NATO's Chicago summit draws protests, but what to do about police tactics?

Nigel Weiss

The North American Treaty Organiza-
tion (NATO) meeting in Chicago last
month went without a hitch—at least for
the heads of state and their staff who
were participants in the summit.

For activists with Occupy and oth-
er groups, there is no such thing as
NATO's agenda, however, it was
another story…

Demonstrators of all stripes and
flairs made their appearance—outspoken
individuals, activist groups, and rights
organizations, from National Nurses United to Queens
Against NATO and Code Pink. But given
the way that law enforcement planned
their response, working closely with the
Secret Service, you would almost think
the worst of them, but I personally saw
something better.

Police conducted a series of
pre-emptive raids of Chicago
organizers' houses before the
beginning of the summit.

In Bridgeport apartment was targeted
by one of the raids, no fewer than	en residences around the city were broken
into and ransacked by police, and most
of these, she said, were involved in lend-
ing housing to people coming to the pro-
tests from out of town.

I spoke with two of those who were
arrested in the raid on Sigman's apart-
ment. They said the police burst into the
apartment late at night without a
search warrant and arrested ev-
everyone inside at gunpoint. The
eleven arrested were taken into jail and held
without charges for nearly a full day
—some of them almost two days— be-
fore being released: all except for three,
Brent Betterly, Jared Chase, and Brian
Church, who now face charges of terror-
ism and possession of explosives.

Prosecutors are accusing the three,
who are being called the NATO 3, of a
planning a myriad of deadly attacks on
targets including police stations, Mayor
Rahm Emanuel's home, and the camp-
paign headquarters of Barack Obama.

But according to the National Lawyers
Guild there isn't actually evidence that
these claims are true.

Judge Sutton denies request to
reconsider decision on 7-Eleven project

Dan Leahy

On May 24th, after a three hour hear-
ing, Judge Lisa Sutton denied Michael
Jenkins (developer) and George Naro-
ichek's (owner) request to reconsider
her decision on the 7-Eleven project.

Jenkins attorney, Aaron Laing from Bel-
levue, immediately went on what only
could be described as an innuendous rant.

“This is just propaganda to create a
climate of fear,” NLG lawyer Michael
Deutschd said. “We believe this is all a
setup and entrapment to the highest
degree.”

Additionally, the equipment the three
were using to make bombs, which the
state confiscated as evidence against
them, is what appears undeniably to be
a beer making kit.

Some activists have suspected that
the three were charged in retaliation
for an online video posted of them be-
ing threatened by police during a traf-
cic stop in early May. The videos records
a partner in Click and Clack's firm of
"Dewey, Cheatum and Howe", started
ranting on how the Westside commu-

Here are some possible actions that
could be taken as a result of Judge Sut-
ton's decision and order:

1. The City should immediately address
this dangerous intersection: buy the
lot for one of the several community
suggestions; or acquire part of it to re-
configure the intersection to meet the
arterial standard for frontage on Divi-
sion street.

2. Consistent with the Comprehensive
Plan, the City should permit no further
strip mall development in High Den-
sity Corridor (HDC) zones. The 7-Eleven
project was two, single-story buildings
in a HDC-3 zone that requires “mul-
tiple-story” buildings. Density is the

3. A Traffic Impact Analysis (TIA) must
be done for an entire project and must
address the whole impact of the project
on the neighboring streets.

4. A Traffic Impact Analysis (TIA) must be
done for an entire project and must

7-ELEVEN, continued on page 5
is dedicated to providing
and respectful to all those oppressed in this
society and their issues. However, if and
rational and unfair practices that seek to si
ably.

After getting the basics down Ariel
and Ava showed the bags up and carried
their lovely creations enthusiastically
to the corner of the Co-op parking lot
and carved away a nice little spot for the
mushrooms are such amazing remedia
to the problems of collecting rain water run-off and
filtering some petrochemicals.

There may be some fruiting bodies
to be seen from the bags in the near
future, but it is advisable that they are
not harvested and used for food. These
mushrooms are such amazing remedia-
tors that they can absorb heavy metals which do not break down into simpler
compounds, but remain in the fruiting
bodies and thus hurt you if you eat them.

To follow, the group did an interactive
demonstration on an open air spa
transfer. They had enough that they
gave spawn to participants who wanted
some, and explained how to host their
newspaper, that may one day become
delicious mushrooms. The Olym-
pia Mycelial network aims to have regu-
lar, free, informative workshops for the
community at large.

If you would like to be a part of the
Olympia Mycelial Network or ask any
questions or just want to learn more,
you can attend one of the regular meet-
gs which occur every other Saturday at
10:00 am. The next meeting is Saturday
June 9 at 10:00 am at Media Inter-
national, 816 Adams St SE. You can also email OlyMycNetWork@gmail.com for
more questions!

Ava Arvest is a resident of Olympia.

The WIP working group needs
somebody to join our efforts and
pick up the role of the Distribution
Coordinator. The current volunteer
coordinator has had that role for
five years, and is ready to help a new
volunteer pick up and run with this
helpful, easy and important con-
tribution to this newspaper's success
and to Olympia and the surround-
ing South Sound communities that
benefit from having this 22-year old progressive (all volunteer) publica-
tion available to us.

The job of the WIP Distribution Co-
ordinator is few hours of one's time,
(less than two hours a month), which
includes helping to pick up locations
and oversee the distribution route,
if possible. The time commitment
primarily falls on last few days, and/or
the first few days of each month,
and can be done locally or remotely
(from the out of the area), since its
consistent responsibility of overseeing
the whole process.

The WIP is an information hub for
those interested in global social, eco-
On the front cover – Flowing toward the ocean. Photographer: Benji Friedman

Submission Deadline: June 15
PO Box 295
Olympia, WA 98507
olwyn@gmail.com

Proofreading: June 23
Lacey Timberland Library in the Study Group Section
(Leave the title for the first read!)

ADVERTISING RATES

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Special microbusiness deal! 4 months for the price of 3

olwyn@gmail.com  * Ask for nonprofit rates
Medical exposure to radiation now exceeds that of any other source

In a speech to the American Society for Radiation Oncology’s annual meeting in 2011, Gregory B. Jaczko, chair of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, said, “Remarkably to me, about one-third of all patients admitted to hospitals today are diagnosed or treated using radiation or radioactive materials. Thirty years ago, these sources accounted for approximately 15 percent of the public's total radiation exposure. Today, that figure has more than tripled, so that nearly 50 percent of the public’s overall radiation exposure can be attributed to medical sources.”

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission allows cancer patients to go home immediately after treated with radioisotopes, even though they are dangerous to be around for up to a week.

Medical exposure to radiation now exceeds that of any other source.

Women are given restricted air time in Israel

Rachel Liel

A public radio station in Israel is trying to keep women from being heard on the air. We’ve convened a coalition of Israeli organizations to defend women’s rights and they’re taking action.

The radio station—established to cater to the ultra-Orthodox public—has long violated Israeli law and refused to allow women callers to be heard on the air.

Government regulators stepped in. They insisted the station let women call in for at least six hours out of every week.

That is a bad ruling. It’s not okay to say that women can only be heard for less than one hour a day.

But it gets worse. When the radio station refused to implement this decision, government regulators backed off. They issued a new ruling, cutting the number of hours women should be allowed to be heard.

