Supreme Court case tests weight of Native American treaties in the 21st century

Monte Mills

On April 18, the United States Supreme Court heard oral arguments in Washington v. United States, which pits the state of Washington against the United States and 21 Indian tribes. The main question in the case is narrow — whether the state must quickly replace hundreds of culverts that allow the flow of water under roads but also block salmon migration. Yet the underlying issue is far broader.

At stake in the case is the Supreme Court's ongoing role as the nation's highest arbiter of justice. Despite immense changes, that role remains grounded in a 229-year-old Constitution premised on the supremacy of federal treaties and individual rights.

In previous cases, the Supreme Court upheld the tribes' rights to fish salmons, spelled out by various treaties entered in the 1850s. But, having inculcated those rights from destruction previously, the court must now decide their meaning for the 21st century and beyond. That decision may say more about what justice means in our modern legal system than it does about tribes, salmon or culverts.

"As justice and reason demand" In the "United States' zeal for expansion and growth resulted in the removal of Indian people and the acquisition of their territory, often through the use of treaties.

Isaac Stevens, the first governor of the territory of Washington, negotiated treaties on behalf of the United States with tribes across the Pacific Northwest and did so using similar treaty forms and language. In the heart of salmon country, Stevens recognized the importance of fishing to the tribes and, to persuade them to cede vast swaths of land, he emphasized language in the treaties that would preserve the tribal "right of taking fish, at all usual and accustomed grounds and stations...in common with all citizens of the territory." In 1855, Stevens promised the tribes that the "paper secures your fish."

In 1905, the court was asked to resolve the question of whether non-Indians who erected fish wheels to capture salmon could fence off an area, thereby excluding tribal fishermen who sought to fish at their usual and accustomed ground. The court, saying it interpreted the treaties "as justice and reason demand," upheld the treaty claims.

Recognizing their federal supremacy, the court rejected arguments that the admission of Washington to the Union on equal footing with other states destroyed the rights tribes previously secured in agreements with the United States. According to the court, the treaties "seemed to promise more and give the word of the nation for more" than just fishing like all other citizens.

Once again, the courts were called upon to render justice. The central case, brought by tribes and the United States on their behalf against Washington, was filed in 1970. And as in 1905, courts honored tribal rights, deciding that tribes were entitled to half of the salmon harvest. In 1978, the Supreme Court affirmed this. Later decisions even included fish raised in hatcheries. But salmon populations continued to plummet, putting more and more pressure on tribes' ability to exercise their rights. As a result, in 2001, 21 tribes in Washington revived the 1970 litigation by asking the federal courts to decide whether the state of Washington was violating the treaties by building roads across salmon streams using culverts that closed off upstream migration. In doing so, the tribes relied upon a 1997 study showing that hundreds of culverts blocked fish passage and that replacing even half of the culverts would produce 200,000 more salmon each year.

In 2008, the court again suggested that the federal courts should decide whether the tribes were entitled to half of the salmon harvest. In 2014, the court heard oral arguments in Washington v. United States.

Portland Burgerville workers win union election in the wake of strikes, boycott

Kelly Miller

After nearly two years of organizing efforts by the Burgerville Workers Union (BVWU), workers at the 92nd Ave Burgerville in Portland, Oregon have voted for representation by the BVWU. The affirmative vote makes the workers the first formally recognized fast-food union in the US.

As the BVWU posted on their Facebook page

“We won the election. We did it. We made history […] For a long time people have dismissed fast food as unorganizable, saying that turnover is too high, or the workers are too spread out. Today Burgerville workers proved them wrong.”

Burgerville senior vice president of operations Beth Brewer had earlier stated that “if the [BVWU] were to win an election at Burgerville Store #41, Burgerville will bargain in good faith with the union.” Brewer also claimed “Burgerville believes that every employee’s voice needs to be respected and protected,” despite the company’s years-long history of ignoring workers’ demands.

Burgerville has been a popular fast food chain in Oregon and southwest Washington since 1961. They currently have 47 locations that employ around 1,500 people.

Educating workers, providing resources

Since its founding in April 2016, the Burgerville Workers Union, as part of the Industrial Workers of the World (IWW), has advocated for “fair wages, consistent scheduling, and affordable healthcare.” With its founding, the union began educating workers about organizing, as well as setting up resources for members such as free childcare.

