacted in so many ways by systemic racism."

"I learned that it's not enough to keep attending workshops and post things on Facebook or work on these issues in a single context. I need to show up and do something in the community at large."

"The message of "intent versus impact" landed for me. As well as a statement that I heard along the lines of: talk without action is just more trauma for POC's. Got it."

"It was refreshing to hear people speaking about racism in a sincere

Ground rules

from previous page

manding that their sources be cited. The leadership of an organization can and must be held fully responsible for every spoken or written word that comes from him or her or the organization they represent. If you are thoroughly prepared, you will know the weaknesses of these sources and be able to refute them publicly. At the same time be prepared to document your sources in order to maintain your credibility.

Address the issues, not just the actors.

Try to avoid personalizing the debate or focusing entirely on the presentation by the Right's representative. Take time to clarify what the real issues are, what tactics are being used, why these issues are important to the Right and what the implications of the debate might be.

Criticize the outcomes, not the intent, of the Right's agenda.

If you focus only on exposing the purpose of a particular campaign, you may find yourself locked in a circular argument about who knows better what the Right seeks to accomplish. It may be more productive to look at the implications of the issues at hand and to explain that the logical outcome of adopting your opponent's position will be a serious threat to the goals of your group.

Avoid slogans, name calling, and demonizing members of the Right.

Slogans and sound bites have their place, but they are not sufficient as an organizing strategy.

Simple anti-Right slogans do not help people understand why the Right sounds convincing but is wrong. And responding in kind to being called names weakens your position with some of the listeners you are trying to convince. Phrases like "religious political extremists" are labels, not arguments, and often will backfire on the neighborhood and community level.

Expose who benefits from right-wing campaigns.

One of the most common ways the Right advances its policies is to argue that they will benefit the "average" person, though that most often is not the case. It helps in exposing this deception to point out who actually stands to benefit and who stands to lose from the policy being proposed. Exploring whose self-interest is served help organizers as they seek a clearer picture of the forces behind a particular campaign. Sometimes, the greatest beneficiaries of a right-wing campaign are the organizations conducting it. Campaigns are recruitment tools. So if potential new members can be reached by a certain position, that is sometimes in and of itself the reason the campaign is mounted.

Keep Organizing.

Keep your supporters informed. Signing up supporters is a good start, but your job includes keeping your

supporters well informed. Often the Right will switch tactics or redirect its energy. If you are in the middle of an attack, these changes may be puzzling. Keep in mind that the deep agenda of the Right remains unchanged despite these apparent shifts. Persist in explaining this to your colleagues.

Involve clergy and other respected community members in your organizing.

Since so much of the Right's rhetoric has been influenced by the Religious Right, progressive, faith-based organizations and their representatives have great potential for increasing your chances for successful organizing. Sympathetic religious leaders can present an alternative interpretation of scripture and often have access to large congregations who may be interested in your work.

Be patient.

This advice is excerpted from Spence Sunshine with Rural Organizing Project (ROP) and Political Research Associates, Up in Arms: A Guide to Oregon's Patriot Movement, (Somerville: Political Research Associates, 2016). ROP is led by a group of courageous women who have been on the forefront of challenging the patriot movement in rural communities throughout Oregon for the past several years. To order this book send \$15 or a donation or both to: Rural Organizing Project, PO Box 1350, Scappoose, Oregon 97056. www.rop.org.

Letter to WIP

Those we elect have given too much power to the police

As I venture back from the bad lands of the prison system a fortunate survivor of police brutality, and hostage of a tyrannical judicial system, I dream of an American with less state and federal laws that govern the lives and social conduct of the American peoples. As the thin blue line is used against the American people, we are free no longer, our freedoms seized at gun point with Maced faces for having gathered in dissent of our government's growing totalitarianism.

Those we elect have given far to much power to the police to enforce the most ridiculous laws against us. The sixth amendment grants a lawyer offers a guise of freedom, but the judges have allowed the prosecution of a defendant to turn into a circus of prosecutorial misconduct surrounded by the lies of injustice. Surely Liberty is forgotten in the courts as she is no longer mentioned by those whose interest is Justice. These two ladies no longer share in name or consideration in a judicial system that spends more money on the prosecution of the poor than it does defending them at trial. The point being that if the government spends an overbearing amount of time and money to persecute a person then that same system of the people needs to ensure that those with

public defenders get the same money to allow for their defense.

The justice system by not providing equity at the first level of the judicial system have handed out whips and cat tails that slave masters in the thin blue line use to beat a free people. Every authority given to police should be debated vigorously as an injustice against the founding contracts of our nation. Police used as a armed utility to enforce laws looks dangerously like a armed military designed to assert authority over the American people. The third amendment was not inclusive enough about not quartering armed members of the government in communes as it only covered not allowing the government's army to live in my house. Police are entrenched in our community like foreign occupiers in a land overtaken by war. This kind of enforcement of papyrus allows for persons in power to make choices that are biased towards dictatorship. You will not cross the street illegally because authorities have guns. Would you also cut my hand off for eating the cabbage I stole? If the constitution doesn't cover regulating police in a police state then the police are unregulated and we are not a democracy we are a police state. If you keep watching tv and never leave your home then you won't get maced. Social control is the worst thing taught in a democratic society like the United States. Why don't they teach that the constitution as the document that confers authority and violating the law makes null and void a dictator's authority. So Habeas Corpus? If you do not respect the construction of your Authority -- you have none.

[signed] John Chacon. Mr. Chacon spent the last year of his life in prison for assaulting a police officer. He is a proud American.

Equity

From page 7

freedom to teach whatever they wanted. Beginning to examine the relationship between how faculty exercised that freedom and whether and how students were learning—including which students were learning what—he implied, was the beginning of the end of the college. The students who marched to Weinstein's program were fed up with his insistence that the college policies and practices center on him, and not them.

Fair Play and Hierarchies of Power

This year's Day of Absence has been widely caricatured in the media as the day when all white people were asked to leave campus. Weinstein and his brother happily trumpeted half-truths across social media. In fact, for the fifteen or so previous years, when people of color were invited to leave campus to talk about issues of diversity and equity, Weinstein said nothing. Only when it was suggested that white people could choose to leave campus for a day to talk about equity and inclusion did he speak out.

When Weinstein sought a louder microphone with Fox news, he con-

sciously aligned himself with the far right at a time when hate crimes committed against people of color are on the rise (Southern Poverty Law Center *Intelligence Report*). Not only that, but Weinstein publicly identified a staff person—a person of color—who makes about half the salary Weinstein makes, implying that that individual was behind the whole Day of Absence program. Not only were his claims untrue, but they precipitated the torrent of death threats and hate mail Middleton described in her op-ed. Weinstein's insistence that he, and not the faculty, staff, and students of color receiving these threats, is the true victim, is an effort to cover up the larger issue here.

What is the role of an educator today?

What happens when a teacher, most of whose salary comes from student tuition, insists that his freedom to teach what and how he wants surpasses the basic obligations of a college to provide equitable learning opportunities to all students? What rights do students have when the institutions they attend aren't working very well? The Evergreen students who demonstrated this spring, including the students who marched on Weinstein's classroom, were claiming their rights to a quality education in the context of an institution that historically has valued

faculty freedom more than student learning. Change is afoot—necessary change, well-deserved change—and the process is messy.