When word about the board’s decision got out, New Israel Fund (NIF) knew it was time to mobilize. We brought the issue to a meeting we convene of organizations active on this front. And the organizations took action, issuing a letter signed by 38 Israeli NGOs to the chair of the regulatory board. The groups demanded the board cancel its decision.

There really is no excuse. Rabbi Ovadia Yosef, the most influential Sephardic rabbi in Israel, told the regulatory board that Jewish law does not prohibit women’s voices from being aired. A public opinion poll shows that 96% of the listeners of this very radio station would keep listening if women were allowed on the air.

So why is the radio station still refusing to allow women callers on the air? They’re trying to appeal to a radical fringe, to the extremists who want to deny women the right to have any meaningful role outside of the home. That’s unacceptable.

NIF fights extremism in Israel. We are a community that bands together to help Israel be a free and open society. Sometimes it is our financial resources that are needed. Other times, it is the moral strength of thousands of individuals speaking out together that makes the difference.

We are not alone in this battle. Liron Livnat, Israel’s Minister of Culture, penned a sharp letter to the chairman of the regulatory board. She wrote: “Your role is to guarantee the integration of women, and other minorities, in broadcasts, certainly not to approve this disgraceful blow to the rights and honor of women.”

We’ve made enormous strides in recent months to ensure that women are not excluded from public life. The Israeli government has vowed to fight the gender-segregated buses, polling places, and sidewalks. Retail stores have reversed course and started putting images of women back on billboards in Jerusalem.

This is the moment to press forward. Rachel Liel is the Executive Director of the New Israel Fund in Israel. (http://www.nif.org)

Pizza Klatch is pleased to announce our upcoming DOG SHOW during Pride Weekend in Olympia. It will be held at 6 pm on Saturday, June 9, on the Main Stage in Sylvester Park.

Event categories for the show include:

- Most femme
- Most butch
- Smallest dog
- Best dog trick
- Biggest dog
- Most like owner
- Least like owner
- Audience favorite
- Best vocalizing
- Cutest dog

There will also be a dance contest of dog and people dance partners. (Participants can access dog show information at www.pizzaklatch.org and also find out what songs will be used for the dances.)

Registration: To enter a dog in the show, go online to www.pizzaklatch.org or register at the Pizza Klatch booth on Saturday, June 9, on Washington Street by Sylvester Park. Cost is a suggested donation of $20 per dog (but pay whatever you can afford $1-$100) plus $5 for each dog each event you enter.

Pizza Klatch provides 11 free weekly lunchtime support groups in six of our local high schools for Lesbian, Gay, Bi, Trans, Queer and Questioning youth (LGBTQQ) and their Straight Allies.

The groups started six years ago following a rash of gay students in our community who were committing or attempting to commit suicide. We are grateful and relieved that since our groups started, not one LGBTQQ student has committed suicide in the schools we are involved.

Some students have felt suicidal and have spoke about it in group or to a counselor, received support, and felt better.

We keep costs down as much as possible and everyone involved with Pizza Klatch is a volunteer although we pay our facilitators a very small stipend. Each group costs about $700 a year to run. Pizza, even at a discounted price, is expensive.

When we started with our first group we had three to five students attending. Now, our average attendance at each group is 12 students, with some having as many as 25 attending weekly.

We have learned from students who attend our support groups that they feel less bullied in school and feel more comfortable in standing up against homophobic remarks or actions. This has helped the LGBTQQ students to feel much less isolated and safer in their schools.

Medical exposure to radiation now exceeds that of any other source.

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Medical exposure to radiation now exceeds that of any other source.
Tailor-made for the 1 percent

The politics of Ron Paul and the Libertarians

Luma Nichol

Amidst the stampede to the right by Republican presidential candidates, Ron Paul at first seems different. He opposes United States wars, the Patriot Act, and the war on drugs. But behind Paul is no progressive. He is adamantly anti-abortion, endorses heavy border security against illegal immigrants, and wants to see the passage of the union-busting National Right to Work Act. Most significantly, he is a staunch disciple of capitalism — libertarian style. His candidacy is an opportunity to take a look at this supposedly "alternative" political tendency.

Paul’s views on war and drugs have attracted youth support, especially among white men who don’t want to fight wars or go to jail for smoking pot. His opinion that the federal government should have jurisdiction over sex practices has attracted 50,000 same sex LGBT folk.

Paul the “intellectual godfather of the Tea Party,” has also attracted many of the multi-age, patriotic, mostly white Americans who believe that looking to the past is what will fix things. These supporters should know that Internet detectives are uncovering sinister aspects of Paul’s politics. The Ron Paul Surge report, in 2012, which were published

...alternative political tendency.

Iceland Parliament when they forgave patriotic, mostly white Americans who passage of the union-busting National ion that the federal government should

prosecutions planned – already a more many stripes but share the core belief that 

The Libertarian platform promotes absolute freedom of trade, no minimum wage laws, unregulated competition among banks, and doing away with income and corporate taxes.

The Liberal/conservative coalition that the first step to a free and libertarian society is to reduce the authority of the state.

(Argument: the anarchists share and see themselves as “anarchist-liber
tarians.”) Anarchists have seen the numerous in the United States than in Europe, believe that individual liberty depends on ownership of private property and a capitalistic-based economy. They think that the primary role for a national or federal government is to protect private property from attack — their only justification for war.

Iceland has a left-leaning coalition formed from several of the winning parties in the 2009 Parliamentary election. The Social Democratic Alliance corresponds to our Democratic Party and the Left Green Party is, of course, the Green Party.

I hear people crying because we don’t have the good outcomes that Iceland has, but I don’t hear anyone complaining about the lack of third parties. What I hear is people complaining about being worse off to avoid any third party or independent candidate, at the same time as they show their dismay at the poor policy choices chosen by the two major parties and wish there was someone else they could vote for instead.

There’s another difference between the U.S. and Iceland: in Iceland, people vote. Their turnout is around 85%, ver
ty around 45% in the U.S. Apparently, being able to vote with confidence for the candidate one prefers is something that encourages people to go to the polls. Should we try something that encourages minor parties here in the U.S.? Because we like the good policy outcomes? Because we want everyone to vote? Nah, we like our two-party system. Now, if we can just take back the Demo

central. She portrayed a world divided between the creators of wealth and lazy parasites.

In his life, Rand’s many anti-Communist activities included testifying before the infamous House Un-American Activities Committee. One of her closest libertarian associates was economist Milton Friedman who played a decisive role in developing the neoliberal policies that now guide the World Bank and IMF in their oppressive practices abroad. Friedman also backed such individuals the freedom to choose — what to buy, where to live, what to make.

If you’re Ron Paul...

The Libertarian Party was founded in 1971, in part as a reaction to the legal and social victories of the Civil Rights struggle and other militant movements. The Libertarian Party’s founders, Edward Crane, joined ultra-conservative billion
dollar Charles Koch, to form the powerful, right-wing think tank, the Cato Insti
tute. Investing millions in public policy initiatives, the institute pursues pro
department, anti-regulation legislation. The Cato Institute succeeded the call to eliminate Social Security, and to replace welfare with private charity. Anti-labor media mogul Rupert Murdoch was on the Cato’s Board of Directors.

The problem. Pure and simple, Libertarianism is the ideology of unfettered capitalism. And capitalism, back to 19th century life where starved workers, mangled child laborers and faceless serfdom were the order of the day. The novels of Charles Dickens were a searing indictment of capitalism, a counteraction to such bleak reality, ana
yzed the capitalist economy and fought its injustices. And this was the coming of imperialist degra
dation against undeveloped countries, and world war.

