Eleanor Steinenhagen

“Treat the whole family.” This is one of the most important things Izzy Baldo learned in nursing school. It’s always at the front of her mind. But over the years, she’s realized it’s easier said than done.

As a young nurse working in oncology, Izzy was struck by the struggles many families face in paying for treatment. It often meant the non patient-worked two, sometimes three jobs while caring for young children and supporting their spouse through treatment, which inevitably took a toll on their overall health. “[I]t is completely helpless,” she said. “And it’s unnecessary. With a Medicare for All system, no one would have to endure that kind of stress.”

This is Izzy’s 16th year as a registered nurse. She lives in Olympia with her 12-year-old son and works at a local hospital. A member of National Nurses United (NNU) and Olympia Democratic Socialists of America (DSA), Izzy was invited by Our Revolution Thurston (ORT) to speak at their recent Fisher to Win party for Bernie Sanders, whom ORT has endorsed.

Izzy supports Sanders because she believes he will fully implement universal healthcare without caring to industry lobbyists given his decades of advocacy for it. National Nurses United endorsed Sanders in 2016 but has yet to endorse for 2020. Democratic Socialists of America has endorsed Sanders for 2020 and has been working to get Medicare for All, the bill he wrote and sponsored, passed in Washington state.

Izzy and local DSA members started by going door-to-door and tabling at places such as Wal-Mart, the Food Co-op, and libraries in support of Representative Pramila Jayapal’s universal healthcare bill (HR1384). Since Sanders’ bill (H1429) came out, they’ve been canvassing for it, too.

Washington’s Representative Denny Heck does not support Medicare for All.

In August 2019, canvassers of DSA requested a meeting with Representative Denny Heck. In response they were granted a meeting not with Heck but his district representative in Lacey. Eventually they were able to discuss their support for the bills with Rep. Heck directly at an event hosted by indivisible Tacoma.

Izzy recalls his response as “I’m not there, and I don’t believe I’ll ever get there.” Izzy supports Joshua Collins, Heck’s opponent, in the 2020 election.

The DSA is now trying to get Medicare for All resolutions passed locally in city councils. “It sends the message that this is a grassroots majority response to the national healthcare crisis,” said Izzy. If mayors and governors come together on this issue the way they are on the climate crisis, we can make progress toward providing healthcare as a human right.

How Medicare for All would lessen homelessness

The impact Medicare for All could have on people experiencing homelessness is another big reason Izzy supports it. With vision, dental, and mental health care coverage, including covered support for substance abuse recovery - at no cost beyond taxes - could mean fewer people ending up on the streets. And those who are currently on the streets would have more support when getting a roof back over their heads. Medicare for All would also probably decrease the number of people becoming substance-dependent as a result of homelessness, further containing the crisis.

Olympia renters ask City for timed fee payment plans

Baxter Lee

On October 8, at the steps of City Hall, a gathering of local Olympia renters rallied, hoisted signs and shouted chants asking the city to address barriers that make renting unaffordable for many. Protesters were advocating for a fresh ordinance that regulates fees and security deposits, known as a move-in fee.

Two members of the Washington Community Action Network (WashingtonCAN), Sarah Stockhol and Xochitl (So-Chi) Maykovich, led the rally. WashingtonCAN has helped pass similar ordinances in Seattle, Tacoma, Burien, and Vancouver.

Total costs to rent an apartment in Olympia, including administrative fees, first month’s rent, last month’s rent, and security deposits, can run anywhere from $2,500 – $3,000. This is a steep increase from 2011, when rent for a one bedroom apartment in Olympia averaged $600 per month. That price has jumped to nearly $1,100 a month today.

For many people at the rally, this figure represents 30-50% of their income. Those most at-risk from rising expenses are families, people with disabilities, seniors, and low-wage workers.

At the heart of the proposed ordinance is an installment payment plan for the renters’ biggest financial hurdles, coming up with first and last month’s rent and the security deposit. Instead of a lump-sum payment which could be as much as $3,000, the sum could now be broken into several payments.

For instance, for rental agreements lasting longer than six months, these fees could be paid incrementally in six equal monthly payments.

The new ordinance regulates fees and security deposits in other ways as well. Prepayment of rent would be non-refundable. Security deposits will be fully refundable. Move-in fees would be nonrefundable. In addition, those fees could only be utilized for tenant screening and cleaning up upon moving out. Fundamentally the only change for landlords would be incremental payments, as opposed to total and upfront payments.

After the rally and during the public hearing segment of the City Council meeting, Sarah Stockhol took the stand and addressed the council. “The cost of rent is rising and tenant protection is not. Renters are losing availability to affordable housing and paying up to 30% of their income. Those charges need to be capped and payment plans created.”

Baxter Lee is a contributing writer for Works In Progress. For more information contact Sarah Stockhol at sarah@washingtoncan.org or Xochitl Maykovich at xochitl@washingtoncan.org.
Then this happened

The crime of conscience. In June, WIP reported on the nine peace activists who commemorated the original anti-war intent of Mother’s Day by protesting against the nuclear-armed Trident subs parked in Kitsap County. One of the demonstrators, James Manista, “crossed the blue line” and was charged under US Code § 1361, Entering military, naval, or coastal Guard property, which comes with a possible six months in jail and a $5,000 fine. This October, Manista pled guilty and made an impassioned statement about the insanity of the US nuclear arsenal: “I stand for human liberation, not the destruction of humanity.” He was sentenced to 30 months in federal prison.

James Manista (center) surrounded by supporters at the Tacoma Federal Courthouse, October 25, 2019. Photo by Joanne Dufour

Food for thought. Winners and losers

For one very rich man there must be at least five hundred poor, and the affluence of the few supposes the indignity of the many. The affluence of the rich excites the indignation of the poor, who are often both driven by want, and prompted by envy, to invade his possessions.

It is only under the shelter of the civil magistrate that the owner of that valuable property, which is acquired by the labor of many, or perhaps of many successive generations, can sleep a single night in security.

[From Adam Smith, Scotchman and moral philosopher, writing in 1776 in The Wealth of Nations. His scathing critique of merchants is ignored by some because of the idiom of Smith as the father of their ‘free market.’]

The nurse lays the newborn gently on the mother’s breast and smiles congratulations. This little human has won the birth lottery: male, white, American. The research lead is that he will grow up to be healthy, well-educated, well-paid and occupy a position of authority in our society (rather like Brett Kavanaugh). Contrast that with the infant who comes into the world unattended, brown, indigenous and penniless. We don’t even calculate odds for that. I think of the ‘birth lottery’ often these days when I read about families walking from Central America to the border of New Mexico. Or fleeing from Syria, Afghanistan, Sudan, Iraq and elsewhere, from one border to another.

How is it that I’m not one of them? Part of the answer is simply the accident of birth – where and when I was born in the heart of the empire, not in one of the colonies designated for exploitation or an ancient country designated to be “liberated” by us, or a country already facing drought or inundation as they reap the climate we have sown. I was born at the end of WWII to white parents at a time when economic opportunism had run its course, and the odds of my being able to live an easy life were good.

But there is more than birth to winning or losing, and we hope some of the articles in this issue of Works in Progress shed light on some of those issues:

Our competitive market economy works like a game—for someone to win, someone else must lose. That “market” seems to be the only way to run an economy, but that’s not the worst of it. The playing field isn’t level. The rules favor the wealthy and if the wrong people come too close to scoring, the referee can have you arrested and carted off to jail.