According to a 2016 article about the founding of the BVWU in Yes! Magazine, “a typical [Burgerville] crew member, not including managers, earns $9.60 an hour.” As of 2018, wages remain slightly above Oregon’s $10.25 minimum wage but are not enough for many workers to afford the cost of living in the rapidly gentrifying Portland area. A livable wage has been a central concern of the BVWU since its very beginnings.

“We have the right to organize.” On February 1, workers at the Con...
Want to get your name in the paper? Either "on-call" or be a regular contributor to Works in Progress! There are lots of ways to contribute to Works in Progress! There are several ways to contribute to Works in Progress: reading our public service announcement, providing us with a sketch, or writing letters to the editor. We also receive support from the Washington State University Extension program. Contact Cori Carlson, 360-898-2363.

Projects: The aim of WIP is to confront injustice and encourage a participatory democracy based on justice, economic, political, and social components of the Earth and its resources. WIP is a free, volunteer-supported community newspaper with a mission to publish voices that are ignored or misrepresented, we rely on submissions from you, as well as articles we solicit.

Just now, WIP is looking for help in a number of areas. Writing, of course, is a big one. If you look at the column on the left side of this page, you’ll see how to submit your writing along with some indications of the kind of writing we hope for. But we’re also looking for people to edit your work with the myriad tasks that don’t involve writing.

You could sign up for a job, either "on-call" or be a regular contributor to Works in Progress in a variety of ways:

1. reading our public service announcement, providing us with a sketch, or writing letters to the editor.
2. visiting an advertiser;
3. providing us with a sketch, or writing letters to the editor;
4. distributing the paper or handing it out to groups you’re part of;
5. formatting press releases for layout;
6. designing a cover;
7. searching the WIP archive;
8. organizing a WIP party;
9. joining the proofreading team;
10. photographer;
11. reporter?

Then there’s writing. Oh, did I mention writing? The thing about WIP is that we like bright, clear writing—you pet your peep, reflections on an experience, your strong opinions, your analysis of what’s right with, well, your subject here. Or what’s wrong with it (usually that). A memorial to someone who deserves one, or doesn’t. Satire, spoof, parodies, especially if they have a little political flavor. The inside story of the kind of work you do that no one really knows about. Hidden histories. Or coverage of the shenanigans of the City, County, and Port officials. Social life and environmental life in Olympia. WIP is just about the last medium left standing in Thurston County and surrounding area. We print and distribute 3000 copies every week, and circulate the paper online at olywip.org. (We’re working on a major upgrade of that website.)

We can help you edit your work—especially if you send it in timely. Or, if you’re an experienced editor, we need those, too. Not just copy-editing, but seeing if your ideas are worked out, if your facts are correct.

If you’re interested and want to find out more, email us at olywip@gmail.org with a little bit about yourself, your pet peeve, your ideas, or a simple email and letter and send it to WIP PO Box 295, Olympia, WA 98507.

Bethany Weidner, Works in Progress

A love note to the WIP distribution team:

Some time around the first of every month, an extraordinary modern-day Pony Express rider drives to a printer in Centralia and picks up bundles of the hot-off-the-presses new Works! It’s kind of an exciting moment. Maggie drops some papers off in Centralia and brings the rest to Olympia. Most of the papers are stashed in Sandia’s locked garage but some stay with Maggie to distribute; others go directly to the offices where the staff of the Center for Community Based Learning (CCL) reads them out 200 copies during the month.

What happens next is wonderful: we read over such a small but steady team of long-time WIPsters picks up bundles from Sandia’s garage throughout the month. They distribute and replenish over 40 locations in Thurston and Mason Counties. There are a dozen newspaper boxes and the rest are in businesses and other establishments. Dave Groves, Scott Yoos, Mike Pelly, and Kevin P. are the backbone of the distribution system, making sure papers get to their people, are not shooting problems, filling in for one another. There are others who help our local reporting efforts—on the way to work along the riverbanks, biking to the station to ride the train—some who deliver papers to businesses daily, others who deliver to schools in the mornings and afternoons.

Some of these WIPsters have been doing the job for a decade or more. All of their kids read and understand WIP. Everyone at WIP always makes sure that folks who write for us become regular contributors. Some of these WIPsters have been doing the job for a decade or more. All of their kids read and understand WIP. Everyone at WIP always makes sure that folks who write for us become regular contributors.