Contrary to what the right wing and even mainstream media are saying, this is not a story about a faculty member being silenced. Rather, it's about the students' demands for equity and the opposition to those demands. The purpose of teaching is to facilitate learning, and that belief animates Evergreen's new Equity Plan. It's exactly that relationship Weinstein resists, insisting instead that white educators remain free to indulge in practices that serve the interests of some, but not all, students.

References:

Chapman, T. K. (2007). *Interrogating classroom relationships and events: Using portraiture and critical race theory in educational research*. Educational Researcher, 36(3), 156-162.

Howard, T. C. (2010). *Why race and culture matter in schools: Closing the achievement gap in America's classrooms*. New York, NY: Teachers College Press.

Johnson, L. (2002). "My eyes have been opened": White teachers and racial awareness. *Journal of Teacher Education* 53(2), 153-167

Lewis, A. E. (2001). *There is no "race" in the schoolyard: Colorblind ideology in an (almost) all White school*. American Educational Research Association Journal, 38(4), 781-811.

Milner, H.R. (2010). *Start where you are, but don't stay there: Understanding diversity, opportunity gaps, and teaching in today's classrooms*. Cambridge, MA: Harvard Education Press.

Emily Lardner served as a long-time adjunct faculty member at TESC and directed the Washington Center for Improving Undergraduate Education, a public service center of The Evergreen State College.

Intent vs. impact

from page 8

manner, without the interruptions and push-back that usually occurs when POC simply discuss our reality around White people. The healing space went especially well for me and I spent more time in that room than I had planned."

"This summit elicited a very powerful call to action within me, more so than I've experienced during other any other anti-oppression group work."

Just the beginning. The 2017 Racial Justice Summit was supported in part by a grant from the Community Foundation of South Puget Sound's Irving A. Lassen Foundation Fund. Scholarships were provided by Heritage Bank, the South Puget Sound Community College Foundation and other investors committed to this work.

The 2017 Racial Justice Summit was a great beginning for collective anti-racism work in our community. We are thankful for all who joined us, and to those who worked tirelessly to make this incredible event possible. We hope you'll all join us next year... Until then, please get involved, and stay engaged in standing against racism in our community.

YWCA Olympia is on a mission to eliminate racism and sexism to advance the political, social and economic status of all women and girls. Our vision is a world where all people are valued, live free from oppression and thrive in a just society. To learn more: www.ywcaofolympia.org or follow on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter.

The Party Banner

By Maureen Canny

Slogans protect the reigning red regime
As they defend their marriages against
Those *other* people in love.
They must not contaminate definitions
Nor bake cakes for someone else's celebration

They fight giving refuge to children of war
Feeling justified by accusations that
Terrified five-year-olds
Are indoctrinated to hate us

They gun their engines in denial
All while knowing
Their oil derricks
Will topple under the weight of a climate collapse

They defend their right to poison ecosystems
As though air and water
And beautiful critters
Recognize property lines

They dream of returning to a great America
At a specific time no one seems to recall
They ignore the part about being nice to each other
As they plunge their swords of false righteousness
Into the souls of those less lucky

Fall in love
with your computer all over again!

Heart Computers offers a 5-star experience in computer services w/ reasonable prices.
\$95 flat-rate PC/Mac computer repair – free pick-up/delivery & 48-hour turn around.
Risk-free **\$195 flat-rate data recovery**.
30-day guarantee and follow-up support.

Free quote and over-the-phone diagnostic.
We take credit cards, cash, and checks.

360-561-3608 or help@heartcomputersoly.com



Wonder Woman: banned in Beirut

By Nora Barrows-Friedman

Lebanon has banned the blockbuster movie *Wonder Woman*, featuring the former Israeli soldier Gal Gadot. Gadot, who plays the lead role in the movie, served in the Israeli army during the bombing of Lebanon in 2006. The attack on Lebanon killed 1,200 civilians, a third of them children, during a 34-day period. Human Rights Watch has reported that as many as 4.6 million cluster bombs were dropped on Lebanon by Israel.

In 2014, during Israel's 51-day attack on Gaza, Gadot praised the Israeli army. Rania Masri, an activist with the Campaign to Boycott Supporters of Israel in Lebanon told The Electronic Intifada that banning the film is in accordance with Lebanon's boycott law.

The 1955 law specifically prohibits financial transactions between Lebanon and any Israeli

or Israeli institution, she said. Last year, campaigners pressured the government to issue the same ban against *Batman v Superman* in which Gadot also appeared, but “nothing happened

with regards to banning the film,” Masri, who is also a writer and academic, explained.

Major western media outlets have labeled the film ban an act of “censorship.” Masri argued that this was a legitimate implementation of Lebanese law and not an act of censorship over the film's content.

Wonder Woman has been banned because it features a former Israeli soldier in the lead role, Masri explained. The banning is an act of resistance “against normalizing with an apartheid settler-state that con-



tinues to this date to occupy not only all of Palestinian territory – and we consider all of Palestine to be occupied—but also Syrian territory in the Golan Heights [and] Lebanese territories in the Shebaa Farms,” she said. Eleven years after Israel was defeated in the 2006 war, Israel's leaders continue to threaten the entire Lebanese population with another war, Masri said. In March, the far-right Israeli politician Naftali Bennett openly threatened Lebanese civilians and declared that “Lebanese institutions, its infrastructure, airport, power stations, traffic junctions [and] Lebanese Army bases” are “legitimate targets.” Bennett warned that Israel would send Lebanon “back to the Middle Ages” if another war breaks out.

Nora Barrows-Friedman is an Oregonian and a staff writer for the Electronic Intifada. The June 8, 2017 edition also has an audio interview with Rania Masri.

Where you can find WIP RED BOXES

Lacey Transit Center
Percival Landing
Olympia Post Office
West Central Park
(@ Harrison and Division)
Vic’s Pizzeria on Division
Spud’s Produce on Capitol
Olympia Greyhound Station
Thurston County Courthouse

GREEN BOXES

4th Avenue across from Café Vita
Capitol next to Starbuck’s
Olympia Transit Center

WIPs are also available at:

Traditions Fair Trade Café
Olympia Timberland Regional Library
Lacey Timberland Regional Library
Westside Olympia Food Co-op
Eastside Olympia Food Co-op
Evergreen State College
South Puget Sound Community College

The Downward Escalator

We laughed as he descended on the escalator
Surely he is kidding
Those holding signs must be paid

We shook our heads through the childish spectacle
of the debates
Surely the others will stop his
Bullying and bluster

We squirmed when he was nominated
Yet thought it now an easy victory
A sure path for her

We were angered when the lies continued
But knew that reason, logic and truth would prevail

We wailed when he won
But relied on the votes being fairly re-counted
We had hope the electors would save us

Each day another jolt
An inability to stop
This violent tidal wave

We now cry in disbelief

About collusion
On business deals and back room blackmail
Parades of hooligans and billionaires

We again rely on the good people we elected
But the tweets continue
The pipelines are resurrected
Our roads, schools, prisons, health care
And our national treasures
Up for sale to the highest bidder

The poor who work the jobs no one else wants
Now in terror
An entire religion targeted
All women demeaned
Nature challenged to a final duel.

We keep hitting a damn wall
That we pay for
As he lies
And targets those who leak the truth.

Maureen Canny

9th Annual
24-HOUR Zine
Thing + Zine
Reading
Saturday
JULY 15, 1:00
P.M. – 6:45 P.M.