Focusing on “Big Government” allows libertarians to sidestep the issue of class. For Marxists, governments represent the interests of the class in power: pro-capital,

We all admired the actions of the Icelandic Parliament when they forgave about 25% of domestic debt. This follows on the 2008 nationalization of Iceland’s three large banks and its investment of over 200 bank deposits, with prosecutions planned — already a more populist agenda than anything the U.S. has managed so far. Some of us may have wondered why America can’t act as decisively on behalf of ordinary citizens.

Iceland has a left-leaning coalition formed from several of the winning parties in the 2009 Parliamentary election. The Social Democratic Alliance corresponds to our Democratic Party and the Left Green Party is, of course, the Green Party. See chart below for the proportion of votes for each.

The leader of the Left Greens, Stein Ingrid Stigsson, took on the role of Finance Minister since he had been speaking out strongly about the need to rein in the banks. (As in America, Iceland’s banks had grown to be a large portion of the national economy prior to the collapse.) In December 2011, a small group of them came to be the cabinet of the Economy, Farms and Fisheries.

The small parties were important in getting to Iceland’s outcome. Iceland encourages minor parties to run for office. The parliamentary system itself is encouraging to small parties since their win can be part of the governing “government” (cabinet + prime minister) even if they don’t win the majority. Proportional representation ensures they get elected as MPs. In the United States, the electoral system has always crushed small parties. Only since 2004 has a small party or independent there for as much as 1% of the vote. This leaves the 2 main parties free to enact whatever policies they feel like enacting, since the people have “nowhere else to go.”

When I login to my various progressive listservs, I hear people crying because we don’t have the good outcomes that Iceland has, but I don’t hear anyone complaining about the lack of third parties. What I hear is people complaining about being worse off to avoid any third party or independent candidate, at the same time as they show their dismay at the poor policy choices chosen by the two major parties and wish there was someone else they could vote for instead.

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Parliamentary systems encourages third parties

The point is often made that (ideologically based) parties are more important in parliamentary systems than in the American system. See for example Evolution of the American Parliament, by Con
nict. In their book, Deering, George Washington University, January 2005. Quote: “And, fourth, representatives (who in a parliament) are fulfill political parties rather than by individual members (who in a government) see why the United States, heartland of capitalism and home of the rugged individualism, was born to a wealthy family that fled the Russian Revolution in 1917 when Rand was twelve. Her famous novels, The Fountainhead (1943) and Atlas Shrugged (1957), propose a radical individualist philosophy in which the free market and egoism, “the virtue of selfishness,” is

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Icelandic Althing Election Results (25 April 2009)

Party Leader(s) Votes Seats Social Democratic Alliance Johannes Siguurdardottir 55,758 29.79 20 Independence Party Bjarni Benediktsson, Jr. 44,371 23.70 16 Left-Green Movement Steingrimur Sigfusson 40,581 21.68 14 Progressive Party Sigmundur Gunnlaugsson 27,699 14.80 9 Citizens’ Movement Nordic Green 13,519 7.22 4 Liberal Party Guðjón Kristjánsson 14,184 2.22 2 Democratic Movement 1,107 0.59 Valid votes 187,183 96.50 Invalid votes 566 0.29 Blank votes 6,226 3.21 Total 193,975 100.00 43 Voter turnout Source: Statistics Iceland 227,896 85.12

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Beings. Anyone who gives a damn about public interests and collective concerns. Is not the answer. And Ron Paul? He is who governs on behalf of whom. man2@earthlink.net. [Or write a letter to approving or denying a land use approch Mr. Narozonick, a NW resi- dency accountable to the law and in rendering the transcript of the City's comments before Judge Sutton and will send it to you soon.]

Long live the Decatur Raiders. Dan Leahy is a founding member of the Decatur Raiders.

**4-Eleven, cont. from page 1**

Our tax dollars at work... Scott Yoos’ next pre-trial hearing is scheduled for July 2

Scott Yoos Support Committee and Legal Defense Fund

The State of Washington continues to forge ahead with its bogus case against beloved community volunteer, activist, and WIP worker, Scott Yoos.

On June 1, 2011, Scott was riding his bike home to East Olympia, after seeing the late-show at the Capitol Theater downtown. He stopped briefly at an open dumpster en route, to rid him- self of some dumpster debris. That’s where his troubles began...

For the past year now, Scott has been stuck in a legal hell, (violently) fighting multiple false charges, which now include a felony assault and two misde- meanors: criminal trespass, and ob- structing justice, which somehow myster- iously morphed into a new charge of resisting arrest.

Scott has been mute since 1984, due to a severe head injury which he in- curred from a violent hitch-hiking “mis- adventure”. Since he is physically unable to speak, Yoos tried to respond to the questioning Officers by using sign lan- guage. (This proved to be a big mistake!) It threw the Policemen into a nerv- ous tizzy, and they responded accordingly.

They decided Scott’s signing consti- tuted “possibly abusive behavior” and determined they’d better wrestle this cycle from underneath him, tackle him to the ground, press his face into the pavement applying “pain compliance holds” to control this dangerous scene.

Before the entire arrest was over, a to- tal of three Olympia Police Officers plus one sergeant had sped to the parking lot in four separate vehicles!

Scott Yoos Support Committee and Legal Defense Fund

For even more of the gory details, please refer to previous issues of Works In Progress available at olywp.org.

Scott’s next pre-trial hearing, (labeled “Omnibus Hearing”) is scheduled to oc- cur on Monday, July 2, at the Thurston County Courthouse (3000 Lakeridge Dr., in SW Olympia). Due to our slug-paced judicial process, and having a widely- varied assortment of different attor- neys (weeding (and not working) on this case, this “Omnibus Hearing” will mark Scott’s 10th plus trip into a courtroom around this matter in just a year.

The hearing on July 2 begins at 9 am, but a number of Scott’s many supporters from the community will show up at 8 am, for a sign-holding support vigil be- fore we head into the “chambers of jus- tice.” If you’ve never been to the circus, here’s your chance! Admission is free, but please leave all nasty guns, pointy knives, and messy snacks at home.

If you’re on Facebook, please check- out the support group’s site: “Scott Yoos Support Committee & Legal Defense Fund”, (or, more simply, “Scott Yoos LDF”), for any time changes and updates. A legal defense fund has been set up to cover the copious legal fees associ- ated with this case. Any donations can be made out to: “Scott Yoos - LDF”, and walked-in (or mailed directly) to: Scott Yoos - Legal Defense Fund, c/o Washing- ton State Employees Credit Union, 230 Harrison Ave. NW, Ste 201, Olympia, WA 98502. Desperately-needed donations can also be made online: www.donate- pay.org/scottyoose .

The final Trial has been scheduled to begin August 7, and we’ll be able to pack the courtroom! See ya there.

—Ron Paul, cont. from page 4

italian politicians and functionaries do the bidding of their corporate overlords; workers often are at the bottom of the class. What matters isn’t the form of rule, it is who governs on behalf of whom. One function of the state is to protect the public interests and collective concerns. Corporate destruction of the environ- ment is illegal.

In our world, women fill the ranks of the poorest, most oppressed, human beings. How could people who valued them could not endorse libertarians’ glorification of the rugged individual (i.e. male) nor the state’s function to get social services and public education.

More people than ever are looking for an alternative way of life, not just for the elite but for the rest of us to help to democratize the form of democratic society. Clearly, libertarianism is not the answer. And Ron Paul? He may be authentic, all right, authentically backward!