There’re lots of different voices, big or small, we need them all. (Even poetry is welcome, you see.) Since the story titled “Bryson and Andre are on a Date” appeared in the April issue of WIP, over 100 articles we solicit. There’s poetry, politics, personal experience, your strong opinions, your analysis of what’s right with, well, your subject here. Or what’s wrong with it (usually that). A memorial to someone who deserves one, or doesn’t. Satire, spoof, parodies, especially if they have a little political flavor. The inside story of the kind of work you do that no one really knows about. Hidden histories. Or coverage of the shenanigans of the City, County, and Port officials. Social life and environmental life in Olympia. WIP is just about the last medium left standing in Thurston County and surrounding area. We print and distribute 3000 copies every week, and circulate the paper online at olywip.org. (We’re working on a major upgrade of that website.)

We can help you edit your work—especially if you send it in timely. Or, if you’re an experienced editor, we need those, too. Not just copy-editing, but seeing if your ideas are worked out, if your facts are correct.

If you’re interested and want to find out more, email us at olywip@gmail.org with a little bit about yourself, your pet peeve, your ideas, or a simple email and letter and send it to WIP PO Box 295, Olympia, WA 98507.

Bethany Weidner, Works in Progress

An article on page 3 of the April issue should have clarified that of the approximately $3,000 on-site septic systems in Thurston County, about $38,139 are not routinely monitored.

The photo on p. 3 that accompanied the story titled “Bryson and Andre are on a Date” was taken by Roxan Murray. On page 15, in an article titled “A citizens’oven. a group of organizers formed a Citizens’ Committee (not the Citizens’ Party). They lobbied a call for what became the Citizens’ Party with its founding convention in April 1960.

Corrections
In a victory for activists who shut down a tar sands pipeline as part of a multi-state protest in 2016, a Minnesota appeals court has ruled that the “valve turners” can present a defense that their actions were necessary because of the threat that fossil fuel production poses to the planet.

On Monday, the Minnesota Court of Appeals issued a 2-1 decision upholding a district judge’s October ruling that Annette Klapstein, Emily Neshit Johnston, Steven Liptay, and Benjamin Joldersma can present a “necessity defense” for participating in the #ShutItDown action, which temporarily disabled all tar sands pipelines crossing the U.S.-Canada border.

State prosecutors had challenged last year’s ruling, claiming that such a defense would jeopardize the likelihood of a successful prosecution and “unnecessarily confuse the jury.” Monday’s decision means that those charged can call expert witnesses to explain to jurors how tar sands crude is harming the planet.

It is unclear if the prosecution will appeal the decision to the state’s Supreme Court.

“If we get to present a necessity defense trial, and the jury has to grapple with full knowledge of our shared reality, the jig is up for the fossil fuel industry, and the end of their devastating business model comes into much clearer view,” said Johnston, who faces felony charges for shutting down the pipeline.

Dr. James Hansen—a former NASA scientist who has been called “the father of modern climate change awareness”—is among the experts who plan to appear in court to support the valve turners. Summarizing what he plans to tell the jury, he said:

“It is my expert opinion that global warming from persistent high fossil fuel emissions is in the danger zone, that CO2 emissions from all such sources must be reduced with all deliberate speed, that the situation is becoming worse with each passing day, and that we are likely approaching climate tipping points from which there is no reasonable prospect of return... [The] defendants by their actions, as I understand them, aimed to prevent the urgent and growing danger, and to turn around the government’s failure to date meaningfully to address it.”

While the valve turners are aiming to fight criminal charges with scientific testimonies from witnesses like Hansen, environmentalists across the country are also forcing courtroom conversations about global warming with lawsuits that seek to hold fossil fuel companies and governments accountable for their contributions to the climate crisis.

Although judges in North Dakota and Montana barred fellow valve turners from presenting necessity defenses last year, after Monday’s ruling, Klapstein—who also faces felony charges in Minnesota—expressed hope for future climate cases.

“Well, yes. As a retired attorney, I am encouraged to see that courts across the country seem increasingly willing to allow the necessity defense in climate cases,” she said. “I believe that many judges are aware that our political system has proven itself dangerously unwilling to deal with the catastrophic crisis of climate change, which leaves as our only recourse the actions of ordinary citizens like ourselves, and the courts and juries of our peers that stand in judgment of those actions.”

Climate Defense Project executive director Kelsey Skaggs, who is assisting the Minnesota valve turners’ attorneys, concluded, “This is an important opportunity for the legal system to acknowledge the climate crisis.”