Celebrate International Zine Month! Join zinesters worldwide in the 24-hour Zine Thing challenge by creating a zine from start to finish in one day, or contributing to a collaborative zine. Drop in to the meeting room to use provided supplies, including typewriters, long-armed staplers, recycled magazines and a copy machine. Feel free to bring interesting materials to use or share. All ages and levels welcome. Snacks and supplies will be provided. Take a break at 5:30 for a special reading featuring local zine camp kids and their work. No library services will be available after 5 p.m. *Sponsored by the Friends of the Olympia Timberland Library.*



A Vote for Lisa Is a Vote For:

- A vibrant downtown that is inclusive of ALL
- Effective climate action planning that includes alternative energy and a healthy Deschutes River Estuary
- High-density living that preserves green spaces and promotes urban agriculture
- Ending homelessness as we know it by supporting Housing First programs

www.LisaForOlympia.com



- Infrastructure improvements that address climate change and put people to work
- Increasing the minimum wage in our city
- A responsive local government that listens and acts

But it’s so convenient... yet so eerie...

Hello. Pizza Milano?

—No, sir. This is Pizza Google.

Oh, sorry, I must have the wrong number.

—No, this is the number; we acquired Pizza Milano

Ok! Can you take my order?

—Yes, of course. The usual?

“The usual?” Do you know me?

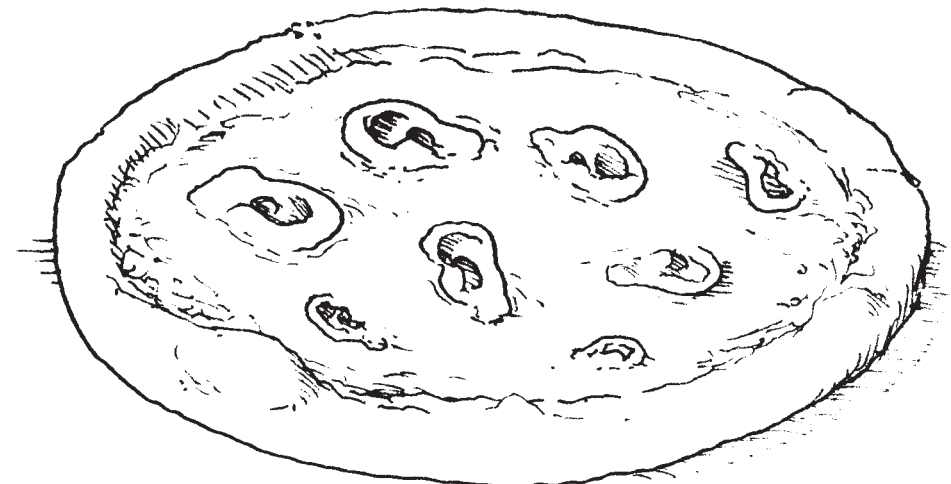
—Yes, we identified you by your telephone number, and according to your last several orders, you had thick crust pizza with extra cheese and peppers.

Wow, you’ve got it!

—Thanks, but could I suggest for this time ricotta, spinach and dried tomato?

No! I hate dried tomatoes.

—Well, your cholesterol level isn’t good.



Hey, how do you know?

—Thanks to our list of subscribers we have the results of your blood work for the last 7 years...

Well, now I’m taking medication for it.

—You don’t take the medication regularly, though—it’s been 4 months since you got the last bottle of pills at your CVS.

I buy them at a different pharmacy now!

—Oh? That doesn’t show up on your credit card bill...

I paid in cash.

—Maybe, but according to your bank statement you haven’t withdrawn any amount corresponding to such a purchase.

I have other places than that I bank!!

—You do? It’s not on your last tax return – maybe you have some sources of income that you failed to declare?

No! Okay, that’s enough – Google, Facebook, Twitter, WatsAp – I’m sick of you. Done. I’m exiling myself to an island with no internet and no cell phone reception where you can’t spy on me!

—I understand sir. But you’ll have to renew your passport—it expired 5 weeks ago.

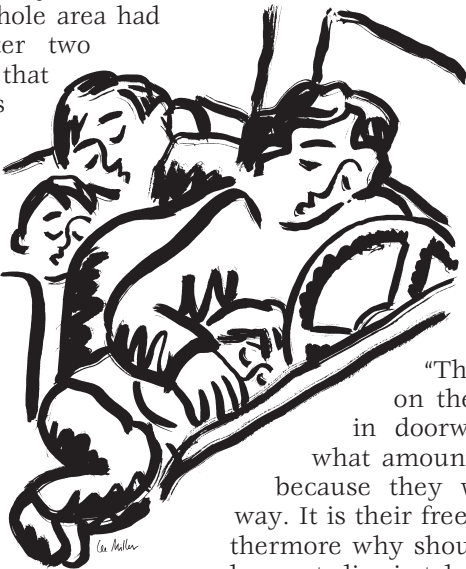
—Anonymous (well, maybe not)

Everyone Deserves a Home

By Delores Kelso Nelson

In the winter of 1992, national news services ran a story of about a house that was perched precariously on the edge of Telegraph Hill in San Francisco. The pale, yellow modernist house sat on the beautiful sandstone cliff, like enchanted aerie in a city beloved for its steep hills. The whole area had been evacuated, after two weeks of heavy rain that sent mud and rocks sliding down the eastern slope of Telegraph Hill. Then February 15 huge chunks of the battered hillside tore away at the foundation of the little yellow house until it broke into pieces. If a house comes undone it’s usually through neglect or a catastrophe of some kind, in this case it was a catastrophe for the owners. Loss of their home was bad enough but now their problems began anew; how to reclaim their belongings and what about insurance policies that do not cover mud slides? They commiserated with others about the impossible task of finding a comparable place to live. A house built on bedrock is not supposed to crumble and fall into the sea.

This story has stuck in my mind for years, and has generated many stories. It relates in so many way to the plight of the most vulnerable members of our community. The homeless, a group that includes families with children, people with chronic health conditions, and disabilities, veterans, people with mental health issues, and those who are victims of violence, all lack stable housing. They are forced to endure hardships, like the torrents of rains that pounded the eastern slope of Telegraph Hill, battering away at any sense of security they ever had. In essence, their little yellow houses have gone over the cliff. Everyone deserves a home; the foundation of our wellbeing depends on being safe and



secure where we can live in peace.

What then has to be done about the homeless population? We know that the lack of affordable housing has been related to an increase in substance abuse, aggravated mental health issues, criminal activity and an inability to maintain familial and community connections. Affordable housing is basic to the struggle for keeping people in homes of their choosing. For that reason the Home Fund organization has been established and supported by Interfaith Works.

Some people have told me “They who are out on the streets, sleeping in doorways and wearing what amounts to rags, do that because they want to live that way. It is their freedom to do so. Furthermore why should “we” who have homes to live in take care of those who don’t? If you help them, it won’t last, they will be back again and again for a handout.” Maybe this argument works for a few, but I for one, acknowledge the importance of compassion for the down-trodden.

A disturbing reality is a homeless mother with children. She doesn’t have a job, or has a job that does not pay well enough to afford rent; the car has become their only shelter.

Who are the homeless? We pass them everyday, but we don’t know their stories. The following are only three examples of people who would not choose to live on the street if there were housing available. A large number are military veterans, unable to find work and who have developed alcohol and drug addictions, which led to their broken home situations.