Send feedback to Lisa North at la- man@parthenokink.net. (Or write a letter to WJP.)

Now delivering lunches downtown for Kitzel’s Crazy Delicious Delis. (360-393-7747)

White House Blocking EPA Efforts to Issue Rules on Nanomaterials

The White House appears to be blocking Environmental Protection Agency efforts to tighten oversight of engineered nanoscale pesticides and other chemicals, according to environ- mental and safety advocates. Richard Denison, senior scientist with the Environmental Working Group, told E&E News May 23 he had spoken with EPA officials who told him they do not expect the agency to regulate nanoscale pesticides or chemicals to be approved by the White House Office of Management and Budget.

“My understanding is there is a view in some circles in the White House that there are no problems with these nanomaterials or stifle the technology by requiring the reporting of information that does not bear on the legal and safety determinations as to whether there are risks.”

Joyce Hanson, senior policy analyst at the Center for Food Safety, believes OMB will not approve the agency’s preferred approach to collect data on nanoscale pesticide ingredients under Section 6(a)(2) of the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act. “I am of the opinion that OMB has basically told the EPA, ‘Don’t bother’” with a final rule, Hanson said.

Parabens in Antiperspirants May Cause Breast Cancer

New research examining parabens found in cancerous human breast tis- sue has found that the chemicals and other substances may be linked to the risk of breast cancer.

The research, reviewed in the Jour- nal of Applied Toxicology, looked at where breast tumors were appearing, and determined that concen- trations of parabens were found in the upper quadrants of the breast and axillary area, where antiperspirants are applied.

Parabens are chemicals that serve as preservatives in antiperspirants and many cosmetics, as well as sun lotions. Previous studies have shown that all parabens have estrogenic activity in human breast cancer cells.

Another component of antiperspi- rants, aluminum chloride, has been found to act similarly to the way onco- genes work to produce cancerous trans- formations in cancer cells. According to the authors of the editorial review, the research shows “signals of concern that such compounds are not as safe as previously generally considered, and further research is warranted.”

Fur- thermore: “The data from this latest study, the most extensive examination of para-bens in human breast so far published, confirms previous work and raises a number of questions on the entire parabens, personal care product and human health debate.

Rise of the New Economy Movement

A wave of innovative thinking and bold experimentation is quietly sweep- ing away outmoded economic models. The New Economy is the one-part AlterNet series, creative thinkers come together to explore exciting ideas and participatory models, including philosophical and political vision of the movement that could take our econo- my by storm.

Just beneath the surface of tradi- tional media attention, something very significant is about to explode into public conscious- ness. The “New Economy Movement” is beginning to bounce back any organiza- tions, projects, activists, theorists and ordinary citizens committed to re-building the national economic system from the ground up.

The broad goal is democratized ownership of property and the “99 percent” in an ecologically sustainable and participatory community-building fashion. The name of the game is the prac- tical work in the here and now and a human process informed by big pic- ture theory and in-depth knowledge.

—Organic Consumers Association
Jim Lazar responds to questions on the Thurston Public Power Initiative

WIP News Service

Jim Lazar is an economist with more than thirty years of experience examining electric utility planning and financing, and has worked as a consultant to both the Office of the Attorney General and to the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (WUTC) in examining utility rate filings. He was an advisor in three previous public power activations in Oregon and Washington.

Q: What is the process for activation and electrification of the PUD?

Lazar: The process is relatively straightforward. First, to sell electricity to the general public, the voters must grant the Public Utility District (PUD) authority. That’s what the initiative is about. Then, if the county or city, by a special statute, forms a PUD, it must build a distribution system. Concurrently, the new PUD hires the staff to operate the electric utility, obtain a supply of electricity, and attract customers. If it acquires the PSE system, the PUD will then compete to sell power to the customers who are currently served by PSE and perhaps to others.

Q: Are other communities doing this?

Lazar: In Washington, only Jefferson County PUD has acquired a utility, through successful negotiation in the Jefferson County, Okanogan County, and Columbia PUD, the Oregon Trail Electric Cooperative, and the city of Hermiston. Electric Cooperative, and the city of Hermiston.

Q: What would happen to the premium, if the PUD paid more than the book value for the system?

Lazar: That would be a decision for the WUTC, and there’s not a lot of consistency on this. In Oregon, Pacific Power is currently required to return 95% of the premium that they received when the city of Hermiston formed a municipal utility. The WUTC could let PSE keep the premium, could make them return it to the remaining PSE electric customers, or could make them return it to Thurston County consumers. My guess is that the majority of the gain would be returned to ratepayers, but whether it’s 60% or 95% would be pure speculation.

Q: How would the PUD finance a takeover?

Lazar: The PUD could issue “revenue bonds” backed by its future electric revenue to acquire or build a distribution system. There is a limit set by state law that would hold the PUD to no more than about $200 million of indebtedness. This limitation would make it difficult for the Thurston PUD to acquire the entire PSE system and pay startup expenses. It could, however, easily purchase a major portion of the PSE system and have sufficient debt capacity to pay for start-up.

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Jim Lazar, cont. from page 6

While big dams and nuclear plants
25,000 customers must acquire “all
there are more than 100,000 homes and
PSE’s conservation programs have
Initiative 937, and if the Thurston PUD
PUDs in the state per 1,000 kilowatt-
PSE’s power supply, as reported most re
Lazar: Most likely it would be cleaner.
PSE’s power supply, as reported most re
could be much cleaner than the average cost of power to PSE,
but activation is a minimum of several
years away, and the lowest-cost power avail-
able in the wholesale market today may
not be available then.
Q: Would the PUD’s power supply be
cleaner or dirtier than PSE’s power sup-
Lazar: PSE is currently acquiring renew-
able energy from wind, solar, and other
sources to meet its obligations under
Initiative 937, and if the Thurston PUD
served over 25,000 consumers, it would
be more or less reliable than PSE?
Q: What about reliability? Would a PUD
city service is more reliable than
ground service is more reliable than
overhead poles and wires.
Thurston County is a mix of urban, rural,
derground and overhead, and the form
of ownership would not change that mix
immediately.
Many PUDs have more ag-
egressive tree-trimming programs than
PSE, but those types of programs would
face opposition from tree preservation
advocates in our community. So there
is a trade-off between tree canopy cover-
age and electric reliability. Private utili-
ties do have a profit incentive to cut back
on vegetation management expenses—but
they then risk having some of the
system repair expenses disallowed by the
WUTC. There’s no simple answer here.
Q: I also get natural gas service from PSE.
WILL I Switch to the new PUD?
Lazar: No. The PUD does not have legal
authority to offer natural gas service, so
that will remain with PSE. This is simi-
lar to the situation in Seattle, Tacoma,
and in Snohomish County, where PSE
offers gas service, but not electric ser-
vice. However, it would make sense for
the PUD and PSE to cooperate on
meter reading and billing service,
since PSE already has the com-
puter systems in place, and can spread
the costs of billing over both services,
saving money for both gas and electric
consumers.
Q: Who would be the “winners” and
“losers” if the PUD were to provide electric service?
Lazar: The biggest winners would prob-
able the commercial and industrial
electric customers, who would get ac-
cess to low-cost energy from BPA,
and would get the benefit of a non-profit
utility providing the distribution service.
These customers currently have no ac-

cess to BPA power. This group includes the
State of Washington, the cities, the
LOTT sewage treatment plant, and all
of the school districts. Next would be
the residential customers, who currently
currently pay a small credit on their bills reflecting a
benefit of BPA power, but it only makes up
about one-fourth of the difference in
wholesale power cost.
A surprising winner would be the
remaining PSE electricity customers.
Since the PUD would not take over any
of PSE’s power plants (none are located
in the County), those facilities would be
available to serve other loads, for exam-
pie, in King County. PSE would not need
to buy any expensive new power for se-
veral years, meaning its rates for remain-
ing customers would go up more slowly.
The “losers” would be the customers
of other PUDs around the state, and
public power customers throughout the
Northwest. They would have to share
the limited amount of low-cost BPA
power with the new PUD, but that phase
in would be very gradual. The impact
would be very small, since Thurston
County is only a few percent of the total
load already being served.