Jessica Corbett is a staff writer for Common Dreams. This work is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution-Share Alike 3.0 License and was originally published on the Common Dreams website, April 24, 2018.
Taxpayers and low-wage workers—helping to make Jeff Bezos a multibillionaire

Did you know that members of the public’s us—finance Amazon’s pursuit of world-spanning e-commerce every step of the way? Tax breaks, subsidies and infrastructure meant to lure distribution centers (aka “fulfillment centers”) into town—purposefully bring in well-paid jobs. But in a recent report (mandated after the 2008 crash), Amazon disclosed that the company’s $87 median pay in the US was only $28,446 per year. Nationally, the company pays its largely blue-collar workforce an hourly wage ranging from about $10 to around $17. In Seattle, where Amazon employs about 45,000 people, the entry-level wage is $11.41 per hour. Annual pay is as low as $22,900 and as high as $500,000.

Jobs that can only be short-term

Maybe the newly subsidized operation delivers well-paid jobs. But neither do they necessarily qualify as good jobs. At the low end of the scale in the “fulfillment” area are “stowers” who stock inventory, “pickers” who take items from shelves and “packers” who box things up for shipment. A hand-held device shows pickers what each item looks like, where to find it, and how to get there fast. Automatic timers tick off the seconds it should take. To meet performance targets, pickers must collect as many as 1,000 items and walk up to 15 miles in a shift.

Local inducements didn’t mean much

What about contributing to an overall rise in the local economy? According to data from the Bureau of Labour Statistics (BLS), warehouse workers in counties where Amazon operates its fulfillment centers make about $41,000 per year compared with warehouse jobs at $45,000 per year in the rest of the country, a difference of nearly 10%. The BLS data also show that in the ten quarters before the opening of a new Amazon center, local warehouse wages had increased by an average of 8%. In the ten quarters after Amazon arrives, they fall by 3%.

The government picks up the difference

The subsidies offered nationally and locally helped Amazon generate 2016 net operating income of $2.4 billion and profit margin of 3% on its North American business. But despite the generous subsidies that help Amazon warehouses turn a profit, the people who work there still must turn to the federal safety net to put food on the table. New data showing Amazon employees’ extensive reliance on SNAP demonstrates an additional public cost of the corporation’s rapid expansion.

SNAP stands for Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, the federal anti-poverty program formerly known as food stamps. As the biggest ecommerce grocer, Amazon stands to profit more than any other retailer when the $70 billion program goes online.

In Pennsylvania, for instance, an estimated 244,000 people in subsidiaries support 13 warehouses that employ around 10,000 people. At the same time, paycheck for more than 1,000 of these individuals don’t add up to enough to buy groceries, according to public data provided by the state. Amazon has just announced it will accept SNAP dollars to pay for purchases. They will again collect public dollars, making a third transfer of public wealth to private hands. A new government “cloud computing” contract worth billions will be awarded soon by the Department of Defense and Amazon is the leading contender. So make that a fourth transfer.

Jeff Bezos’ net worth in 2017 was $127 billion, according to Bloomberg. Apparently it also “takes a village” to raise a billionaire.

Data and other material in this article comes from The Intercept, April 13, 2018; The Economist “What Amazon does to wages,” Jan. 20, 2018; The Seattle Times, April 13, 2018; RWP Research (an independent website on revenues and profits)

Blown out the candles—you are at least 18 years old.

Flex, not just your muscles—you don’t mind a curve ball every once in a while and you can be flexible in responsibilities.

You are willing and able to work extra hours as required, bringing smiles to our customers don’t take time off.

Let’s get physical—associates must, with or without reasonable accommodation, be able to lift up to 49 pounds, stand/walk for up to 8-10 hours, and be able to frequently push, pull, squat, bend, and reach.

Step it up—be able to climb stairs. Scale and descend stairs safely (applies to sites with stairs)

Must be able to work on a secure mezzanine, at a height of up to 100 feet (applies to buildings with mezzanines) [couldn’t think of a cute, hip way to say this]

Must be willing and able to work on powered equipment—f example forklift or cherry picker

Basic Qualifications (because compliance asked us nicely to list these out…)

Ah, actual straight talk...

Must be at least 18 years old—High School diploma or equivalent

English literacy skills

Me: $12.25/hr.