The cliché about the golden rule is, “thou shalt give the gold make the rules,” and you can read examples of that in the article about renters asking for lower move-in fees and the city granting tax exemptions to wealthy developers, and the story about Medicare for All, and the reflections from a red diaper baby about ‘socialism’ and the making of a new playing field. The story about ICE raids on workers and the anniversary of the Wobbly massacre at the Wobbly massacre at the border of New Mexico. Or fleeing from Syria, Afghanistan, Sudan, Iraq and elsewhere, from one border to another.

Sometimes your only recourse might have been to bring the game to a halt — the story about the Vietnam Moratorium and the Civil Rights marches in Washington, D.C. remind us that unions serve to beef up the strength of our teams.

Our priority is to focus on stories that are ignored or misrepresented in the mainstream media, especially those that relate directly to our mission. To this end, we work to seek out opportunity and encourage, serious analysis of issues confronting our communities and accounts of personal experiences or reflections by local writers. Informed opinion pieces are welcome, especially when accompanied by facts, data and sources. Writing that stereotypes groups or categories of people will not be accepted for publication.

We discourage writing where a key point is stated as fact when it is unpublished or in serious dispute. Articles can relate to the theme but material on other topics is important. While the views expressed in the material we print are those of the author alone, WIP typically will favor material that is consistent with our mission.

Once we receive a submission we may choose to publish it, or not, but WIP reserves the right to edit all submissions for accuracy. WIP will work with authors if there is a need for editorial change in the interests of clarity.

Deadlines. Submissions must be received by the third Sunday of each month to be considered for that month’s issue. See Submission Guidelines at www.olywip.org for details.

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www.olywip.org

Submission deadline next issue: December 10

Deadline for WIP is Sunday evening.

Proofreading Meeting: Sunday, December 29

115 Legion Way SW, 1st floor

Well, today Daren Tatro is finally free. Despite dogged efforts by the government of Israel to secure the maximum conviction possible, their Supreme Court last week rejected the government’s request to reverse Daren’s overturned conviction for incitement to violence. With that, the poet’s legal odyssey has come to an end. It happened more than four years after it began.

The crime of identity. Everyone freaked out when it was reported that we should all be able to call ourselves immigrants in the leg. But that’s what the Israeli army does to Palestinians and it’s the only way the government of Palestine in Gaza has masked along the shared border with Israel to call for a boycott. The ship Freedom Flotilla was seized from in 1948. In 8 months, Israeli snipers have shot 6392 demonstra-
Will the Port of Olympia admit that taxes aren’t revenue?

Denis Langhans

In 2013 commissioners at the Port of Olympia adopted a set of finan-
cial measures to set goals and track the performance to those goals. If
ever the Port of Olympia is going to achieve fiscal soundness, this is sore-
lessly needed. The goals were aspiration-
l in that they strove to improve op-
erational performance. For example,
one goal was to improve the return on operating revenue from -25% to +5%.

The positive aspect was that it high-
lighted a need for improved perfor-
formance that was tied into reference points in the port’s formal account-
ing. The weakness was that there was no solid business plan to achieve this turn-around.

The port’s 2019 Budget shows a planned operating margin of -15.4% against the goal of +5%. Rather than amending the goals to more realistic targets (e.g. re-
turn on operating revenue of +5%), port staff is recommending junking the existing goals and replacing them with some arcane measures that are not expressed in terms compatible with the formal accounting. This ap-
proach is problematic.

Before adopting new financial mea-
sures, our port commissioners should consider several factors:

• Will the measures be clear—or so confused or opaque as to be difficult to perceive or understand?
• Will they function as a microscope to gain deeper insight into empiri-
cal realities—or as a kaleidoscope presenting pretty images detached from outside realities?
• Will they provide real financial analysis—or represent a return to the magical thinking that has caused the port’s ongoing finan-
cial woes (e.g. irrational capital in-
vestments)?

• Will the measures comport in spirit with GAAP accounting and the stan-
dards of the State Auditor (e.g. tax receipts are not to be treated as op-
erating revenue), thus not fit for sur-
real, Alice-in-Wonderland type of accounting?

Port report:re:port

How to arrive at a true picture of the port’s financial performance

Over the years, business-
houses have developed a variety of measures that of-
fer them the opportunity to present their financial situation in different ways. Some are designed to look posi-
tive (for the investor), some to look negative (for the tax man) and some are more objectively an accurate picture. There are relevant here: 1) EBITDA; 2) Return on Total Revenue; and 3) Income (loss) before Tax Levy

The Port of Olympia recently compiled a report that presents a picture of the port’s financial performance. Incurred losses or gains are classified by two categories: Operating Income and Non-operating Income.

The following statement is from the Office of the Washington State Auditor:

It is a delayed recording of a cash exp-
ense. The largely idle crane is worth considerably less than its acquisition cost, and has pro-
duced virtually no revenue to offset its depreciated value. Since the port has used different depreciation method-
ods (20 yr/10 yr/ per hour), it may be that the port has not even charged off sufficient depreciation costs.

Then there is the matter of ignoring interest costs on capital items. As a public agency, the port can carry both interest and amortization costs as non-oper-
ating expenses. But interest payments are real cash outlays and should not be ignored in finan-
cial importance. So, to use EBITDA at a public agency is to demonstrate that great cash flow is a fic-
tive endeavor.

Arguably, Warren Buf-
nett and his longtime partner, Charlie Mun-
ger, are the gold standard and in that they strove to improve op-
erational performance. For example, they use EBITDA as a metric and those that don’t, I suspect increase the likelihood for more fraud in the former group.

In this context, management think that the tough fairly pays for capital expenditure.

Munger—“I think that every time you see the word EBITDA, you should substitute the word ‘bullshit’ earnings.”

Given the port’s record on bad capital investments, it appears that utilizing “tooth fairy accounting” is not a very good idea.

Return on Total Revenue: total inc-
come divided by operating revenue. Different versions of the Port are at measuring expenses compared to revenues. Essentially, it’s a way to validate their statement that revenues are sufficient to cover operating expenses. But interest payments and amortization of capital items are real cash outlays and should not be ignored in financial importance. So, to use EBITDA at a public agency is to demonstrate that great cash flow is a fictive endeavor.

The last thing that the Port of Olympia needs is more magical thinking in the form of “down the rabbit hole” accounting.

The Port of Olympia and the Port of Anacortes have the same operating units (airport, marina, marine terminal and real estate) and are somewhat similar in size of operating revenues. So, it is illustrative to com-
pare them financially based on stan-
dard accounting and the proposed “total revenue” approach. Under stan-
dard accounting, the Port of Olympia shows a return on operating revenue sufficient to cover operating expenses. But use the “total revenue” approach and Olympia comes out considerably worse. Also, Anacortes which gets only 9.5% of “total revenue” from its real estate. [See the full comparison online at olywip.org]

Under the “Total Revenue” approach, increasing the tax levy substantially appears to be the key to operational improvement, witness the 27% in-
creased tax payment in Olympia since 2016. Significantly, the tax levy percentage to operating revenue by the Port of Olympia is about three times that for comparable ports.

The Port needs to rely on its Income before Tax Levy approach. I believe that the best governance approach for managing the Port of Olympia is the Income (loss) before Tax Levy. This is already present in the Management Format Income Statement. Gimmicks like EBITDA and Total Revenue will only perpetu-
ate the mess that the port is in today.