A forgotten category is young people who are former foster children. They have reached the age of responsibility, usually 18, and were forced to leave the foster home by governing regulations. The foundation of their “little yellow house” crumbled years ago when their parents could no longer care for them. Although, they now have freedom for most part, it is often experienced once more as if their home is going off the cliff, again.

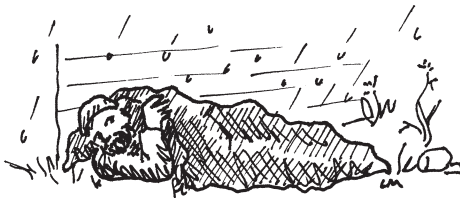
A disturbing reality is a homeless

mother with children. She doesn’t have a job, or has a job that does not pay well enough to afford rent; the car has become their only shelter. She is trying to keep her kids in school, clothed and fed. But like the ‘little yellow house’ that teetered on the edge cliff, it is not sustainable, the rubble of her life is crashing down on her and her family.

The goal of proponents at this time is to convince the Olympia City Council to put the Home Fund levy proposal on the ballot for November. Readers can get more information at www.oly-homefund.org and show support for the Home Fund by writing an email letter to the City Council. Tell them not let another little yellow house go over the cliff before they act.

Delores Kelso Nelson has lived for many years in a sturdy house on the Westside of Olympia. She is a Memoir Writing Instructor and can be reached at Delores at Bridgeworkmemoirs@comcast.net.

The Home Fund is a levy proposal to drastically reduce homelessness through the creation of safe and secure, affordable housing and rent assistance for the most vulnerable in our community. The vital component of this 10-year plan is a levy on real property at \$0.36 per \$1,000 a year. Annual tax on a \$250,000 home would be \$90. New and refurbished units are proposed to be built and acquired through nonprofit and private developers, such as Housing Authority of Thurston County, Homes First and Low Income Housing Institute. The levy would generate \$2.2 million dollars and will create 250 units of housing over 7 years, scattered throughout the city limits and primarily located on city bus lines.



A person making minimum wage in the Olympia-Tumwater area would need to work almost two jobs to pay for a market rate two-bedroom apartment...

Figures in the table below are from the National Low Income Housing Institute, which documents the widening gap between the cost of rental housing and wages earned by many working people. The study is called “Out of Reach 2017” and includes data on all states, including other cities in

Washington. The overview that this table is taken from is presented by City/Lab and can be found at www.citylab.com. The study was flagged in the current issue of Green Pages which can be found at www.ssgreenpages.online

Wages vs rent in the Olympia-Tumwater area

Avg. 2-Bdrm FMR	Hourly wage for a 2-Bdrm at FMR	Annual income for 2-Bdrm FMR	Full-time jobs at min wage needed
\$1071/mo	\$20.60/hr	\$42,840	1.9

Renter households in the Olympia Tumwater area 2011 – 2015 data

Number of households	Percent of all households	Renters’ est’d average hourly wage	Rent affordable at average renter wage
36, 369	35%	\$13.71	\$713.00/mo

FMR = fair market rent
Affordable rent = the accepted measure of the amount of a gross income a household should spend on housing – 30%.

Opinion

She who will not be blamed...

Sylvia Smith

"Not my fault"

On May 31, Hillary Clinton did the unthinkable. She added her own party to the list of those she blamed for her loss to Donald Trump. According to Hillary the DNC's "was bankrupt", "on the verge of insolvency", and its data was inadequate. And she didn't stop there. She even went after the *New York Times*—which had endorsed her—because, as she put it, "They covered [her private email server] like it was Pearl Harbor." Time to get out the violins.

A few weeks earlier during a BBC interview, Noam Chomsky had an entirely different take on why Hillary lost. He stated that "the Democrats had given up on the working class 40 years ago." Obama, who had campaigned on "hope and change", turned his back on workers following his election to serve the bankers. With Clinton promising to carry on Obama's legacy, to whom was the working class to turn? Even though the Republicans are known enemies of the working class, Chomsky believes Trump was successful in "appealing to white workers on non-economic issues" such as identity politics.

Chomsky also asserted that the most interesting aspect of the last election was not the election of Trump [or Clinton's loss], but the campaign of Bernie Sanders. "Bernie Sanders broke with a century of American political history. In American elections, back to the late-



19th Century, elections are basically bought. Literally. You can predict with remarkable accuracy electability simply on the basis of campaign funding."

Sanders, an unknown, had "no support from the corporate sector" or "from the wealthy." "The media simply dismissed him as ridiculous. He even used a scare word—"socialist". And he would have won the democratic nomination if it hadn't have been for the shenanigans of the party managers." Of course, this is something that Hillary will never acknowledge.

"Russiagate"

Many, over the last year, have compared the DNC's allegations of election manipulation by the Russian Federation to Watergate. It's almost as if they are hopeful in a sort of titillating manner. But I think they are truly missing the bigger picture and a much greater danger to the United States.

In contrast to the unsubstantiated claim of Russia meddling through WikiLeaks, Watergate did not affect the outcome of the 1972 election. Nixon was still re-elected despite revelations that his U.S. Attorney General, John Mitchell, and his re-election committee were implicated. (There

was actual proof.)

Watergate, more simply, involved a group of men hired by the Republican Party to wiretap the Democratic Party headquarters and Nixon and his White House staff, who would later try to cover up their participation. The burglars were convicted six months after the crime, White House involvement was revealed in the Senate Watergate hearings one year later, and Nixon was eventually forced to resign.

Unlike the Watergate scandal, even though the proven manipulations by DNC did affect the outcome of the presidential election, there will never be a Senate Committee hearing on the undermining of the U.S. presidential primaries. None of those involved will ever be held responsible. Debbie Wasserman-Schultz and Donna Brazile remain in office, and Clinton continues to give speeches and has a book coming out this fall. They and other DNC elites really should be behind bars.

Let us all pray that we will survive the Trump/Pence presidency and that HRC will finally stop talking. If only.

Sylvia Smith is a Greener, a Thurston County resident, and has been a disappointed progressive since 1968.

An insecure future for our Marbled Murrelets?

The Sierra Club

It is critically important to provide protection on DNR lands for the benefit of the whole species. DNR lands are disproportionately important to murrelets, because they are close to marine waters, at low-elevation, and in areas where federal lands are lacking, specifically around southwest Washington.

Murrelets have lost about 27% of nesting habitat on non-federal lands in Washington, Oregon, and California, with the most habitat loss occurring in Washington. Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, in their comment letter on the murrelet conservation plan, stated that DNR land is especially important for murrelet recovery. The BNR is looking to make their decision on a preferred alternative Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) this summer, likely as early as July.

Six DEIS alternatives are currently under consideration. The environmental community recommends that we ask the DNR NOT to make any decision on which of the six alternatives they prefer for a final environmental impact statement until they analyze a better, more appropriate range of alternatives including a "conservation alternative that offers the murrelet the best chance for recovery". (See Maria Ruth website for further information.) Here are some key points: As of Dec. 2016, the marbled murrelet is one of Washington's endangered species. The population in Washington has declined by 44% in the past twelve years alone. The DEIS Alternatives do not

properly reflect this imperiled state. The modeling and science presented in the DEIS shows great risk that all of the alternatives presented will lead to elimination of marbled murrelets in Washington within our lifetimes. This is why a revised or supplemental DEIS



should be issued. Selecting one of the six preferred alternative at this point is premature and undermines the integrity of the process.