Holiday overtime pay, Basic Life, AD&D insurance You might need [this]

On-the-job training and skill development

Employee Assistance Program [this too]

Employee Assistance Program

Amazon’s dating profile on Idealist.com

“Are you an idealist? Looking for ‘fulfillment?’”

[fl note: The following is not a parody; it’s an actual “help wanted” ad posted by Amazon’s adorably hip HR writers on Idealist.com]

Your: Seasonal Sortation Associate – Delivery Station, Renton WA

Things you should know about working in an Amazon Delivery Station: Safety is more than wearing a reflective vest. We’re committed to providing one of the safest work environments, which means stretching, safety tips, and yes, following the rules. Customer-obsession. It makes your day to make someone else happy. Quality is key. You have high standards, and it shows in your work. We’ll hold you to it, only because we know our associates can handle it.

We like to keep you on your toes, associates will rotate tasks multiple times throughout the week.

Amazon lets customers order whatever they need, whenever they need. Flexibility is key, associates should be open to extra hours, time off, and how to get there fast. Automatic timers tick off the seconds it should take. To meet performance targets, pickers must collect as many as 1,000 items and walk up to 15 miles in a shift.

Layer up! You should be comfortable working in an environment with varying temperatures. Many buildings have dock doors that open throughout the day to make someone else happy.

We want you to join the team if you can check these boxes:

Ready for another shift at the “fulfillment center”

Art by Don Swanson

Centralia Square Antique Mall

Antiques • Restaurant • Hotel

Directions from Olympia

South on Interstate 5

Off at Exit 82 (Factory Outlets)

East on Harrison

Right on Pearl

203 S Pearl & Lebanon

Open 7 days

10am-6pm
A conversation about our warming climate and its effects on the Puget Sound area

Michelle Stevie

“Climate” refers to the average weather conditions in an area over a long period of time, usually 30 years. Our weather and climate have been warming over time. As our region’s climate warms, more precipitation will fall as rain than snow. This means water sheds that were snow-dominated are likely to become more rain-dominated or have a mix of rain and snow. Historic records show a trend of snow melt means that less water may be available later in the season. The result would be less water overall in our streams and aquifers during summer and fall.

A warming climate will also change the frequency and intensity of rainfall events in the Puget Sound region. Scientists project wetter winters with more frequent and extreme rainfall events typically caused by “atmospheric rivers.” These changes are expected to increase the volume of stormwater runoff entering Puget Sound waterways.

Find out what this mean and how it will affect us.

The public is invited to a “Climate Conversation” on Wednesday, May 9th from 6:30-8:30 pm at the Olympia Civic Center in the lobby of the conversation. Lynn Helfrechts and Jessica Halofsky will speak on Species Shifts and Waterways.

Jessica Halofsky is a research ecologist with the University of Washington and is affiliated with Forest Service Northwest Research Station. Jessica received an M.S. in Forestry from Penn State and a Ph.D. in Forest Science from Oregon State University. Her research interests include fire and disturbance ecology, vegetation dynamics, and climate change (ecosystem impacts and adaptation). Jessica pioneered one of the first climate change vulnerability assessment and adaptation projects with Olympic National Forest and Park.

Lynn Helfrechts currently serves as the Climate Change Coordinator for the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, where her work revolves around developing and implementing strategies to ensure that agency activities are managing for a changing climate. Recent projects include adopting a new agency policy for climate change, completing a climate vulnerability assessment for 266 species of concern that face the risk of extinction across Washington, and research to support water management plans that allow for streamflow changes to the design of culverts for fish passage. Her talk will highlight how climate change is expected to affect fish and wildlife, and also explore some of the challenges climate change poses for natural resource managers.

Our final talk of the series, Effects of Wildfire and Climate, will take place on June 6th at 6:30-8:30 pm at the Olympia City Hall and will feature Josh Halofsky. Josh is a research scientist with the Washington State Department of Natural Resources. His talk will explore the past, present, and possible future of Western Washington forests through a climate and wildfire lens.

To register for these talks, visit www.streamteam.info and click on “register.” For more information, contact Michelle at mstevie@ci.olympia.wa.us.

Michelle Stevie is a habitat biologist and Stream Team coordinator.

---

Supreme Court

From page 1

According to the tribes, though earlier decisions had preserved their treaty rights, without additional protections for salmon habitat and populations, they were unable to retain the right for fish "sufficient to sustain them." The state of Washington claims the treaties promised more than "right to take fish" if there are no more salmon to take. Therefore, the crucial question becomes whether, despite having aged nearly two centuries, those 20 fateful words of the Stevens treaties from the 1850s still guarantee greater protection for tribal interests.