Denis Langhans is a retired corporate executive who holds a PhD in the humanities. He has been observing governance patterns at the port for several years.
Olympia’s co-op businesses create economic justice and opportunity

In October, Olympia’s longtime restaurant and performance venue, Le Voyeur, became the latest business to transition from private ownership to the cooperative model as is just like their privately-owned coop with more on the way.

Many of the newer co-ops are former clients of the NWCDC, where McNamara is Senior Cooperative Development Specialist and where, since 1979, co-op success stories from all over the United States have been created. Another longtime Olympia retailer, Orca Books, is currently working with NWCDC to convert to the cooperative model in its Rural Grounds Cafe.

Cooperatives keep profits in the hands of members and workers

To the casual onlooker, co-ops look just like their privately-owned counterparts (although the employees may seem happier) but a big difference is how earnings are distributed. Under a cooperative structure, the members operate the business collectively. All decisions, from wages to suppliers to health and insurance benefits, are made democratically. Any profits are distributed among members instead of accumulating in the hands of private owners.

The NWCDC specializes in evaluating the viability of proposed co-operative businesses. Funding through the USDA Rural Cooperative Development Grant allows NWCDC’s work in rural communities to occur without direct fees to the client. During a typical partnership, clients receive an average of 100 hours of evaluation and technical assistance from NWCDC, from staffing and inventory and other day-to-day operations to marketing and distribution.

Sometimes the figures don’t add up and a venture is not advised. “If an owner hasn’t been paying themselves a salary, for instance, which is fairly common, will the numbers work when that expense is factored into the new budget?” asks McNamara. “Fails do occur during conversion. Some (businesses) just can’t get to a break-even point.”

The five and ten-year survival rate for worker co-ops is generally double that of conventionally owned businesses, but co-ops require some financing assistance. The NWCDC works with lending institutions specializing in cooperatives, including National Co-op Bank, Washington-based Craft 3, Beneficial Bank, and Shared Capital of Minneapolis.

And for those whose cooperative visions come to fruition, the NWCDC assists by creating articles and by-laws to govern the new venture. “We are focused on making Le Voyeur’s new owners feel safe here.”

Le Voyeur’s new owners are learning. Lopez says, to embody the cooperative ideal. Frequent meetings help establish the tasks to be done and a venture is not advised. “Co-ops should be places where people are more empowered,” Lopez says, “where shared ownership and democratic decision-making are the opposite of empty capitalist enterprises.”

Every day, Le Voyeur’s new owners are learning, Lopez says, to embody the cooperative ideal. Frequent meetings help establish the tasks to be done and a venture is not advised. “We are focused on making Le Voyeur the safest space around. We are very queer-friendly. People can feel safe here.”

Update on Orca Books co-op transition

In August of 2019, Orca Books launched a drive to transition to a member-owned cooperative, with the goal of raising $200,000 by December. As of this writing, $30,000 has been reached. Funding depends largely on online and in-store membership purchases and the store’s GoFundMe campaign. Members who have already joined will begin receiving discounts and other incentives in November. Discounts for those purchasing a membership after November 1 go into effect on January 1, 2020. Learn more or donate at https://www.gofundme.com/u/orca-books-co-op

*The NWCDC does offer fee-based coaching and training in addition to its other services. For more information contact the Northwest Co-operative Development Center at 360.945.4241 or email info@nwcdc.co-op
Fish, floods and whether to dam the Chehalis River

Lee First

The era of dam building is over and an era of fishery protection has begun. Yet the Chehalis River Basin Flood Control Zone District (FCZD) is proposing to construct a flood retention facility—a dam—near Pe Ell, Washington. This would put the Chehalis River and its fish in peril, and likely cause the Spring Chinook in our river to go extinct.

A strategy that would do more harm than good

The Chehalis is a free-flowing river, 117 miles long. It’s the longest river in Washington. It’s the only basin in Washington with the Chehalis River and its fish in peril, and likely cause the Spring Chinook in our river to go extinct.

The Governor’s Office of the Chehalis Basin, under the Department of Ecology (DOE), is evaluating the dam as one strategy to reduce flood damage during a major flood on the Chehalis River. The proposal includes levee improvements around the Centralia-Chehalis Airport in Centralia, Washington.

A policy of building chinook salmon runs

At the same time, a DOE task force charged with aiding the recovery of Washington’s orca whales is working on ways to increase the abundance of Chinook salmon. The number one recommendation of the Orca Task Force is to increase stocks of Chinook salmon, not cause these stocks to go extinct.

Salmon originating in the Chehalis River are part of a group included as part of our Southern Resident Killer Whale Priority Chinook Stocks. Satellite tagging data from NOAA Fisheries from 2013 to 2016 showed months off Grays Harbor estuary, likely feeding on these salmon runs.

In spite of their protected status as an endangered species, the Southern Resident orca population is the lowest it has been in more than 30 years. As this orca species feeds primarily on Chinook salmon—and also in decline—approval of the dam would directly contradict the efforts of the task force.

The number one recommendation of the Orca Task Force is to increase stocks of Chinook salmon. In spite of their protected status as an endangered species, the Southern Resident orca population is the lowest it has been in more than 30 years. As this orca species feeds primarily on Chinook salmon—and also in decline—approval of the dam would directly contradict the efforts of the task force.

We can protect our lives and the life of our fishery

The Chehalis River is the only basin in Washington State currently without federally listed salmon species. It is the #1 most productive salmon producer in our state. Extensive splash damming, widespread removal of log jams and wood, timber harvesting and removal of riparian vegetation have all severely depleted the amount of wood in the stream channels. The basin’s ability to support some types of fish has decreased by as much as 80 percent, with the most significant loss in the amount of spring Chinook salmon. We can protect life and property from floods and preserve critical salmon habitat at the same time. There are low-impact and structural alternatives to dams. Actions to restore habitat should be undertaken first. Environmental Impact Statements are being prepared—one by the Department of Ecology and one by the Corps of Engineers. These will be finalized in early 2020.

Lee First is a member of Twin Harbor Waterkeepers in Grays Harbor County. You can learn more at Twin Harbors Waterkeeper. Or visit the Quinault Nation website and the website of the Office of the Chehalis Basin.

Small victories

Firelands on the move for a healthy future

grew up in the shadow of “timber wars,” hearing that city councilmen were to blame for the loss of timber jobs and the growth of poverty. Since then, I have felt trapped between the fires of my own daily crises and the wildfires raging in our forests each summer—but I knew I wasn’t alone.

So, a group of us got together and formed Firelands to build power for a green, healthy economy. This summer, volunteers knocked on doors and had conversations with 215 people in 14 small towns in 7 counties all over Washington.

We talked about the daily fires, the wildfires, and what people would want from a Green New Deal. We talked with farmworkers, loggers, grocery workers, bus drivers and more. We heard overwhelmingly that the cost of living is too damn high, and that people want a Green New Deal—the program that creates living-wage jobs caring for our people and our places. The survey is just the beginning and we’re excited for what comes next. Find out what we learned by listening to people at FirelandsWA.org.

Stina Janssen is Co-Director of Firelands. She can be reached at FirelandsWA@gmail.com.

Firelands on the move for a healthy future

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215 Legion

located by

creating space for reimagining

(Olympia has long lacked readily available spaces for people to meet. Last year, a group of people managed to acquire a space downtown. They have turned it into a warm and inviting place for groups to use, a space that invites a reimagining of community abundance. This summary is based on notes from the one-year anniversary gathering.)