WIP: What about tax revenue to the state and the
cities? What would change?
Lazar: Very little would change. PUDs
must pay the same “public utility excise
tax” to the state the PSE pays. PUDs
must collect city utility taxes, just as
PSE does. Both of these are calculated
on a percentage of revenue basis, and if
the PUD rates were a little lower, the
tax collections would be a little lower.
The PUD would pay a “privilege tax” of 2.14%
of revenues, which is in lieu of property
taxes. In fact, RCW 54.48.110 provides
that privilege taxes paid by a PUD on
acquired Investor Owned Utilities (IOU)
property will not be less than was paid
prior to the IOU properties acquisition.
Q: If the voters gave the go-ahead, how
long would it take before the PUD actually
provides electric service?
Lazar: The public vote is only one step of
the process. The next step is a decision
by the PUD Commissioners on whether
or not to move ahead, and it can take
several years to complete the studies
needed to guide that decision. Finally,
the actual process of either acquiring
the PSE system or building a separate
system takes several years. I’d guess it
would be a minimum of five years, as
assuming that the initiative gets the re-
quired signatures and that the voters
approve it.
Q: Do you have a position on the Initia-
tive?
Lazar: No. I’ve had discussions with
supporters and opponents, but I have
not volunteered for or donated finan-
cially to either campaign.

Carbon Dioxide Emissions for Sample Washington Utilities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Utility</th>
<th>Emissions (lb/MWh)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Electric Utilities</td>
<td>800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Natural Gas Utilities</td>
<td>500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wind Energy</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Solar Energy</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Combined</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Calculation based on 2,000 lb/MWh for coal, 800 lb/MWh for natural gas
NATO Summit, cont. from page 1

officers taunting the three, including making comments about the notorious Chicago police beat down of protestors against the Vietnam War, saying “What did they say back in ’68? Billy club to the fucking skull!”

Though there is more to the story of the NATO 3, including the possible involvement of police infiltrators, what is especially interesting about the police actions in Chicago is whether or not they were particularly extreme or repressive, but how much they are already familiar to us. Actually, the sophisticated planning by law enforcement in Chicago was essentially textbook material—just the latest refinement of anti-protest tactics that the state has honed since the 1999 successful shut down of the WTO ministerial meeting in Seattle. Trevor Griffliey, professor of history at Evergreen, described this progression in a recent lecture on campus: “What we see in response to the WTO is what I call a hyper-militarization of state space, in the sense of ‘you will not do this again.’” And you start seeing these tactics develop as early as 2000, which is to say, (firstly), preemptive arrests.

“David Soloten, an organizer with the Direct Action Network, is arrested in Philadelphia before the Republican National Convention [in 2000], put on a million dollar bail. He can’t afford the bail. The bail is increased every single day until the Democratic National Convention is over the next week in Los Angeles, then they let him out. They’re not planning to prosecute him, but they’re now pre-emptively arresting him. They’ll do that to any number of other ringleaders to disrupt their network.”

The broader strategy for police demonstrations—what has been called ‘the Miami model’—has been repeated use by law enforcement agencies to neutralize large protests in the last decade. Indeed, the NATO 3 prosecution bears that trend. At the 2000 G8, a group of Minneapolis activists who were organizing for housing the RNC Welcoming Committee in 2000 were arrested and given terrorism charges. According to Griffiniey, the model that we have today in Chicago has these elements: “They’ll create no-protest zones and say, ‘by the way, you won’t be marching in this place.’ They also create a new permitting process, whereby in order to exercise your free speech it’s not just you have free speech—you have to apply to get it… and they say, ‘Well tell us who your leaders are, their contact information, we’ll give you a route, but you have to pay for your own security, and if anything happens damanged you’ll be criminally liable.’ And if you say, ‘That’s not free speech, I want my First Amendment, I’mMarching without a permit,’ then they have carte blanche to go after you. And then the final thing is the deployment of non-lethal weapons, and we say them but before they’ve turned to just arming themselves in response to fear of police over-reaction.

You’d be out of your mind to think these tactics aren’t intended to cool dissent and punish organizers who plan demonstrations. What we are seeing seems to be a broad strategy around limiting America’s freedom of public expression and our ability to challenge the agendas of political and economic leaders. As Trevor Griffliey points out, radical organizations have always been compelled to fight for freedom of speech in addition to the other issues they are addressing. With this in mind, activists should ask themselves what should be done to forward our agenda. Our ability to actually make the case for the multitude of other things we are advocating for is undermined by state action or perception. New tactics and strategies should be broached and vigorously discussed in order to keep alive the state’s evolving ability to suppress left movements. The left should continually explore the ways we can magnify our strengths — our creativity, our youth, our ability to adapt — and diminish our weaknesses: the fastest proven way our ability to be divided. This is amaturer that applies across the progressive political spectrum. We can’t afford to ignore it, and we can’t afford to address it separately.

Leon Harris, former Darby’s cook, dies
The beloved cook for Darby’s from the early 2000’s, Leon Harris, died mid-April from liver cancer. Leon cooked breakfasts for Olympia’s favorite restaurant in Olympia for years. He left that job due to a back injury in mid-April from liver cancer. It is submitted by a former Olympia housemate of Leon’s, Sandia (360-866-4362).

Nigel Weiss is an Olympia activist, and is graduating from Evergreen this spring with a degree in Political Economy. He can be reached at jlnweiss@gmail.com.

FSP candidate Stephen Durham denounces police-state tactics at the NATO Summit

Stephen Durham

A massive concentration of police forces in Chicago culminated yesterday in a brutal attack on non-violent anti-NATO protestors. It was nationally coordinated, orchestrated by Chicago mayor Rahm Emanuel, and designed to intimidate and create a sense of fear and intimidation. But it failed to suppress political dissent.

I arrived in Chicago last Thursday, May 17th with a team of supporters to get the word out about the Freedom Socialist Party’s presidential campaign. My running mate, Christina Lopez and I were certain that demonstrators should be highly interested in our un-million-dollar campaign to get out the vote for the greater good, not the lesser evil.

In all my years of activism, I’ve never seen so many cops. They were everywhere downtown on every street corner, in subways, stations, and on platforms. Even our hotel housed a multi-state conglomerate of police and K-9 units. It amounted to a police-occupied city in a preemptive police raid. Wednesday evening authorities arrested three activists on charges of terrorism. It quickly leaked out that these had been set up by police infiltrators. Unlawful and random questioning, searching and detaining NATO protestors before activities began also took place. As the National Lawyers Guild and the People’s Law Office declared, “Preemptive arrests like this are a hallmark of National Special Security Events. Clearly the hand of the Obama administration and Homeland Security was present in Chicago.”