The BNR and USFWS have not had time to review the public comments. We also are requesting that Commissioner Franz convene a high-level task force with county officials and the Governor's office to craft policy solutions that will provide long-term reliable revenue streams to trust beneficiaries. It does not make sense to choose between basic government services and protecting natural areas and biodiversity for our children when better policies, such as a unitary trust, land pooling, and increased use of targeted contract logging, are available. There

are common sense solutions that our State is long overdue in pursuing.

As current events unfold, it has become clear that our federal government is not willing to join the rest of the world in combating climate change. It is incumbent upon the states to lead the way in progressive policy solutions to make sure our planet is livable for future generations. Forests, especially older forests in Western Washington, are incredibly effective in storing carbon. Protecting the marbled murrelet's habitat is something that the DNR can do to help fight climate change. It's true that Washington doesn't have a large population of murrelets compared to Alaska and British Columbia. But it would be wrong to think that since there are an estimated 270,000 birds in Alaska, that they aren't in peril or that Washington doesn't have an obligation to protect the species.

Murrelets are declining across their range—the US Geological Survey in 2007 estimated that murrelets declined by 70 % in the past 25 years in Alaska from a historic population of around 1 million birds, and the population in British Columbia has experienced similar declines. The reasons for the murrelet's population decline are complex—but one thing is certain: almost all of the proposed reasons for the murrelet's decline are human caused. Oil spills, fishing bycatch, boat traffic all contribute to murrelet fatality; however, the best available science points to the logging of the murrelets' nesting habitat as the primary reason

for the declining population trends.

Concerned readers should send an e-mail to Hillary Frantz to question their options for preserving the Marbled Murrelet habitat. Department of Natural Resources <http://www.dnr.wa.gov> DNR site specific to Marbled Murrelet <http://www.dnr.wa.gov/mmmtcs> Maria Ruth, DEIS alternatives <http://www.mariaruthbooks.net/> Arienne Jaco • Evergreen Forests Program Associate, arianne@wecprotects.com.

You may also write to the Board of Natural Resources (BNR) at bnr@dnr.wa.gov to express your concern about the Marbled Murrelet and the DNR's proposed Draft Environmental Impact Statements (DEIS).

The Sierra Club South Sound serves members in Thurston, Mason, Grays Harbor, and Lewis counties of Washington State. There will not be a regular meeting in July, but meetings are normally on the second Wednesday of each month.



Birthing Roots Midwifery

Home Birth Midwifery Care
Stacey Callaghan

LM, CPM, ICCE, CD
360-789-9969
www.birthingroots.org
Stacey@birthingroots.org

THE


brotherhood

LOUNGE

daily happy hour 3-7

119 CAPITOL WAY

WWW.THEBROTHERHOODLOUNGE.COM



Need to organize a union?
Mistreated at work? We
can help. IWW is a union
for all workers!

facebook.com/olyiww
OlympiaIWW@riseup.net
olympiawww.wordpress.com

Another perspective on white working-class political identity

In the infancy of the Trump presidency, a new community defense network is espousing anti-racist and anti-capitalist politics to build coalitions in cities, small towns, and rural areas across America. It calls itself Redneck Revolt.

Redneck Revolt recruits predominantly poor and working class white people away from reactionary politics. The organization advances an analysis of their class condition and white supremacy's role in upholding the wealth and privilege of a small, white elite.

Redneck Revolt inserts themselves into overwhelmingly white spaces—NASCAR races, gun shows, flea markets in rural communities, and country music concerts—to offer a meaningful alternative to the white supremacist groups who often also recruit in those spaces.

The organization's growing membership comes as media pundits, the Democratic Party, and the United States' relatively small socialist parties all grapple with how to address the plight of working class white Americans in the wake of Donald Trump's election.

"Economic anxiety," a term presented by the media to defend Trump's ascension, has become an internet meme for acts of racial terror. *Hillbilly Elegy* author JD Vance has been paraded around to defend and mythologize the travails of working class white Republican voters.

Establishment liberals debate whether these people, particularly in red states, are worth reaching out to at all. They find the ease with which they embrace nativism, social conservatism, and racism might threaten a liberal voting coalition that includes people of color, immigrants, and the LGBTQ community.

Yet the American historical context that animates the Republican Party-working class white alliance is often absent. The historical failure of neoliberalism to present sustainable pathways out of poverty or a meaningful safety net for American workers is scarcely contemplated.

It is unfair to let poor white people off the hook for their lack of solidarity with the rest of the working class. But it is only through engagement, recognition of the failures of both politi-

cal parties, and organizing for a more radically unified working class politics that these issues can be overcome.

Historically small socialist organizations like Democratic Socialists of America have gained some traction promoting socialist, or more progressive liberal, politics in the wake of Senator Bernie Sanders' 2016 presidential bid, but Redneck Revolt is not prescriptive in regards to how to confront the inequities of the capitalist state.

"We don't have some grand plan for how we want to remake the world. We're tackling a specific problem, which is white supremacy, which we find to be built into capitalism," said Pittsburgh Redneck Revolt organizer Shaun who, along with Mitch, spoke with Shadowproof about their organizing with Redneck Revolt. Their last names are being withheld because other members of Redneck Revolt have faced doxxing and harassment by militia members and white supremacists. They don't want to put their families at greater risk.

"Our gripe with capitalism is it has utterly failed to make the vast majority of people free, because it was never really designed to," Shaun continued.

"It concentrates wealth in the hands of a small portion of the population, it concentrates power and access to resources in the hands of a small portion of the population, and it leaves the rest of us in a state of variable abjection. It doesn't work for anybody except the people who are exploiting the rest of us."

Despite their lack of a prescriptive political ideology, they do have a fairly broad set of principles posted on their [website](#). They include a rejection of capitalism, and "wars of the rich," standing against "the nation-state and its forces which protect the bosses and the rich" and standing in "organized defense of our communities." They declare their belief in the "need for revolution."

Redneck Revolt's anti-racist, anti-capitalist message seems to be taking hold in communities across the United States. The organization had just

13 chapters in January but has nearly tripled its chapters nationally in the last 6 months. The group now has 34 different branches, 26 of which are in states that voted for Trump. Multiple chapters have over fifty members.

Considering Redneck Revolt's vision, their embrace of the term 'redneck,' their belief in building solidarity with working and poor communities, their recruitment within rural white communities, and their embrace of late '60's-style survival programs, it is hard not to draw parallels to the original Rainbow Coalition, and specifically to the Young Patriots (YPO).

The Rainbow Coalition was an attempt—initially lead by Fred Hampton and the Chicago chapter of the

“white supremacy is essentially a fight to be the best treated dog in the kennel.”

Black Panther Party in the late 1960s—to unify the Black Power movement led by the Black Panther Party, the Puerto Rican Nationalist movement led by the Young Lords, and a white working class movement led by the YPO in Chicago.

Shaun confirms that members recognize parallels with the YPO internally.

"The YPO is a huge inspiration for us, specifically because it's one of the most visible instances of that sort of rupturing racial lines when folks from different demographics were able to step back and realize that their interests allied with one another not with a politician or a company," he said.

"There was a real tangible understanding that their liberation was bound up with one another's liberation. So we draw a lot of really explicit inspiration from the YPO and the work that they did with the Chicago Panthers and the Young Lords."

Professor Ciccariello-Maher believes that while the Young Lords should be an aspiration, organizers must be prepared for the challenges of coalitions.