A year ago, a group of people opened a low-barrier space at 115 Legion available to hold events, meetings, and to do creative projects as a form of autonomy in action. At a recent gathering, those who use the space defined autonomy as the

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Rising

Greg Black & The Planetary People

A Lot Like You

Greg Black of The Blacklights

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Humes

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makes a great gift!
Perspectives

More tax exemptions for wealthy builders: winners and losers

Dan Leahy

Olympia City Manager Steve Hall and his City Council are giving Walk-er John, perhaps the City’s biggest welfare recipient, another 6-year tax exemption on a downtown building. This time it is for Mr. John’s 46 unit Annie’s Artists Flats at 5th Avenue. The Final Certificate of Tax Exemption is now at the County Assessor’s office.

The City’s Multi-Family Tax Exempt (MTFE) program gives a tax ex-emption on the residential portion of the property. According to a 2019 Joint Legisla-tive Audit and Review Committee (JLARC) report (JLARC), the owners of these exempted properties in Washington, State and City’s urban areas, have between 2014 and 2018, an average of $1.1 billion/year worth of property was exempted, which leaves the owner an average of $2,096/unit on mar-ket rate housing. In 2018, owners of these exempted buildings earned $9 million in taxes. The program is pro-jected to save owners $137 million by 2021. Most of these millions are either made by other taxpayers or hand a loss to the State’s Auditor.

Who wins from this MTFE program?

As a friend of mine said to me recently, “Wait a minute. The City, on the con-trary, is making it easier for some-thing to be sold for birthdays and memorials, is giving away $1,925,012 a year to a rich developer with no real need for this tax exemption to keep me to back that lost revenue by pay-ing more taxes?” The answer is yes.

New affordable housing is not happening

Some folks mistakenly believe that builders get this tax break because of a public need for affordable housing. Page form asks vital questions neces-sary to exercise their Right of First Refusal. Court of Appeals. One possible out-come would be that AMTAX, a prof-it-oriented group of investors, could privitalize the apartments and elimi-nate the affordability standard.

Continuing threats downtown affordable housing

Our roving reporter Boardwalk is a 284-unit property is a vital source of affordable housing for seniors in our community. The project came via the Low Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) program and allocated to states. The owner of Boardwalk is Capital Way Associates, Limited Partnership. SHAG (now standing for “Sustainable Housing for All Generations”) and SHAG’s General Partner and therefore manager of the property. The limited partner—the investors who receive the tax credits — is AMTAX Holdings out of Ohio. When a 15-year compliance period ended in December 31, 2014 the tax credits were no longer available. Then came a 2-year period ending in December 31, 2016 in which it was possible to extend the tax credits. In those two years, SHAG and AMTAX have en-gaged in a legal dispute over whether SHAG can receive the reimbursement of the property and maintain it as afford-able housing for seniors; or whether the investors can take over the property and sell it.

On March 4, 2019 (Western) District Court Judge Ricardo Martinez ruled against SHAG in a bench trial. SHAG lost because, according to Judge Martinez, it had not demonstrated that it was hav-ing “engaged in unjust, inequitable, bad faith or unconscionable conduct” to its lessors at issue.” The judge had found that SHAG had not appropriately attempted to exercise their Right of First Refusal to purchase the building. What the exact implications of this legal loss are is uncertain. SHAG, as a nonprofit organization, was unable to exercise its Right of First Refusal to purchase the property. The case is now headed for the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals. One possible out-come would be that AMTAX, a prof-it-oriented group of investors, could privitize the apartments and elimi-nate the affordability standard.

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Anti-union ICE raids are a war on workers

Megan Cornish

The callous cruelty of Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) was on full display when the agency rounded up 680 immigrant workers at seven chicken processing plants across Mississippi on August 7.

The raids, possibly the largest ever in the U.S., may have been prompted by a string of anti-immigrant operations that severely injured workers. ICE raids against employees who stand up for themselves and their rights as working people.

Punishment for organizing.

It’s no coincidence that two of the raids occurred in Mississippi, a “right to work” state, where employers belonging to United Food and Commercial Workers Union (UFCW) Local 1529 are being monitored to try to drive Black farmers out of the state.

It is heartening that in many cases unions are building holistic and diverse networks of support have poured in for these raids. Donations are being solicited by Symbiosis as the official ‘Points of Unity.’

The folks at Cooperation Northfield and its members of support have poured in for these visas will no longer be granted. Instead they will be turned directly to law enforcement or ICE to determine whether a crime has been committed. Applicants can be deported immediately.

A crucial part of the workers union class

Trump and his ruling-class brethren, past and present, gain multiple benefits from anti-immigrant operations. In the area of sheer money-grubbing, their super-exploitation of new workers is clearly intended to hold down wages and conditions for all workers. Then, by scapegoating these new workers, the ruling class is able to hold down wages and conditions for all workers. The kids are the future. They are as for all US workers.

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Cooperative business and for renew-able energy. The Carbondale Spring people also do disaster relief, as did several other organizations represent-ed at Symbiosis. Disaster relief is a vital component of taking care of our-selves and making our Oppression Machine irrelevant to our lives—the very strategy I have been promoting for years in the Thunderbolt (I have coined this ‘Disaster Anti-Capitalism’).

The city of Carbondale has double the national average in numbers of both police officers and police em-ployees. The Carbondale Spring folks plan to pay for their projects basically by dismantling their overlarge police force. They have come up with a de-tailed plan to do just that—evidently Illinois is a state where citizens can petition their initiatives onto the bal-lot and thus into law.

From the Carbondale Spring website: Each of these initiatives will create or retain local jobs that are sup-portive of the community and each other. Each will build resilience in the face of the climate and econ-omic challenges we face and will transform the real substance of the town, creating a sense that we are facing our challenges head-on as a community. They will, of them-selves, help to ‘re-brand’ Carbondale, but in a deep, transformative way, rather than the superficial changes proposed by the logic of marketing.

The website: https://carbondalespring.org/

Cooperative New School for Urban Studies and Environmental Justice
I spoke with Mel, of the Cooperative New School for Urban Studies and Environmental Justice in Chico, California, which is an educational proj-ect, but Mel also does a lot of disaster relief work. Chico and neighboring Paradise were both hit hard by wild-fires last year—you may remember that Paradise was totally wiped out.

From their website: The Cooperative New School is a next generation in-stitution for popular education that is fully online and governed coop-eratively by students, faculty, and staff. Popular education is politically conscious in that it recognizes op-pressive structures in society. It aims at social transformation through the self-empowerment of people who are socially marginalized, or who are not sufficiently served by established academic institutions. Our collabor-ative structure, in which student-owners and faculty-owners co-create our curriculum, as well as teach and learn from each other, is rooted in these principles. Popular education originates in many parts of the globe. The faculty owners at the Cooperative New School draw inspiration from theoretical approaches articu-lated by among others Paulo Freire, bell hooks, and Myles Horton.

The purpose of this institution is to prepare student-owners and soc-cial entrepreneurs to survive and fight back in a rapidly changing world. Scientific consensus is that dramatic environmental change is not only in-evitable but already happening. Fires with increasing intensity, strong storms and longer duration of storm season, dead zones in oceans, rising sea levels, just to name a few are go-ing to be increasingly common. The next steps are adaptation and mitiga-tion, a word, survival. We believe that dealing with environmental change and catastrophe will begin in local communities with basic skills, skills which have been lost in the Industrial Age. Growing food is one of the easiest, skills that The Cooperative New School’s courses focus on.