This entire police operation was designed to stop free speech before it start ed. First, the mayor refused to issue permits for the demonstrations. The NATO / Chicago protest coalitions were forced to fight court - and - won. At that point President Obama decided to move the G8 summit to Camp David. I consider the bruthul, bully cops used by the police yesterday a direct response to this earlier court victory by protest organizers.

None of these tactics prevented thou sands of people from showing up for three days of spirited demonstrations. I was inspired by the message of the May Day with National Nurses United rally and its call for taxing the rich and diverting military spending to pay for healthcare. Another march on Saturday, May 19th had a similar message as they denounced the closure of mental health services in Chicago by marching to the mayor’s residence.

The week’s anti-NATO activities peaked on Sunday, May 20th with a massive rally and march against NATO. Peaceful protestors steadfastly marched past phalanxes of city, state and federal police.

During this closing rally, at the cor ner of Michigan and 22nd, veterans who had served in Iraq and Afghanistan gave heartfelt statements about the crimes that they had witnessed by U.S. and NATO forces. They then hurled their military medals towards the site of the NATO Compound. While the vets were still speaking, I witnessed riot police move in forma tion to block the main exit route from the demonstra tion. This military maneuver created dangerous conditions, as protestors attempted to scramble over a raised traffic island just as the police incriminated the crowd. Those who couldn’t be subdued and beaten by row upon row of police in riot gear, I was appalled to see later on the news that the police brass justified their brutality by claiming protestors refused orders to disperse. I heard no such orders as police moved towards us in formation to block the main exit route.

The Durham-Lopez campaign denounced an effort to smother free speech and criminalize legal protest. It amounted to a military training exercise for police forces. And, as a Chicago bystander told me, it was an attempt to "train" the public into silence. Clearly, it was not a success. Despite Chicago and federal agencies police actions yesterday, public protest gained new ground in Chicago. As yesterday shows, thousands were ready to come out against the policies of war and poverty despite the most explicit state, local and federal governments, the FBI and Homeland Security. Their goal is to undermine the power of the public to organize and mobilize for change in every aspect of our lives.

Chicago, during the NATO Summit, shows how important it is for us all to organize, protest and vote against every elected official - from the president on down - who fails to condemn the suppression that took place in Chicago over the last few days.

Stephen Durham is the Freedom Socialist Party’s presidential candidate.

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Works in Progress June 2012
Page 8
Silence is not a political strategy

Diane Grace

"Day one: Open FCC airwaves", states Jill Stein at a cozy gathering of two dozen Olympia locals, at a May 4 afternoon event at the Urban Onion. Who? Dr. Jill Stein, former MD turned Green Party presidential candidate. Jill blended right in, as a passerby asked her for "the bathroom combination".

Announced as the winner of a 2002 debate with Mitt Romney in Massachusetts, this well-informed candidate for President of the United States summarized the Green Party’s Green New Deal with joyful calm and warm eyes. She also attentively listened to questions from citizens for over two hours.

“We are at a tipping point, the breaking point”. Reviewing a bit of Obama’s presidential track record, a starting point, Jill summarized some specifics: $16 trillion bank bailout and Free Trade; six million home foreclosures; 16% to 30% underemployment rates (depending upon the group); increased oil drilling and nuclear energy proliferation; privatizing education; threats on Medicare, Medicaid and Social Security; attacks on civil liberties including felony arrests for civil disobedience; spying and “bugging” the free speech of Americans; 50% cut in military; continued deployment and upgrading of Trident nuclear weapons system.

On Saturday afternoon the group maintained a peaceful vigil on the roadside outside the base entrance. Four protestors walked onto the roadway and unfurled a banner stretching across all entrance lanes. The banner read, “Give PEACE a chance. No, seriously.” All four protestors complied with Washington State Patrol officers when ordered to leave the roadway. Elaine Hickman, Seattle; Tom Rogers, Poulsbo; Bert Sack, Green Seattle; and Carlo Voli; Edmonds, were cited for “Pedestrian in Roadway Illegally” (a traffic offense) and released at the scene.

Earlier in the day participants learned about nuclear weapons effects (with an emphasis on the Trident system) and United States nuclear weapons policy. They also participated in nonviolence training as is customary before every Ground Zero vigil and action.

Throughout the Saturday protest trained peacekeepers from Ground Zero ensured the safety of all participants, communicating with State Patrol and base security personnel as needed.

On May 12, 2012, activists blocked entry to the main gate at the Navy’s West coast Trident nuclear submarine base in an act of civil resistance to nuclear weapons.

Ground Zero Center for Nonviolent Action (Ground Zero) held a peaceful vigil and nonviolent direct action at the main gate to Naval Base Kitsap-Bangor in Silverdale, Washington. They protested the United States government’s continued deployment and upgrading of the Trident nuclear weapons system.

The unreal world of Ayn Rand

A review of Atlas Shrugged

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MEXICAN FARMERS BLOCK ATTEMPT TO PRIVATIZE PLANTS AND SEEDS

Progressive small farmer organizations in Mexico scored a victory over transnational corporations that seek to monopolize seeds and food patents. When the corporations pushed their bill to modify the Federal Law on Plant Varieties through the Committee on Agriculture and Livestock of the Mexican Chamber of Deputies on March 14, organizations of farmers from across the country sounded the alarm. By organizing quickly, they joined together to pressure legislators and achieved an agreement on the bill to modify the Federal Law on Plant Varieties through the Committee on Agriculture and Livestock of the Mexican Chamber of Deputies on March 14, organizations of farmers from across the country sounded the alarm. By organizing quickly, they joined together to pressure legislators and achieved an agreement on the bill to modify the Federal Law on Plant Varieties.

Amerika the Beautiful - 2012

Karín Kraft

Greatness is returning for a second time through the Committee on Agriculture and Livestock of the Mexican Chamber of Deputies on March 14, organizations of farmers from across the country sounded the alarm. By organizing quickly, they joined together to pressure legislators and achieved an agreement on the bill to modify the Federal Law on Plant Varieties.

The twelfth annual Olympia Comics Festival will take place on Saturday, June 2nd in Olympia, Washington. Admission cost for the stage-show is $6 at the door. There is no attendance cost for the expo, the panels, or the signings at Danger Room Comics. Please check our website at www.olympiacomicsfestival.org or send an email to olympiacomicsfestival@gmail.com for more information.

Olympia has proven to be a great place to host a comics festival. Last year’s festival was more than twice as large as that of the previous year and we expect to expand again this year. Comics have slowly been growing up and taking their rightful place next to all the other art forms and a town like Olympia provides a receptive and open-minded audience. It figures the kind of town that created the Procession of the Species would also throw a heck of a comics festival. The Olympia Comics Festival is one of the earliest events in the United States to promote alternative and art comics – to promote comics based on quality and innovation rather than on who published them. The festival serves as a fun event for those new to the new comics, those curious about the new comics, and for long time readers.

Headlining the event are three very different Guests of Honor. Perhaps the best known is Mike Allred, creator of Love and Rockets and Zippy, who will display their work and chat with the audience. Shannon Wheeler, creator of Too Much Coffee Man is returning for a second time as Guest of Honor. Wheeler has gone from self publishing to being published by the prestigious New Yorker magazine, and has always involved in a variety of creative projects. This past year has seen a number of Wheeler books appear including both a new Too Much Coffee Men book and a retrospective omnibus. Wheeler is known as a humor cartoonist but recently illustrated the non-fiction Oil & Water, an investigation into the politics and economics of an ecological disaster.