"The danger of a Rainbow Coalition is that you can run into a left wing politics that, for example, asks Black Americans to stand-down with their complaints to embrace a broader coalition," he said.

Ciccariello-Maher cited the Communist Party USA's organizing as an example.

"I like to think of this in terms of an opposition that comes out of the old Communist Party strategy of what was called 'unite and fight.' The U.S. communist party, over a certain period, had a really incredible history of contributing to struggles against white supremacy in the U.S."

"It was really the main organization accomplishing these aims, but also had its limitations—in particular, when it retreated from those struggles, it argued essentially that workers should

unite and fight, meaning a kind of lowest common denominator of what Black and white workers could agree on. The result of this was really to erase the centrality of white supremacy in the workplace and in US history."

In a modern context, Ciccariello-Maher suggests it's "Not just how can we get together, you know can Black, white, and brown agree to fight for 15—the question is what helps us to overcome the very real divisions of the poor and working classes and sometimes that means fighting against white workers, over racial privileges."

"We need to see these things in motion, we need to understand the ways in which we could build a Rainbow Coalition, but one that understands the historic weight of anti-Blackness or one that understands the historical weight of Indigenous Genocide or of U.S. Imperialism in Latin America."

Ciccariello-Maher believes W.E.B. DuBois' Black Reconstruction In America provides valuable historical lessons, supporting Redneck Revolt's principles of standing against white supremacy, capitalism, and the wars of the rich. For Du Bois, the story of the white working class is a tragedy.

"It's the betrayal of a shared class condition," Cicariello-Maher said. "Du Bois is so struck by the fact that poor whites and slaves had so much in common and had so much potential for solidarity, and yet ultimately poor whites sided with the slaveowners and sided with what Du Bois called 'the petty wages of whiteness.' Psychological wages that make you feel better than someone else, but also material wages in the sense that you can work as a slave catcher and that's better than not having any job at all."

Shaun from Pittsburgh's chapter of Redneck Revolt discussed the conditions of these "psychological wages."

Shaun likes to tell potential members, "white supremacy is essentially a fight to be the best treated dog in the kennel."

"All poor and working class folks suffer at the hands of the rich. We all have trouble—bordering to the point of impossibility—making house rent, paying medical bills especially these days, covering food, making sure that our children and families are cared for and it doesn't have to be that way," he said.

"It's that way because a vastly small percentage of the population hoards access to resources and they're able to do this because they've managed to get one half of the working class to turn against the other half in exchange for basically preferential treatment."

"It's in everyone's best interests that we as quickly and aggressively as possible dismantle that system so that poor and working folks essentially have something resembling a fair shake at a decent life."

This is an excerpt from an article by free-lance writer Jared Ware, printed by Shadowproof, which is a reader-supported on-line press organization devoted to exposing abuses of power in government and business.

Watch the July 2017 program:
Reform Elections!
Restore Democracy!

FOR

OLYMPIA

Fellowship of Reconciliation

Our July 2017 TV program explores many problems in our nation conducts elections, including the corrupting influence of big money, partisan manipulation of voting district lines, the failure to represent political diversity, partisan suppression of voting rights, and so forth. For each problem our TV guests identify, they also propose solutions that would increase democracy and fairness.

Three guests share their information and insights into the problems and solutions. All three guests are active with non-profit organizations that are working to reform elections and improve democracy. Bre Weider is active with the Washington Voting

Justice Coalition. Colin Cole is active with Fair Vote Washington. Cindy Black is active with Fix Democracy First.

You have two ways to watch this program. See information at the top of this article.

To watch it online, visit [www.olympiafor.org](#), click the "TV Programs" link, and scroll down to July 2017. Click the link for this month's program to watch this program and/or click the Word link next to it for a thorough summary of what our guests said during the interview, including references and links to many information resources.

Questions? Contact Glen Anderson, the Olympia FOR TV series' producer/host at (360) 491-9093 glen@olympiafor.org

Cartridge Care Inc.

THE PRINTER EXPERTS since 1990

TONER - FILM - INK JETS

Remanufactured and new - Hundreds in stock

REPAIR - SERVICE - SALES for

Printers - Fax - Copiers - Plotters

Free Pick Up & Delivery

1314 Lebanon St. SE - Lacey

360-459-8845

Anti-transgender I-1552 campaign caught breaking the law

Just Want Privacy PAC, the ballot initiative's primary supporting group, has violated Washington State's election laws by failing to report numerous contributions from extreme, anti-LGBTQ groups, according to a complaint filed today by Equal Rights Washington.

Monisha Harrell, Chair of the Board for Equal Rights Washington, says these unreported expenditures were the clearest evidence yet that the I-1552 campaign, far from being about bolstering public safety, is actually a bold-faced attempt to do the exact opposite.

"We all care about safety, but I-1552's unreported backers are focused on furthering an anti- LGBTQ and discrimination agenda that will undermine public safety by encouraging more harassment and violence." —Monisha

Harrell, Chair of the Board for Equal Rights Washington

The complaint lays out in detail many unreported in-kind contributions (these include things like providing event logistics, staff time and other "significant campaign activities") to Just Want Privacy from groups like the Family Policy Institute of Washington, Alliance Defending Freedom, State Rep. Graham Hunt, and others.

These unreported in-kind donations include more than a dozen "Gender Revolution" events in Aberdeen, Pasco, Spokane, Sequim, Bremerton, Tacoma, Wenatchee, Bellingham, Vancouver, and Bothell sponsored by the Family Policy Institute of Washington (FPIW).

According to the Southern Poverty Law Center (SPLC), these events' main purpose was to recruit volunteers and gather signatures on I-1552.

In the complaint, the SPLC reports that Joseph Backholm, Just Want Privacy's I-1552 campaign manager, gave explicit instructions that attendees should get involved in the campaign to pass I-1552, effectively qualifying them as campaign events and making them subject to stricter financial disclosure requirements.

Staff time and organizational resources from another anti-LGBT group, the Alliance Defending Freedom, as well as former State Rep. Graham Hunt, were also dedicated to pro-I-1552 events and not reported as campaign expenditures. The SPLC lists the Alliance Defending Freedom as an extremist group.

In the wake of this disclosure, Seth Kirby, a transgender man and Chair of Washington Won't Discriminate, is

encouraging everyone take a deeper look at the I-1552 campaign and the discriminatory motives behind it.

"I-1552 is harmful, unnecessary and unenforceable. Transgender people like me deserve the same basic protections as everyone else—to participate in public life and use public facilities with safety, privacy and dignity. Life is hard enough, let's not make it worse for anyone. We should all be free to be our true selves." —Seth Kirby, Chair, Washington Won't Discriminate

Washingtonians who want to help defeat this discriminatory initiative can chip in to Washington Won't Discriminate's Decline to Sign I-1552 campaign before the initiative's ballot certification signature collection deadline on July 7th.

News briefs

Trump budget slashes funds to help rural America keep farm pollution out of drinking water

Friday, May 26, 2017 – Trump's budget proposal seeks to eliminate or slash federal funding for a number of vital programs that help states and rural communities deal with water pollution, much of which comes from polluted runoff from corn and soybean fields and factory farms.

One water protection program targeted for elimination is the Environmental Protection Agency's 319 grant program for nonpoint source pollution. Trump would zero out its budget of \$164 million. Under the program, rural communities "receive grant money to support a wide variety of activities" to help mitigate water pollution, including from agriculture and forestry operations.