The website: https://cooperativa-newschool.org/about

The James and Grace Lee Boggs Center to Nurture Community Leadership
Detroiters are not lying down. There are over 1,200 community gardens within the City of Detroit. We visited one on a bus tour (in Rick’s bus) or-ganized by the James and Grace Lee Boggs Center. During this tour we heard a history of Detroit and learned of many of its heroes along with the many steps Detroiters are taking to regain agency over their own lives. The Boggs Center does all kinds of work empowering the victims of De-troit’s abandonment.

From the Boggs Center website: “Our mission is to nurture the transfor-mational leadership capacities of individuals and organizations com-mitted to creating productive, sus-tainable, ecologically responsible, and just communities. Through lo-cal, national and international net-works of activists, artists and in-tellectuals we foster new ways of living, being and thinking to face the challenges of the 21st century.”

The website: http://boggscenter.org/about

Disaster Art—The Heidelberg Project
Detroit is also the home of one of the craziest and most amazing art exhibs I’ve ever seen—the Hei-delberg Project, headed by an artist named Tyree Guyton. I can’t begin to do it justice with a description, so I suggest you to Google Earth and type “4679 Heidelberg St., Detroit MI, 48207” Then go to Street View and cruise around the block a couple of times. The project takes up an entire city block and portions of surround-ing blocks as well. Even Street View is absolutely nothing like actually walking around in the middle of it, but you can get the general idea.

From the HP website: Guyton sys-tematically re-arranged the existing landscape on Heidelberg Street by in-corporating found objects, the street, the trees, the sidewalks, abandoned houses, vacant lots, nature and even the people! Residents who would nev-er visit the Detroit Institute of Arts or the Detroit Symphony Orchestra have become educated about art and participate in HP programs, festivals and forums. We provide modest jobs and an outdoor space in which mem-bers of the community can come together to reflect, play, create and interact with people from around the world. This project is a result of self-worth and pride. The website: https://www.heidelberg.org/
Rethinking Everything
Lesson #6

No doubt there will be free societies in the future as there have been in the past," writes the philosopher John Gray in Straw Dogs: Thoughts on Humans and Other Animals. But they will be rare, and variations on anarchy and tyranny will be the norm. The needs that are met by tyrants are as real as those to which freedom answers; sometimes they are more urgent. Tyrants promise security—and release from the tedium of everyday existence. To be sure, this is only a confused fantasy. The drab truth of tyranny is a life spent in waiting. But the perennial romance of tyranny comes from its promising its subjects a life more interesting than any they can contrive for themselves.

Whatever they become, tyrannies begin as festivals of the depressed. Dictators may come to power on the back of chaos, but their unspoken promise is that they will relieve the boredom of their subjects.

—Chris Hedges in Truthdig

The City of Olympia’s “Green Climate Machine” in action

For a generation and more, the 9.4 acres of land in this photo on Olympia's westside were covered with trees. This is a strip of land between an area developed in the late '90s and the tax-generating Auto Mall. This stand of mature trees ensured that heavy rains would be absorbed into the soil, breathed oxygen into the air, buffered a neighborhood from the noise and lighting of an “Auto Mall,” sheltered birds and homeless people and promised to go on doing that as the globe warmed.

Until a developer applied to build single-family homes on the property. Because we have a system where money is trump, and where governing institutions have their own interests, the city collected $120,465.70 in permit fees from a Delaware corporation—with no caveats about keeping any trees. Not one tree. Which green are you for, indeed?

Along with the loss of these trees, the SW neighborhood stands to lose a dedicated bike-pedestrian path that they fought for successfully since the year 2004. The plan for the new development is to funnel cars out via Fern St (substandard and overcrowned today) and what will no longer be the bike path, but another sacrifice to the primacy of the automobile.

What is this destruction of land and community for? In the context of an affordable housing crisis, the City approved the construction of 56 luxury houses priced at an estimated $450,000 each, with two-car garages and no public transit. They did this over the formal opposition of the SW Olympia Neighborhood Association and the additional opposition of 147 neighbors filed as “parties of record.”

Is it possible to imagine a more morally and environmentally bankrupt set of plans contradicting all our elected officials’ rhetoric about neighborhood involvement and promotion of pedestrian friendly sustainable communities?

Aerial photo inset by Yvette Hall
Drying my mother’s tears
Socialism is out of the closet and part of America’s everyday life

Jon Epstein

Do you remember where you were on November 9th, 1989? That’s the day it was announced the Berlin Wall had fallen. The story has crossed my mind recently as I was remembering where I was on February 15th 1972 when the World Trade Center Towers collapsed.

Not everyone celebrated the fall of the Berlin Wall. The weather in November can be miserable but that day in 1989 was mild and pleasant. It wasn’t raining. The news spread quickly. Everyone, while being told the people were talking about the end of the Iron Curtain, embracing each other at the steps of the Lincoln Memorial, seemed to be great news among my peers and people of all ages. For the first time I realized I was interested in traveling to Eastern Europe and visit- ing countries like Bulgaria, Romania, and Hungary where I could visit Budapest one day.

It was all revelry until early evening when I arrived at my mother’s home for a dinner engagement. The first thing I noticed was that the curtains were drawn, though it was still daylight. I was a bit concerned as my mother, her face was puffy and I realized she’d been crying all day alone in her house.

A generation fighting for social justice – Party member
I should explain that I’m a “red-diaper” baby. The term doesn’t have anything to do with my actual in- fant diaper. It refers to the fact that I’m the child of parents who were members of the Communist Party in the USA. My parents met at a meeting of the Young Communist League (YCL) in New York City in the early 1940s. The YCL recognized the Communist Party USA as the party for socialism in the United States and operated as the Party’s youth wing.

Both my parents were first genera- tion Americans who came of age during the Great Depression and world war II. As a result of the great depression, collapse, my par- ents came to believe in the rights of union and collective bargaining, economic justice, in civil rights and in world peace.

In 1963 they took their young family to the March on Washington where we witnessed Martin Luther King Jr. deliver his “I Have a Dream” speech from the steps of the Lincoln Memori- al. My father used to say that the most radical thing a person could do was to have children and raise them with love so they would grow up to emu- late their parents’ political beliefs. In that way my parents succeeded. May- be there are red-diaper babies who grew up to be Republicans and Wall Street bankers, but I did not. I con- sidered myself a socialist all my life.

Fighting for justice and equality -- subversive and unAmerican
I can’t help but talk about my family history while my parents are still alive. I’d been sworn to secrecy. My parents speak of their lives during the fear of finding out anyone finding out their po- litical beliefs. They had lived through the so-called Red Scare of the 1950s. Wisconsin Senator Joseph McCarthy in a series of highly publicized Congres- sional hearings accused business and political leaders and many other individuals of being Communists or Socialists, or being sympathetic to those beliefs.

In 1954, he was discrated by CBS news journalist Edward R Murrow and censured by the Senate.

But McCarthy had already ruined the lives of many Americans and con- vinced a nation that socialism was evil. The House Un-American Activi- ties Committee went on attacking people for their political beliefs until it was finally disbanded only in 1975.

Louis and Norma Epstein at the New York World’s Fair circa 1964

Arguing for socialism—still scary but after all these years—McCarthy’s tactics persist to this day. Senator Lindsey Graham recently ac- cused four Democratic Congres- swomen of being “commu- nists.” Republicans just released a video that operates with Congresswomen Alex- andria Ocasio-Cortez (AO) in a pho- tograph that’s been set ablaze. While the photo- graph burns, a voice intones, “This is the face of socialism and ignorance. Does Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez know the horror of socialism? ... forced obedience to our government?” The message is clear. AOC is ignorant, socialism is evil and Ocasio-Cortez should be burned like a witch for promoting it.