Our final third of the Guest of Honor slate are the Geeks, or as they are known, The Shiga Twins. Jason Shiga has been a recipient of both the Ignotz and the Eisner awards. Wheeler, Shiga and Alford will be participating in a panel at the festival. The expo as well as signings at Danger Room Comics. Danger Room Comics is at 201 W Washington St, on the corner of 4th and Columbia. The Olympia Comics Festival takes place at two separate locations for its two primary activities: the stage-show at the Capital Theater and the Cartooning Expo at The Olympia Center.

The Stage-show

The festival will begin with a stage presentation at the Capital Theater downtown (206 E. 5th Ave.). This event will include short interviews with the Guests of Honor, slideshows, and skits. The stage-show tends to be very goofy and entertaining for all comics fans. Attendance cost for the stage-show is $6 at the door. Tickets are available in advance at Danger Room Comics. This event will take place from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm.

The Cartoonists Expo

Following the stage presentation will be a Cartoonists Expo. This will take place at The Olympia Center (222 Columbia St.). The Expo will last from 1:30 pm to 6:30 pm. The expo is an informal event where cartoonists from near and far will display their work and chat with members of the public. This portion of the festival is free to the public and is perfect for anyone the least bit curious about comics to come on down and check it out.

Playing at the Olympia Film Society

Bully

Friday 6/1 9:00; Sat. 6/2 6:30; Sunday 6/3 5:00; Monday 6/4 6:30

Thursday 6/4 9:00; Wednesday 6/6 6:30; Thursday 6/7 4:00 & 9:00

Dir: Lee Unkrich 2012 US 98 min/55mm film

Anyone who doubts bullying is an epidemic in schools needs to watch Bully, an eye-opening documentary that explores this prevalent trend through the eyes of several kids who endure persistent taunting from their peers on a daily basis. Through thought-provoking interviews and revealing footage, Bully paints an intimate portrait of the experience of being targeted and bullied. The film shines a light on the charge for the crime of being vulnerable or different. Meanwhile, distraught parents cope with the trauma their children are facing, as lackluster school authorities are shown writing off the brutal treatment as a “chili season” of “passage.” Shining a glaring spotlight on an inexcusable problem, Bully is an illuminating documentary that puts power into the hands of powerless. Owen Gleiberman of Entertainment Weekly calls Bully “sensitive and compassionate.”

Protests by beekeepers keeps Monsanto corn out of Poland

Monsanto’s MON810 corn, genetically engineered to produce a mutant version of the insecticide Bt, has been banned in Poland following protests by beekeepers who feared the corn was killing honeybees.

Poland is the first country to formally acknowledge the link between Monsanto’s genetically engineered corn and the Colony Collapse Disorder (CCD) that’s been devastating bees around the world. Monsanto, the biotech giant, recently purchased a CCD research firm, Biogeneration, that government officials including the US Department of Agriculture, have been relying on for help unraveling the mystery behind the decline in bee populations.
Creating Cooperatives: Reclaiming Our Economy & Livelihood

Friday, June 1, 6-9 pm
Saturday, June 2, 6 pm
The Evergreen State College
Geography House

The conference is free and open to all. Child care available on Saturday, June 2. We hope you will join us at this conference, devoted to exploring the continuing potential and prospects of co-ops in our own communities. All will be welcome. We hope you will join us.

For more information, email us at: olycoopconf@ewc.edu
Northwest Cooperative Development Center

P.O.P. Open Mic

Sunday, June 3, 10:30 am until 6:00 pm
The Evergreen State College

Economic and Social Justice. This fair is dedicated to creating a space where our community can come together to share the power of our collective consciousness in solidarity with multi-cultural and generational movements.

If you will be participating, think about attending a party at the Brown Edition where Words in Books downtown Olympia to meet and mingle with the other artists. We ask for more details if you are interested.

If you or your group would like to present, please submit your pitch/script, display art, provide materials or help with set-up/take-down, contact: Claire Brown, clairebrown05@gmail.com, 802.392.9970.

Stories in the Park

C A R T F O R M A N U S C R I P T S
Submission deadline: June 15

ArtKitchen is looking for your original stories about the place you call home. Whether it be a residence, a workplace, a classroom, or a place you have been inspired by...we want to hear your stories, the way the art form is of making you laugh, cry, think, and feel.

Submit up to 1500 words (double spaced, 12pt font or larger). Title page should include your name, e-mail address, title, word count, and age of intended audience only. Each subsequent page of manuscript should include the title and page number. Your name should not appear on the manuscript except for the title page. Submission is free. Readers will be announced June 25, 2012.

Submit to: on-line to grace@akolympia.com in Word RTF or PDF format or in hard copy to: ArtKitchen, c/o Grace Duda, 909 Water Street, Olympia, WA 98501.

Questions? Email: terrin@akolympia.com

Cruz for the Cure

Cancer benefit and CAR SHOW
Saturday, June 16
South Bay BBQ

619 Legion Way SE, Olympia

Cruz for the cure is an annual event that aims to collect funds to help today's cancer research. This show hosted by South Bay BBQ (The Pink Pig), will be closing its neighboring streets to fill with classic/show cars and bikes. The Brown Edition, a wonderful jazz/funk band, has been putting on a great show performing throughout the event just inside with the overhead doors open to the outdoors. Help us support our cancer research and come down for a wonderful dining experience. Browse the beautiful craftsmanship of amazing show cars, bring your dancing shoes for The Brown Edition has a way of making you move and be a part of this year’s, “Cruz For The Cure”

Save the Bookstores 2012
Saturday, June 16
Youth Museum

We had a great response with the Save the Bookstore event last year, so let’s do it again! Bookstores still need our help, so let’s show them how much we care.

Stop by the Youth Museum to purchase and borrow a book (or 2 or 5). Our goal is to get your community to an independent store near you! Sponsered by Last Word Books.

Soulistce Celebration!
The Brown Edition, Sour Owl and The Tilted Stills
Sunday, June 17, 8 pm
W  I  P     A n n o u n c e m e n t s


Tell your friends to come on out and join this wonderful celebration of the new Summer FREE Show!

Anarchism Today with Randall Amster
Saturday, June 23, 7-9 pm
Last Word Books (211 4th Avenue E, 60)
The author of a new volume on anarchism -- which the Daily Kos called “a thoroughly thought-provoking overview” -- explores its vital history and relevant relevance in addressing today’s most pressing social and environmental challenges. Presenting a con-structive vision of this widely misunderstood set of theories and practices, the work concludes with a reflection on anarchism’s future and the meaningful role it can play in building a more just and sustainable world.

Randall Amster, J.D., Ph.D., chairs the Master’s Program in Humanities at Prescott College in Arizona, and serves as Executive Director of the Peace & Justice Studies Association.

Announcement: Recent books are Anarchism Today and Lost in Space: The Criminalization, Globalization, and Urban Ecology of Homelessness. He is a regular contributor to media outlets including the Huffington Post, Connection Dreamers, and Truthout, the editor and publisher of the news and commentary website, New Clear Vision.

The Brown Edition
Saturday, June 23, 8 pm
Storytelling: Building a People’s Movement in Seattle

The Brown Edition’s gonna headline a grooviliscious show at one of the hottest spots in Seattle! We are spreading the funk to new places! Kickin’ off the night at 8, enjoy the groovy tunes of Soul/Reggae artist, Mark Sexton Band, comin’ out on tour from Reno! Bring your own dancing shoes and feel our energy FREE show!