EPA estimates that its nonpoint source pollution program has "partially or fully restored 674 water bodies" in the U.S. Success stories of this initiative abound for virtually every state in the country, including Iowa, Nebraska, Ohio and Michigan. In Iowa alone, there are 124 nonpoint source pollution projects that are either ongoing or completed. Exposure to nitrates in drinking water has been linked to higher rates of thyroid, bladder and ovarian cancer, and can lead to so-called blue baby syndrome, which can be fatal to infants under 6 months old.

—Environmental Working Group

EPA approves brain-harming pesticide

June 6, 2017 – Friends of the Earth, Pesticide Action Network and allies submitted over 145,000 public comments to the Environmental Protection Agency expressing outrage over Administrator Scott Pruitt's decision to reverse the planned withdrawal of the pesticide chlorpyrifos, which is used on a wide variety of crops—corn, soy, and many fruits and vegetables.

EPA was poised to withdraw chlorpyrifos in the face of mounting scientific evidence that exposure in the womb and early childhood can derail brain development, lead to developmental delays, lowered IQ and increased risk of ADHD and autism. A health assessment 2016 by EPA scientists found that infants were exposed to the chemical at 140 times levels considered safe.

According to **Kendra Klein, staff scientist at Friends of the Earth.** "Dow Chemical has cultivated a cozy relationship with the Trump Administration: the company delivered \$1 million to Trump's inaugural committee, and Trump picked Dow Chemical CEO Andrew Liveris to head the American Manufacturing Council. We demand that the EPA follow through on its decision to take this neurotoxic pesticide off the market."

—Friends of the Earth

Yemen cholera epidemic

8 June 2017—Yemen is in the grip of a cholera epidemic that is killing one person nearly every hour and if not contained will threaten the lives of thousands of people in the coming months. A massive aid effort is needed and an immediate ceasefire to allow health and aid workers to tackle the outbreak.

According to the World Health Organization, between 27 April 27 and June 3 676 people died of cholera and more than 86,000 people were suspected of hav-

ing the disease. In the first week of June the rate jumped to 2,777 suspected cases a day - up from the 2,529 the previous week. Given Yemen's neglected medical reporting system and the widespread nature of the epidemic these official figures are likely to be under reporting the extent of the crisis.

The cholera crisis comes on top of two years of war which have decimated the health, water and sanitation systems, and severely restricted the essential imports the country is dependent upon leaving millions one step away from famine.

Cholera is easily prevented with simple and affordable efforts such as disinfection of water with chlorine, safe collection and storage of water, and washing hands with soap.

—Oxfam

DEA agents oversaw notorious 2012 deadly force incident in Ahuas, Honduras

May 24, 2017— The Offices of Inspector General (OIG) of the US Department of Justice (DOJ) and the US State Department have found that US Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) agents were in operational control of a notorious incident in Ahuas, Honduras in May 2012. Four Miskitu villagers were killed and three others severely wounded. This contradicts previous claims by DEA officials that its agents played only a "supportive" role in the incident.

In the shooting episode, part of a counternarcotics strategy called "Operation Anvil," eyewitnesses and survivors say a boat carrying at least 15 people was fired on by State Department-titled helicopters and that an American agent in another boat had also fired a weapon. DEA agents and Honduran police then reportedly prevented injured victims from seeking medical assistance for hours after the shooting, and held them at gunpoint.

Clara Woods, one of the survivors and the mother of the 14-year old killed in the incident, was contacted several times by the DEA. She says she was offered money in exchange for altering her testimony of the incident.

Leaked State Department memos in revealed that both the State Department and the DEA had initially stonewalled attempts at an investigation. 2013.

—Center for Economic and Policy Research

Maine bid to shift time zones fails

June 16, 2017—The Maine Legislature tabled a bill that would have locked the clocks to daylight saving time year-round, according to the *Portland Press Herald*.

A growing number of states have been considering bills to eliminate daylight saving time, or stay on daylight saving time year-round, as more research indicates that the biannual ritual of changing clocks is harmful to public health, productivity and safety. This year, about half of states have considered or are considering time-related bills.

Maine's bill would have allowed voters in the state to approve the change through a referendum. But that step would only take place after Massachusetts and New Hampshire approved a move to Atlantic Time, which didn't happen this year.

Over 15% of the people in Thurston County used the Food Bank in 2016

Downtown Food Bank Distribution Hours

M-W-F 11:00 – 3:00 • 2nd and 4th Wed 5:00 – 7:00

One visit per calendar week – choices

Full Visit: 15 per calendar year;

7-day supply of groceries, all stations

Partial Visit: 10 per calendar year

Produce, protein, dairy, bread & pastries

Supplemental Visit: UnlimitedProduce, bread, pastries only

Government surplus foods (commodities) distributed once a month as available

Centralia Square Antique Mall

Antiques • Restaurant • Hotel

Directions from Olympia

South on Interstate 5

Off at Exit 82 (Factory Outlets)


East on Harrison

Right on Pearl

201 S Pearl & Locust

Open 7 days

10am–5pm





360.943.8044

233 Division St NW

News briefs (continued)

If a state wants to be on daylight saving time year-round, it needs to change time zones. To do this, a state would need to ask Congress to approve a law, or ask the U.S. secretary of transportation for permission. Then, the state would opt out of daylight saving time and stay on the new schedule year-round. This year, lawmakers on both coasts said they want to team up with lawmakers in other states to ask the federal government for approval.

— The Pew Charitable Trusts

Maryland becomes second state to ban the routine use of antibiotics on farms

May 30, 2017—The Keep Antibiotics Effective Act has gone into law without a signature from Governor Larry Hogan, making Maryland the second state in the country after California to meaningfully address the widespread misuse of antibiotics in livestock and poultry. The new law will prohibit the routine use of antibiotics on animals that are not sick; a practice public health experts say can fuel the spread of drug resistant bacteria.

Public health experts including the American Academy of Pediatrics and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention warn that if we don't stop the over-use of antibiotics in both healthcare and agriculture the drugs may stop working altogether.

Approximately 70% of human use antibiotics distributed in the U.S. are sold for use on food animals. In many cases, the drugs are given to otherwise healthy animals on a routine basis to prevent disease brought on by crowded, unsanitary conditions.

This legislation will do away with some of the worst misuse of these precious medicines and limit antibiotic use to treat sick animals or to control a verified disease outbreak. The new law is a major win for protecting the efficacy of antibiotics in Maryland and across the country.

— U.S. PIRG

Overall crime rate stable in 2016

June 6, 2017 – Chicago accounted for more than 55 percent of the murder increase last year, according to a new analysis of crime data by the Brennan Center for Justice at NYU School of Law. The overall national crime rate though remained stable. On average, numbers show that Americans remain safer today than they have been at almost any time in the past quarter-century.

These findings undercut rhetoric from President Trump and Attorney General Sessions that crime is “out of control.” Key findings include:

- National crime rate remained stable last year, rising by 0.9 percent.
- Violent crime rose slightly by 4.2 percent, an increase driven by Chicago (16.5 percent) and Baltimore (18.6 percent). Violent crime remains near the bottom of a 30-year downward trend.
- The murder rate in these cities increased last year by 13.1 percent. Chicago caused more of the increase in murders (55.1 percent) than preliminary data suggested.
- Possible causes of increased violence in Chicago include higher concentrations of poverty, lower homicide clearance rates, and fewer police officers. This is similar to the 2015 murder rate when three cities — Baltimore, Chicago, and Washington, D.C. — accounted for more than half (53.5 percent) of the murders among cities studied.