Its decision will have impact far beyond Washington State. While the “right to take fish” language of the Stevens treaties is unique to the tribes of the Northwest, tribes across the country continue to exercise treaty rights without additional protections for salmon habitat and populations, they were unable to retain the right to witness wild salmon go extinct.

Both the federal trial court and the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals agreed with the tribes. Indeed, the trial court entered a permanent injunction requiring the state to replace hundreds of culverts within the next 17 years. Echoing the 1905 Supreme Court decision, the Ninth Circuit determined that the treaties promised more than just access to fishing sites. The treaties also promised that there would be fish "sufficient to sustain them.

The state of Washington claims the treaties did not promise that much. They point to other actions of the federal government that hurt salmon populations and argue that complying with the injunction would require reallocation of billions of additional dollars, and now ask the Supreme Court to reverse those lower court decisions. In the state’s view, the rights claimed by the tribes and recognized by the lower courts are “novel” and not contemplated by the 160-year-old treaties.

More than culverts

The Supreme Court will now decide whether, despite having aged nearly two centuries, those 20 fateful words of the Stevens treaties from the 1850s still guarantee greater protection for tribal interests.

For example, the decision could provide more legal ammunition for those supporting recent tribal movements in support of Bears Ears or to stop the Dakota Access pipeline. Even if the court sides with Washington, the case is already prompting broader discussion of tribal rights nationally and could lead to more state-trial co-operation to avoid similar challenges in the future.

More importantly, resolving this case demands an accounting of “the words of the nation,” which the court has largely honored since that 1905 decision. Although much has changed, the words of treaties remain in the Constitution’s words, the “supreme law of the land.” But, without meaningful protection like that sought by the tribes in Washington v. United States, arguably those words will soon be rendered meaningless.

Supreme law or not, what good is the “right to take fish” if there are no more fish to take? Therefore, the crucial question becomes whether, despite having aged nearly two centuries, those 20 fateful words of the Stevens treaties from the 1850s still guarantee greater protection for tribal interests.

Since 1990, the Olympia Stream Team has led local stream cleanup efforts, put on educational workshops about wetland and aquatic habitats and trainings about biological monitoring, among other things. The Stream Team covers Olympia, Lacey, Tumwater and Thurston County and emphasizes community engagement and partnerships with groups, such as the Native Plant Salvage Project. To volunteer with the Stream Team and learn more about projects and events, visit www.streamteam.info.

Michelle Stevie is a habitat biologist and Stream Team coordinator.

---

WEST CENTRAL PARK PROJECT
Growing Olympia Community Since 2013!

The West Central Park Project provides free music, workshops, community gardens, art, summer movies, markets and more!

Weekly Maintenance Party Every Sunday from 10-2!
HELP US FUND THE 2018 SUMMER CONCERT SERIES WITH OUR GO FUND ME CAMPAIGN! *
Visit us online to donate or mail checks to:
2801 Harrison Ave. NW, PMB 2835
Olympia, Washington 98502
APARKFORUS.ORG
*A all donations are tax deductible

Life is...

Drawing by Logan Chrysler
The Public Trust Doctrine and future generations: Young plaintiff challenges his peers at Climate Action Convention

Janine Gates

Technically, he is the future, and while a strong ruling favored his case, nothing has happened to enforce it and the case has been refiled.

Violating the Public Trust Doctrine

The difference between the state and federal cases, he said, is that the federal government has known about the dangers of fossil fuel use and the destructive forces of climate change for about fifty years.

“By acting against that information, they have violated our rights and the Public Trust Doctrine.”

According to a press release from Our Children’s Trust, Juliana v. United States is not about the government’s failure to act on climate. Instead, the 21 young plaintiffs assert that the US government, through its affirmative actions in creating a national energy system that causes climate change, has violated their constitutional rights to life, liberty and property, and has failed to protect essential public trust resources.

The case is one of many related legal actions brought by youth seeking science-based action by governments to stabilize the climate system.

Engaging youth in climate change conversations

The South Sound Climate Action Convention was held at the Lacey branch of South Puget Sound Community College and was organized by the Thurston Climate Action Team.

It featured a wide variety of speaking, presenting and networking activities, including panel discussions and workshops on topics such as climate change denial, solutions and action.

At the students’ March for our Lives: When will it happen here?