Coming out as a believer in socialism
I was born in 1957, about a month after Senator McCarthy died. I didn’t experience the red-scare directly and I am proud of my socialist history. Yet because my parents’ palpable fear of retribution, it’s not something I felt I could speak about until after they had passed.

Now I would argue that socialism is not a bad thing—it makes sense to have certain economic and social functions performed by our govern- ment and subject to society’s goals. When profit is not the main object, goals such as a living wage, univers- al health care, fair employment, etc. can be part of an enterprise.

It’s clear that the United States eco- nomic structure is neither purely capital nor socialist but a hybrid. Like a car that uses both fossil fuel and electric power, the USA is built of capitalist and socialist elements. Coffee is provided by a private corporation and organized to make a profit—think Starbucks. But there is a long and varied list of ser- vices Americans enjoy that are sup- plied by government owned entities and not driven by the profit motive.

Some news for Senator Graham and his friends
The US military is the biggest social- ial program on the face of the earth. The US military is provided by government owned entities and not driven by the profit motive. Congresswomen like Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez who fight for are alive and well and banded into the American economic matrix regardless of what gets reported in the corporate me- dia. Next time you are enjoying your commute to work on public transporta- tion, paying your sewer bill, visiting Mt Rainier National Park, or caching your Social Security check remember that you are benefiting from social- ism.

Jon Epstein was born in New York City and moved to Olympia in 1975. He earned a bachelor’s degree from The Evergreen State College in 1981. He worked for six seasons as a federal forest firefighter and also with the Washington Department of Natural Resources, the Dept of Corrections.

Maybe there are red-diaper babies who grew up to be Republicans and Wall Street bankers, but I did not.

Joining minds for peace
Friday Stillness announces new hours

Friday Stillness is sponsored by Bridgell’s Well, a community devoted to therapeutic and transformative practices while being mindful of the needs of those who are poor and marginalized. We meet every Friday from 10:00 am - 6:30 pm at 1604 Unon Ave. SE. Olympia to pray, sing, study, journal and learn from one another.

Group Meditation/Centering Prayer is offered from 5:30-6:30 pm at the same location. All other sessions meet from 1:15 pm to 3 pm.

Nov. 1: Celebration of All Saints, Ritual with Dances of Universal Peace, bring a story/photo of a loved one who has passed.

Nov. 8: Group Meditation/Centering Prayer is offered from 5:30-6:30 pm at the same location. All other sessions meet from 1:15 pm to 3 pm.

Nov. 15: Group Meditation/Centering Prayer is offered from 5:30-6:30 pm at the same location. All other sessions meet from 1:15 pm to 3 pm.

Nov. 22: Group Meditation/Centering Prayer is offered from 5:30-6:30 pm at the same location. All other sessions meet from 1:15 pm to 3 pm.

Nov. 29: Gratefulness for What We Have/We Have Everything We Need: We’ll celebrate with a ritual.

For more information, call 360-593-6164.
At Waldorf schools winning means more than coming in first

Lori Lively

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At 11 years old, children are approaching puberty but mostly have yet to experience adolescence with its awkwardness and mood swings. Their adult teeth have grown in (an important sign of developmental readiness in Waldorf), and their limbs are balanced and graceful.

When he was developing the Waldorf curriculum, Rudolf Steiner chose fifth grade as the ideal time to introduce children to ancient Greek, Indian, and Persian cultures specifically because their physical and intellectual development mirrors that of those golden civilizations. Fifth graders embody the Greek ideal!

By the time they arrive at the Pentathlon, students have been studying ancient Greece for months. Whether or not they intend to compete in every category, they have a little training in each of them. Some anticipate the Pentathlon with joy, some dread it. Mostly, they're excited, open, and looking to the gods—teachers and administrators wearing traditional Greek garments—to set the tone.

When they are assembled, the students (also in togas) encounter one of the day's biggest challenges: reassessment to a city-state made up not of their classmates but of students from the other schools. For the duration of the event, they will compete as a team with those new friends. They are, together, Sparta, Athens, Carthage or Mycenae.

Specifications differ from year to year and school to school, but an essential component of the event is the ritual invocation of the goddess before the beginning of the games. Students may recite an appeal to the gods they've learned in class: “Oh Athena, grant me endurance...” or “Oh Artemis, guide my arrows to fly straight and true...”

After the goddess' invocation, competition begins simultaneously in several arenas. The greater the number of schools participating, the greater the number of contests. Onlookers gather at the edges of the archery range to watch students cast their arrows. Others keep their distance but cheer their favorite Greek wrestler or discus thrower. Against a backdrop of tension, skill and chance, winners and losers begin to emerge.

By late afternoon, contests are finished and everyone gathers for the closing ceremony. An earthly representative of the great Apollo, echoing the spirit of the ancient games, bestows a crown of laurel leaves to one individual in each city state who best embodies the spirit of the games. This is the highest honor given at the games.

Those who excelled in each category are rewarded with silk ribbons for first through fifth place, as expected. But other achievements—Grace and Beauty, Strength, and Endurance—are also rewarded with ribbons.

These last winners often receive the most applause from teammates, friends, and parents who've witnessed that child's public struggle against their own limitations. It is a moment of generosity by the entire community, a recognition of current effort that underscores one of the many lessons of the Pentathlon: it's important to recognize people for excellence. And there are lots of ways to excel.

Lori Lively is Assistant Editor at Works In Progress. For more information on Waldorf education, visit www.olympiawaldorf.org or call 360.943.0800.

Greek wrestling is performed when a circle is drawn around two students of roughly equal size who must push against each other using their only arm strength. The exercise, according to Steiner, develops a student's inner will forces. The first one to be knocked off balance and pushed out of the ring loses the round.
Tattoo artist’s evolution marked by respect for Polynesian traditions

Matt Crichton

[Note: Matt Crichton got his first tattoo as a Peace Corps volunteer in Western Samoa from 2007 to 2009. During his two years there he formed a connection to the land, people and culture—so when he decided on another tattoo, he looked for one from Samoa. Matt found Tricia Allen while researching Polynesian tattoos and interviewed her by phone about her work.]

How did you get into tattooing and specifically Polynesian designs?

My entrance into Pacific and African art came about when I was working at the Denver Art Museum in the Native Arts Department. I moved to Hawaii and started grad school at the University of Hawaii. Marquesan tattoos was the topic of my thesis. I took a volunteer position on an oceanography vessel that was mapping the seafloor off Rapa Nui or Easter Island. They were looking for grad students to go as volunteers to be trained. My interest was really the tattoo revival happening on Tahiti, not Rapa Nui but it was a way for me to travel to do fieldwork that otherwise I couldn’t afford.

I had contacts on Rapa Nui as I had been writing to five people on the island before email. I asked, “Do you have copies of these?” Three out five responded and said they didn’t know because early unders are not allowed in the libraries on Rapa Nui. I was buying up every used copy of every book on Rapa Nui and photocopying thousands of pages of early material to bring back to the people on Rapa Nui because it’s their culture, it’s their history. It should be in their hands.

One day I’m having lunch with Ed Hardy, and I showed him some of the old tattoo illustrations from Rapa Nui. He said, “Wouldn’t it be cool to give them the real thing, instead of a photo?” I said, and he encouraged me to start tattooing. I really learned in order to take the cultural tattoos back to Rapa Nui. That was my introduction to traveling in the Pacific and tattooing. I’ve been tattooing ever since—about 20 years.