—The Brennan Center

Celebrate Israel parade disrupted repeatedly by Jewish activists calling for an end to denial of Palestinian rights

June 4, 2017 – The annual NYC Celebrate Israel parade was repeatedly disrupted by over 100 Jewish activists, including seven who were arrested for civil disobedience demonstrations that at times stopped the parade's progress. As the Israeli occupation of the West Bank, Gaza, Golan Heights and East Jerusalem turns 50 years old this week, the protesters highlighted the devastating impact of Israel's separate and unequal policies toward Palestinians.

One group of activists blocked NYC Mayor Bill de Blasio and his contingent, protesting the New York Police Department collaboration with Israeli security forces, an exchange of worst practices that harm communities of color and Palestinians. The activists locked themselves together across Fifth Avenue, preventing the Mayor from marching for several minutes with signs reading “Black & Palestinian Lives Matter”, “NYPD & IDF collaborate to kill”, and “End Israeli Apartheid.” Several parade-goers and private security attacked the protesters.

A group of queer Jews staged a sit in disrupting the LGBTQ contingent by holding signs saying ‘No pride in apartheid’ and ‘Queer Jews for a free Palestine.’ At the close of the parade, marchers were greeted by stiltwalkers with banners reading “Celebrate Ending Israeli Apartheid” and “Stop the Deadly Exchange.”

—Jewish Voice for Peace

Philando Castile shooting trial verdict

June 16, 2017—In response to the acquittal on all charges of the police officer who shot and killed Philando Castile last year, **Diallo Brooks, Director of Outreach and Public Engagement at People For the American Way, issued the following statement:**

“The details of every police shooting are different, but together they add up to a frightening pattern: a long line of black men and women killed by law enforcement. Today's verdict does nothing to reassure people of color in this country that when a shooting occurs we can rely on the criminal justice system to hold officers accountable for their actions.

“This pattern of violence stretches far back in our country's history. Philando Castile is only one in a long line of victims, many of whose names we've never known. Without question, this has gone on too long. It's long past time to take concrete steps to drastically reduce the unconscionable number of African Americans killed by police and to guarantee that when violence happens we can rely on the courts to ensure that justice is meaningfully served.”

—People For the American Way

Senate may bar press interviews in Hill hallways

June 13, 2017– Reports that the Senate has considered enforcing a rule prohibiting members of the press from interviewing senators outside of “designated areas” in the Capitol raise serious First Amendment concerns and highlight the precariousness of speech protections on the Hill.

Various outlets have reported that the Senate Rules Committee will require reporters to seek permission from the committee and the Senate Sergeant-at-Arms before interviewing senators in Capitol hallways. Sen. Richard Shelby (R-AL) issued a statement saying that existing rules would permit the committee to block reporters from conducting interviews in hallways.

Enforcement of the rule could lead to discriminatory or selective enforcement. Permission could be withheld from only certain news outlets, or from citizen journalists and bloggers based on the viewpoint of the individual or outlet denied permission to interview.

Supreme Court precedent suggests strongly that laws that disproportionately burden the news media could be unconstitutional even if they would be permissible if applied to everyone. Requiring members of the news media to seek permission before speaking to a senator, but permitting any member of the public to ask a senator a question in the hall without permission could run afoul of those cases.

—PEN America



Countries currently subject to bombing by the U.S.: **Pakistan, Somalia, Afghanistan, Syria, Iraq, Libya and Yemen** (with Saudi Arabia).

Wars currently declared by the U.S.: **None.**

State of democracy in the U.S.: **Eroding.**

TRADITIONS
CAFE & WORLD FOLK ART



Brass and Bead Necklace
Women's fistula rehabilitation project, Ghana
Ojoba Collective

Earrings
India
Mata Traders

Handbag from recycled grocery bags
Women's group, India
Asha Imports

Cotton batik dress
Women's coop, Ghana
Global Mamas
Ojoba Collective

Fair Trade & Sweatshop-free
300 5th Ave. SW, Olympia 705-2819
Concerts of international and local performers.
www.traditionsfairtrade.com

get grilling with
co-op local meat

WESTSIDE STORE
& GARDEN CENTER
921 Rogers St. NW
Olympia, WA 98502
360.754.7666

EASTSIDE STORE
3111 Pacific Ave SE
Olympia, WA 98501
360.956.3870

40 YEARS!
CO-OP LOCAL

Olympia
FOOD
COOP

www.olympiafood.coop
open 8am - 9pm daily



Showing at the Olympia Film Society

Neither Wolf Nor Dog

June 29 - July 1

David Lynch: The Art Life

July 1 - 6

Adapted from the 1996 Minnesota Book Award winning novel, this touching drama covers some familiar topics about white and Indian relations with refreshing levels of awkward honesty and wry humor. It follows the challenging yet cleansing relationship between Dan, a seen-it-all Lakota elder at the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation, and Nerburn, a guilt-stricken white author who has road-tripped from Minnesota to the rez to write his story... The characters of this modest, crowd-funded feature are practically unforgettable. The story serious, but no downer.

—Colin Covert, Minneapolis Star Tribune

Alien: Covenant

July 31 - 13

“Alien: Covenant” returns to the Alien (1979) horror movie roots. The year is 2104 and the Covenant, a sleek gigantic spaceship, is headed to a distant planet. Aboard are 2000 colonists, 1140 embryos, 15 crew members and one android named Walter (Michael Fassbender). Their mission is to populate a new world — the sort of homey place where people like second-in-command Daniels (Katherine Waterston) and her husband (a briefly glimpsed James Franco) can build a log cabin on a lake.

—Eleanor Ringel Cater, Sapoporta Report

This unfussy documentary goes a long way to explaining the circumstances and forces that wired his brain the way it is.

It starts with Lynch recalling his earliest childhood memory, sitting in a mud bath with his best friend on a hot day, and ends right as he finishes making his breakthrough directorial debut Eraserhead...

For Lynch fans it's hugely insightful, for everyone else it's simply a fascinating look into a fascinating mind.

—Karl Puschmann, New Zealand Herald

Rodney Crowell
w/ special guest Ericka Corban

Saturday, July 8, 8 pm

Rodney Crowell is a multi-Grammy winning singer/songwriter. His songs have been performed by an eminent group of musicians, including Van Morrison, Johnny Cash, Waylon Jennings, Emmylou Harris, Etta James, George Strait, Tim McGraw and Bob Sege Ericka Corban is a singer/songwriter from rural western Washington, who has been likened to Norah Jones, Colbie Caillat, Sarah McLachlan, and Joni Mitchell.

—Olympia Film Society

CAPITOL THEATER ON FIFTH AVENUE IN DOWNTOWN OLYMPIA



Neither Wolf Nor Dog — “When white people won, it was a victory. When we won, it was a massacre. When they fought for freedom, it was a revolution, and when we fought for freedom, it was an uprising.”

Works In Progress

Inside...

Let Moxlie Creek breathe

Equity and its discontents:

students’ education and The Evergreen State College

Remaking the Port of Olympia for the 21st Century

Does Thurston County need a convention district?

2017 Olympia City Council Primary Elections, August 1st

Context and corrective on events at The Evergreen State College

Everyone deserves a Home

.... and more...