Theatre of the Oppressed Facilitator’s Training 2012
June 25 through June 30
Port Townsend, Washington

This 5-day workshop is designed to train participants to use these tools with both adults and youth. Focus will be on community organizing, using the Theatre of the Oppressed, Image Theatre, Forum Theatre, some Rainbow of Desire techniques and it will culminate in an interactive public Forum Theatre performance / community dialogue on Friday night. To best understand the real-life power of the work, subject matter will come directly from participants’ personal and collective life experiences. Each day will include time to discuss the previous day’s work and the art of facilitation, as well as applications in the field.

Last year’s participants came from across the U.S., Canada, and from as far away as Egypt, Ecuador, and the Republic of Georgia. For more details, contact: 360.358.4345 or mandalaforchange.com

http://www.mandalaforchange.com

Natural Resources Youth Camp
July 22nd - 28th
UW Center for Sustainability at Park Forest, Eatonville, WA

Campers, ages 12 – 17, spend your summer with Natural Resources Youth Camp! NRYC offers you the opportunity to look at our natural world through hands-on activities, led by professional instructors! Enjoy a fun-filled week of field trips, classroom work, and ropes course! Backcountry Adventure program includes a 4 day backpacking trip!

Registration deadline is July 10, but spaces are limited – register now! For more information and to register, visit www.nryc.org

Testify on Proposed New Homeless Shelter

Downtown may have a new homeless shelter. The city of Olympia is considering proposals on use of the vacant Smith Building along with a federal grant of $520,000. The City Council has already voted in favor of giving the grant and use of the building to the Family Support Center to provide transitional housing and an emergency shelter. Since the grant uses federal money through, there’s still a few more things to be hashed out before the council can weigh in on the process by providing public comment June 1-2 or by testifying at a public hearing at the City Council meeting, on Thursday, June 12, at 3 pm at City Hall.

Olympia Fellowship of Reconciliation’s June Program

“INTERFAITH VOICES FOR PEACE”

This month's program explores humane truths in four different faiths: Judaism, Christianity, Islam, and Buddhists. We explore how the scriptures and other writings and the actual lived traditions - within these faiths have moved their members to work for peace. We also examine some common threads such as the oneness of the human family, compassion, and the Golden Rule.

Near the end of the program we will affirm the value of interfaith respect and cooperation. We will show support for the Interfaith Works of the Olympic Peninsula (360) 357-7224 www.interfaith-works.org, which has been doing excellent work for decades, including bringing together people from different faiths to work on homelessness. Our ongoing work here will be a reflection of our commitment to interfaith understanding.

Our four guests speak from their own respective backgrounds:

• Danny Kadden shares extensive knowledge of the Jewish tradition and also works as Executive Director of Interfaith Works.

• Don Foran comes from the Catholic part of the Christian tradition and also connects cultural and religious poetry with profound issues of the real world, including peace and social justice.

• Sheikh Yousif Wany is the new Imam of the Islamic Center of Olympia and shares some of Islam’s core beliefs that most Americans don’t know about, as well as a wider understanding of the meaning of peace.

• Dan Ryan practices the Zen form of Buddhism and participates actively in the South Sound Buddhist Peace Fellowship, Veterans for Peace, and Olympia FOR.

The national level of the Fellowship of Reconciliation includes twelve affiliated Religious Peace Fellowships (RPFs) (Lutheran, Episcopal, Buddhist, Muslim, Jewish, etc.). See this list: www.forusa.org/groups/religious-peace-fellowships

This list on the national FOR’s website also includes many additional faith-based groups that carry on important work for peace. These include the Shalom Center, Pax Christi, Peace Vigil signs, Interfaith Works of the Olympic Peninsula, the American Friends Service Committee (AFSC), the Menominonee Central Committee, the National Religious Campaign Against Torture (www.nrcat.org), and many others.

Religion deals with our deepest beliefs and insights about what it means to be human and to live here on this planet. Billions of people refer to God by various names in various languages, and they practice various ways of understanding reality and finding meaning in their lives. In the context of Reconciliation’s peace vigil signs says, “All people are one human family,” and another of our vigil signs says, “We’re all in this together.”

On this small planet, we need to understand and respect each other’s religious faith. That’s one step toward peace. And we need to appreciate how various religions really do support peace.
Lockheed Martin: proud to kill Palestinians?

David Cronin

It’s not every day you get the chance to grill a high-ranking representative of Lockheed Martin, over a drink in a bar in a far-flung corner of Israel. So I jumped at the opportunity to confront Chad Fulgham, a vice president of the corporation, with some unpleasant truths during his visit to Brussels in May.

After Fulgham had addressed a conference dealing with the future of NATO, I responded to an invitation for questions from the floor.

“Mr Fulgham, in an advertisement published in the program of this event, Lockheed Martin says it’s ‘proud to have contributed to smart defense with products such as the F-35 fighter jets,’” I said, looking directly at him. “Are you not proud that in 2010, your company signed a contract to supply 20 of these fighter jets to the State of Israel?”

“Are you proud that other weapons manufactured by your company have been used by Israel to butcher Palestinian civilians?”

“No reply,” said Javier Solana, a former NATO top dog who was chairing the conference. “Next question, please.”

“Excuse me, Sir,” I interjected. “I would like an answer to my question. You are not secretary-general of NATO any more. You are a mere European citizen. I have exactly the same rights as you.”

(I regret my inference that senior NATO officials are more important than anyone else who has to use a bathroom every few hours; in mitigation, I plead nervousness and the fact I was ad-libbing.)

Solana tried to proceed with the meeting. As there was no indication that Fulgham was willing to reply, I stood up and fetched my bag. “I am leaving in protest at the participation of Lockheed Martin,” I said, loudly.

If you are leaving, you will not get a reply to your question,” Solana said.

“Thank you,” said Javier Solana, a former NATO top dog who was chairing the conference. “Next question, please.”

“Are you proud that weapons manufactured by your company have been used by Israel to butcher Palestinian civilians?”

“I didn’t, however, confront him on that. Though a serious matter, a conflict of interest or, at the very least, a case of reversing doors between the private and public sectors.

With that parting remark, I headed towards the exit, ready to enjoy some rare Belgian sunshine.

“Battle-tested”

Lockheed Martin, it should be emphasized, is probably the single biggest beneficiary of US military aid to Israel.

Israel has the largest fleet of F-16s, many of them made by Lockheed, outside the US. These weapons of mass murder were used widely during Operation Cast Lead, Israel’s three-week assault on Gaza in late 2008 and early 2009.

Lockheed and Raytheon—another sponsor of today’s conference—are also joint developers of the aptly-named Hellfire missiles that Israel has “battle-tested” on innocent Palestinian civilians.

“I very much doubt it,” said Giles Merritt, a corporate lobbyist who organized the conference. “It has little to do with the topic we are discussing.”

“It has everything to do with it,” I said.

“You people have been talking about complexity. The issues are actually very simple: a large proportion of the people in this room are warmongers. You profit from war and human rights abuses. You should be ashamed of yourselves.”

With that parting remark, I headed towards the exit, ready to enjoy some rare Belgian sunshine.

Are you proud that weapons manufactured by your company have been used by Israel to butcher Palestinian civilians?

David Cronin

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NATO Summit and Chicago police tactics

Judge Sutton stands firm on 7-Eleven decision

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