Gandhi once said “You must be the change you wish to see in the world.” That quote is very meaningful to me, because nothing happens when you sit around, hoping that change will come. If you want something to change, you need to take it into your own hands.

You sometimes have to step outside of your comfort zone in order to do so, like I am doing right now.

My name is Katrina Telnack. I am a student at Reeves Middle School, and want to thank you all so much for coming out today! As a student, hearing about all the mass shootings, many of which take place at schools, is scary and extremely disturbing. They continue happening all over the country, and I can’t help thinking when will it happen here, possibly to me? We should not have to be worried about our safety at school. Or anywhere, for that matter.

It is so inspiring to see all the students from Parkland standing up and speaking out about gun violence. They have encouraged people all over the world to do the same. It makes me sad to see that people would rather protect their guns than children. It’s time for us to stand up for ourselves in a time when many of our politicians seem as though they couldn’t care less.

In my 8th grade Social Studies class, we have been learning about the Constitution. My teacher had us all memorize the Preamble, and in it, it says “Promote the General Welfare,” which, to me, means helping to ensure that all citizens are safe and taken care of. NOT passing gun control laws is allowing these tragedies to continue happening, which HARMS the general welfare of our citizens, and makes us feel scared and unsafe.

You may feel there is nothing you can do about it, but you’ve ALREADY done something by showing up today! So THANK YOU, ALL!”

Katrina Telnack

The Public Trust Doctrine and future generations: Young plaintiff challenges his peers at Climate Action Convention

Janine Gates

“You must be the change you wish to see in the world.” That quote is very meaningful to me, be- cause nothing happens when you sit around, hoping that change will come. If you want something to change, you need to take it into your own hands. You sometimes have to step outside of your comfort zone in order to do so, like I am doing right now.

My name is Katrina Telnack. I am a student at Reeves Middle School, and want to thank you all so much for coming out today! As a student, hearing about all the mass shootings, many of which take place at schools, is scary and extremely disturbing. They continue happening all over the country, and I can’t help thinking when will it happen here, possibly to me? We should not have to be worried about our safety at school. Or anywhere, for that matter.

It is so inspiring to see all the students from Parkland standing up and speak- ing out about gun violence. They have encouraged people all over the world to do the same. It makes me sad to see that people would rather protect their guns than children. It’s time for us to stand up for ourselves in a time when many of our politicians seem as though they couldn’t care less.

In my 8th grade Social Studies class, we have been learning about the Constitution. My teacher had us all memori- ze the Preamble, and in it, it says “Promote the General Welfare,” which, to me, means helping to ensure that all citizens are safe and taken care of. NOT passing gun control laws is allowing these tragedies to continue happening, which HARMS the general welfare of our citizens, and makes us feel scared and unsafe.

You may feel there is nothing you can do about it, but you’ve ALREADY done something by showing up today! So THANK YOU, ALL!”
Visit to a gun rally

Their rights, our lives

Dan Leaby

He roared right past me with an AR-15 flag on the back of his motorcycle. Then he turned off Capitol Way into the State Capitol. I wanted to follow him. There were about 2000 mainly white guys with rifles on their backs or draped over their fronts with pistols on their hips milling around the Capitol steps. They were generally dressed in black with ball caps and jackets. Tours out this rally, held on Sat- urday April 21, was designed as a counter to the 4,500 people who were at the March for Our Lives rally a week ago.

Down from there were tents filled with literature from various orga- nizations. The NRA and the John Birch Society were there. The Liber- tarian Motor Cycle (LMC) for “liber- tarian-minded” men, the American Patriot III%ers who want a return to a “Constitutional Republic,” the Civitans Committee for the Right to Keep and Bear Arms dedicated to “protecting your firearms rights,” ARATE, “a motocycling commu- nity,” with its slogan “Brotherhood Against Tyrannical Enactments,” and Osborne & Sons Guns and Ammo shop of Onalaska, Washing- ton—were there too.

There was also a strong presence of Republican Party officials, candi- dates and elected officials. There was campaign information for Constitutional Candidate Jared Bonneau from Spokane Valley, a Constitutional Con- servative, and for State Representa- tive Candidate Jodi Wilke from Port Townsend whose literature stated, “Gun violence is a software issue, not a hardware issue.” Robert Sutherland had a table. He’s running for State Represen- tative out of Monroe. There was also a table for 1621, an Initiative called “Expanding Choice for School Security” that would allow “nonstudents to carry pistols on school grounds” if they had a license to carry a concealed pistol or were exempt from licensing.