Why were you interested in doing Polynesian tattooing as opposed to other types?

I had no interest or attraction to tattooing whatsoever. None. It wasn’t the tattoo per se, it was the whole cultural experience. Who does it? When is it done? What does it signify? What’s the methodology? Is there any ritual involved? What’s their appren-
ticeship program like? Who does this?

It was those questions—the cultural context—that I was primarily interested in. Looking at it as an art form—as any other work of cultural or indigenous art.

Are there differences in meaning for tattoos in America vs tattoos in Polynesia?

In America tattoos are usually a mark of individuality. A person gets a tattoo that speaks to their background, who they are, and things that have happened to them. It’s a very individual sort of thing. In an indigenous culture, it’s exactly the opposite. It’s a mark of commitment and conformity to your culture (to the group). In America we would not think that tattoos were a mark of conformity, but that is exactly what they are seen as in traditional Polynesian cultures.

What are three interesting things you have learned doing Polynesian tattoos?

I deal a lot with cultural appropriation. That’s a hot topic—stealing from other cultures and using it for commercial purposes. I’m dealing with an indigenous art form and living culture. Going about that in a consci-
centious respectful way is important.

Another question is, “What is a Polynesian tattoo?” We have to define that. Is it strictly a tattoo that’s put on an islander by an islander within their specific artistic heritage? Does it have to be done by an islander to qualify as an “authentic” tattoo? What is tradition? Today we’ve under so many different influences and most people are of mixed race. I don’t think we can be bound by ancient traditions. We have to respect them, and in most cases it’s somewhat inappropriate to wear some- thing that you don’t have a definite connection or tie to. Why would someone get a Marquesan tattoo if they don’t even know where the Marquesan Islands are located?

Polynesian tattoos didn’t have a written language—it was an oral culture. When Europeans required signatures, oftentimes the Maori would draw their moko, their tattoo, as their signature. That’s unique to that indigenous culture and history. It should be in their hands. It’s a very individual sort of thing. In an indigenous culture, it’s exactly the opposite. It’s a mark of commitment and conformity to your culture (to the group). In America we would not think that tattoos were a mark of conformity, but that is exactly what they are seen as in traditional Polynesian cultures.

To misappropriate a Maori’s tattoo is akin to taking someone’s social security number and using it for commercial purposes.

Christianity tried to stamp out tattooing in Western Samoa. How was the practice kept alive?

In Samoa and in many other places there was competition between the missionaries for converts. In Samoa, the Catholic Church realized that part of the reason people might not want to convert to Christianity was because they were banning the tattoo. The Catholics allowed tattooing to continue, which is partially why both Catholicism and tattooing sur-
vived, and even thrived, in Samoa. In many of the smaller islands, par-
ticularly the Polynesian outliers, tat-
tooing did continue but on a smaller scale solely because they are remote islands that aren’t commonly visited by outsiders.

How do you see the future of tattooing?

I can describe what I’ve seen happen in recent years with tattooing. Over the last ten years, I’ve seen pan-Pa-
cific hybrid tattoo. People take de-
sign elements from various Pacific cultures and mix them into these hybrid contemporary pieces. I think there is nothing wrong with that. But I have a problem with people misrep-
resenting what it is. If the artist is do-
ing something that is fairly contem-
porary—Tahitian, for example—they shouldn’t tell the client this is for, for example, ancient Samoan. No, it’s a contemporary hybrid piece. That’s problematic as it’s misrepresenting culture and history.

Partially that’s come about as a result of the many young tattoo artists who really don’t have a deep knowledge, who have not visited these cultures, or studied their traditions. They might not know what is Tongan versus Fi-
jian versus Samoan. They are hybrid pieces, and that ultimately leads to a loss of knowledge of individual cultural traditions. As this continues over time, the youth may not even know what a traditional tattoo is, let alone what is a Marquesan tattoo, and that’s problematic.

I’m not saying that we should stick to our own traditions necessarily, but we should recognize what they are and give that culture the credit for having created those designs, and not misidentify them as being something else.

Tricia Allen completed her Master’s degree in Anthropology and in 1992 began an early tattooing practice in the Marquesas Islands. Her doctoral work involved researching the revival of the arts of the Pacific. Her work has taken her to Samoa, Aotearoa, New Caledonia, the Society Islands, the Marquesas and Rapa Nui. She has tattooed over 8,000 members of the Polynesian community. You can read a longer version of the interview at www.olywip.org.
Ecuador: La dictadura étnico-clasista continúa

Erika Sylva Charvet

Durante once días, Ecuador ha vivido la escenografía de la etnomilitancia que recuerda su historia contemporánea. En el marco de un estado de sitio que se instauró el 24 de octubre, a raíz de las protestas del 24-05-2017, cuando empezaron a desplazarse a las calles los y las ecuatorianos que han sido testigos y víctimas de persistente violencia, dando lugar a una masacre, absolutamente silenciada por los medios de comunicación cuyo saldo aún es incierto, pues se presume que las cifras de 7,000 heridos, 1152 detenidos, proporcionadas por la Defensoría del Pueblo (13-10-19), a la que se sumarían alrededor de 80 personas presuntamente asesinadas, podría ser aún mayor. Pero esta dictadura que ha visibilizado el talante neofascista de las oligarquías no es un fenómeno de este octubre. Ha venido gestándose desde antes de que Moreno acceda a la Presidencia. Pero sería desde 24-05-2017, cuando empezaron a transparentarse sus acomodos tras bastidores con EEUU, los aparatos de información y discurso, la popularidad y los medios de comunicación empresariales, la partidocracia, así como con cierta dirigenza indígena y sindical que le confirió una base popular a ese nuevo pacto oligárquico-imperial orientado a erradicar el progresismo del gobierno, el Estado y la sociedad.

Así, durante dos años y medio no les ha importado arrastrar con la ley y la Constitución para fijar su reprogramación del pacto dicatorial sobre un grupo, a fin de proscribirlo políticamente: la dirección de la Revolución Ciudadana (RC), tal como lo hicieron otras las dictaduras civiles y militares en nuestra región.

La herramienta para ello ha sido el discurso del odio, encaminado a la destrucción simbólica del progresismo, asociado a la corrupción, tratando de anularlo y convertirlo en un cáncer a extirpar, utilizando la invocación del discurso del odio y la violencia, y en su forma cartular, amplificados por medios de comunicación venales convertidos en “enciclopedias de la muerte”, cuyas mentiras han sido obedecidas por un aparato judicial subordinado a dicho pacto, que ha querido presentar a este en la escena donde es dirigida esa violencia totalmente debido proceso. Ese ha sido el caso de Jorge Glas, Rafael Correa, Paola Arose, Sofía Espin, Carlos Ohcoa y otros dignatarios.

Que julio de 2017, cuando Moreno dijo en Quito: “esta es una guerra” y avanzó con los embates de sobreentendido que culminaron con la judicialización de Correa en abril de 2018, está orgánicamente vinculado a octubre de 2019, se evidencia en las nuevas mentiras políticas que hoy trata de construir, banalizando la in-surrección nacional-étnico-popular como un “correísmo”, tratando de reconstituir con su tentativa de estigmatización, e intentando reconstituir el pacto con las fuerzas que, en apariencia, son el enemigo, la transición, sobre el supuesto de una comunidad de odio, rechazada, por cierto, por los lideres indígenas y los líderes de los pueblos originarios.

La insurrección mostraría, sin embargo, que el marqués no se ha percatado de ello, pues en el marco del diálogo con el ECUI, las transiciones, habría encontrado una nueva razón contra la RC, encarcelando a Yoffre Poma (Asambleísta), Alexandra Arce (ex alcaldesa de Durán), a la Prefecta de Pichincha, Paola Pavín, Vírgilio Hernández (ex asambleísta) y forzando la renuncia en octubre de la ex presidenta de la Asamblea Nacional, Gabriela Rivadeneira. Rosa María Castro, ex ministra de hacienda, quien decidió cumplir con su juramento, en el marco del diálogo, buscando regresar a la sociedad con la que se había relacionado como dirigente, pero que en el marco del diálogo, la RC y el ECUI, trataban de construir, banalizando la in-surrección nacional-étnico-popular como un “correísmo”, dejando entonces, el camino abierto para nuevas mentiras políticas que hoy impone con iguales, persecución a los líderes indígenas y sindicales.

Es decir, la brutal dictadura de la que hemos hablado (guerra civil) y los/as ecuatorianos/as estos once días de octubre, continúa, pero focalizan la escena en el centro de viabilidad de los lideres indígenas y los/as ecuatorianos/as, en el marco del diálogo. ¿Es que acaso también irán a los líderes indígenas y los/as ecuatorianos/as, que son el fruto de la historia de la resistencia, fortaleciendo los actuales y partiendo nuevos líderes, igualmente recios? Porque la historia no se detendrá al arbitrio de ningún dictador.

La alianza popular étnico-clasista entendida desde el racismo y clasismo de las oligarquías se dio cita en las calles este histórico octubre de 2019. Se trataba de un proyecto que se re-cuperó su vena revolucionaria de los 90, no puede continuar dentro del marco del diálogo de la etnomilitancia con la dictadura oligárquico-imperial que representa Moreno, cuyas manos y los aparatos de Estado de nuestro país. De su parte, el progresismo debe asumir con humildad el papel de los oídos de la transitividad, la interculturalidad y la construcción del Estado Pluralista, sin los caóticos y desacertados de un proceso revolu- cionario posible en nuestro país.

—Quito, 14 de Octubre de 2019

Erika Sylva Charvet es una científica social ecuatoriana, fue Ministro de Culturas durante el gobierno de Rafael Correa.
Olympia’s homeless face extra hardship with suspension of area services

A perfect storm of suspended services may create additional challenges for Olympia’s homeless population this winter.

Timberland Regional Library management announced in October that the downtown Olympia branch will be closed from late November to early February. The branch is widely known as a safe place for homeless people to stay warm while using the internet, reading quietly and simply resting from the constant need to keep moving. Community organizers are actively looking for interim daytime shelter facilities.

Renovations to the Salvation Army’s main shelter in Olympia are complex but there’s no indication of when the facility will reopen due to money and staffing issues. They are supported by 60 beds available starting in November, but at best it’s only about 30 beds.

The Salvation Army’s main shelter in Olympia provides 120,000 pounds of food for use in senior meals, and 120,000 pounds of food for use in senior meals. This allowed us to keep up with senior population growth and avoid a waiting list for the MOW program last year. We served a total of over 120,000 meals to 3000 seniors. Food rescue allows our program to serve more people in spite of our limited food budget. Casino food rescue contributes to another 2000 meals per month.

You be one of the phenomenal volunteers

More than 10,000 community members volunteer their time at the Thurston County Food Bank, both at the downtown Client Service Center (CSC) and at the Warehouse Distribution Center (WDC). Volunteers do everything from food sorting and delivery, to office support, to facility and equipment maintenance. The best way for individuals to start is to attend a Volunteer Orientation and Tour.

Those interested in volunteering can start by attending an orientation. These take place the first Tuesday of each month at 220 Thurston Ave NE in Olympia and the third Thursday of each month at the Warehouse Distribution Center at 220 Mottman Road SW in Tumwater.

Thanks to Cathy Visser for providing the information in this summary.
Vietnam Moratorium: A day to remember

Carolyn Eisenberg

Life Magazine described it as “the largest calling of public dissent ever seen in this country. Neusewok pronounced it a day, destined to go down in history as a day in Gaylord, Army’s Army, the Bonus Marchers and the 1963 March on Washington. Yet fifty years later, the occasion has faded from view.”

A seemingly endless war

The Moratorium occurred during one of the darkest periods of the Vietnam War, a complex conflict that claimed more than 500,000 American and Vietnamese lives. By morning, in big cities, people were on the streets in numbers never before seen in this country.

The Moratorium occurred during one of the darkest periods of the Vietnam War. Veterans’ groups, peace organizations and citizens from coast to coast flooded the streets, expressing their opposition to the Nixon Administration’s pursuit of the war. In New York City alone, there were scores of events. At the Old Trinity Church near Wall Street the bells tolled, as prominent businessmen, women and common citizens, en masse, participated, in an all-day event. Art galleries, museums, public libraries and many Broadway theaters closed for the day, or created activities specifically devoted to peace.

By 1969 large rallies in Washington DC, New York and San Francisco had become familiar. More unusual were the gatherings in other localities—Salt Lake City, Pittsburgh, Philadelphia, New Orleans and others.

I have read the last couple of articles by Evonne Hedgepeth on possibly the most anti-military war groups, the mountain bikers.

There is no question that the kids running at high speeds, hitting their heads against balls and defeating others on our public soccer fields or the ones swinging wooden sticks at balls thrown at them, are not the ones tackling and perhaps smashing each other in efforts to beat them down in a football field should be subsidized?

The rhetoric is sad and tiring, but is a sad sign of our times.

I hope that Works in Progress will work and print and have a来说 perspective on how we as a community come together to see mountain bikers as a community of people not as a stereotype that your paper works and focus on stereotypes and how community members are allowed to be demonized in your publication?

Peter Brown

In defense of mountain bikers

Backlash Blues

Mike Backlash

Backlash Blues

I'm gonna leave you

Mr. Backlash, I'm gonna leave you

Mr. Backlash, Mr. Backlash

When I try to find a job

You give me second class houses

And second class schools

When I try to find a job

And send my son to Vietnam

I'm gonna leave you

I'm gonna leave you

Mr. Backlash, Mr. Backlash

To me you seemed the one

You're the one that had the blues

You raise my taxes, freeze my wages

And blazed a trail for me

You give me second class houses

Do you think that all the.

I see America as it used to be

My world is big

And I like what I see

My world is big

And I like what I see

I'm gonna leave you

I'm gonna leave you

Mr. Backlash, I'm gonna leave you

With the backlash blues

Not me, just wait and see

—Nina Simone

You give me second class houses

And send my son to Vietnam

I'm gonna leave you

I'm gonna leave you

Mr. Backlash, Mr. Backlash

When I try to find a job

You give me second class houses

And second class schools

When I try to find a job

And send my son to Vietnam

I'm gonna leave you

I'm gonna leave you

Mr. Backlash, Mr. Backlash
WHAT DO WE DO WITH THIS SPACE?

How can the City of Olympia make this closed-off public park a friendly & safe space where all people are welcome?

WIP wants to know your ideas.

Send them in typed up, drawn out, sculpted as a clay mini-model... whatever your style, we want to see it!

Submissions will be published at the start of the new year, and we’d like our readers to vote on their favorites. Winners will be presented to the city of Olympia.

Let’s make the artesian well park available to the public again!

Submit to olywip@gmail.com by 1 Jan 2020

NO ONE GETS AWAY UNTIL THEY WIP IT.

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