I listened to several speakers, all Republi- cans. Marty McClendon, Pierce County Republican Chair, Jim Walsh, State Representative of Aberdeen, and Elizabeth Scott, State Senate Can- didate for the 39th Legislative District. Both were concerned that “we were giving us rights, they are individu- al, not collective rights. The 2nd Amendment is the one that secures all other rights. Any infringement on this right will mean the loss of all rights. Gun Free Zones should be eliminated, for example. There is an urban elite defunding economically depressed rural areas to create dense urban areas for better control. There is also a general fear that people are under attack and a gun will make them secure.

The only speaker who stepped out of the general framework was Jerry Gib- son, Patriot Prayer founder, who, in a somewhat incoherent rant, called for a non-violent revolution of the mind, but with the armed capacity to stop foreign invaders.

Works in Progress received a press re- lease for their rally from “Washington Gun Owners,” indicating that the rally was hosted by Tessa Ashley and Al- len Acosta. (Works in Progress got a press release shortly after clarifying that the rally was not related to the Liber- tarian Party of Washington State.) Tessa Ashley asked to be the Chair of Ceremonies and Organize. Accord- ing to Allen Acosta, the rally was sponsored and supported by the Lib- ertarian Motor Cycle Club.

Dan Leaby joined the Peace Corps as a young man, and refused induction into the US Army. He lives in Olympia.
Remembering and rekindling the 1968 Poor People's Movement, 50 years later

This year, we commemorate the fifty-year anniversary of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and the Poor People’s Movement. In 1968, the Poor People’s Movement strove to connect issues of poverty and inequality to systemic issues of racism and economic exploitation.

Under the headline “The Poor People’s Campaign: A National Call to Moral Revival,” King announced the plan to bring together poor people from across the country for the first time in a reform movement…That after Selma and the Voting Rights Bill, we moved into a new era, which must be an era of revolution…In short, we have moved from the era of civil rights to the era of human rights…When we see that there must be a radical redistribution of economic and political power, then we see that for the last twelve years we have been in a reform movement. That after Selma and the Voting Rights Bill, we moved into a new era, which must be an era of revolution...In short, we have moved from the era of civil rights to the era of human rights. We have moved into an era where we are called upon to raise certain basic questions about the whole society." Later that year, in December 1967, Rev. Dr. King announced the plan to bring together poor people from across the country for a new march on Washington. This march was to be held up to wage the Poor People’s Movement for the twenty-first century. In February, Rev. Dr. King announced with Fight for 15 and held rallies in many US cities calling for a $15 federal minimum wage and fair working conditions for low-wage workers.

In preparation for these six weeks, the Poor People’s Campaign and demanded the history of the original Poor People’s Movement and its demands.

History of the Poor People’s Movement

Just one year before his assassination, at a Southern Christian Leadership Conference staff retreat in May 1967, Rev. Dr. King talked about the projects, rallies, and celebrations planned for this period or to hold more meetings of the Poor People’s Campaign, visit poorpeoplescampaign.org.

The first gathering of over fifty multiracial organizations that came together with an understanding of the Poor People’s Campaign, took place in Atlanta, Georgia in March 1968. This Lead Brief Organizations at this session included Tom Hayden of the Poor People’s Campaign and Presidential candidate, Reis Tijerina of the Federal Alliance of New Mexico, John Lewis of the Southern Regional Council, Myles Horton of the Highlander Center, Appalachian volun- teers from the Salkantay, volunteers from the U.S. to help set out the major elements of the platform for the Poor People’s Campaign of 1968.

An important aspect of the Campaign was to petition the government to pass an Economic Bill of Rights as a step to lift the load of poverty that included:

- $30 billion annual appropriation for a real war on poverty
- Congressional passage of full employment and guaranteed income wage
- Construction of 500,000 low-cost housing units per year until slums were eliminated

The Campaign was organized into three phases. The first was to construct a strong movement to become known as Resurrection City, on the National Mall between the Lincoln Memorial and the Washington Monument. Permission will be necessary from the National Park Service, Resurrection City was to be a place where anywhere from 1,500 to 3,000 poor people from across the country could take part in the struggle for dignity as a dramatization of the issues taken up by the Poor People’s Campaign, become known as Resurrection City, on the National Mall between the Lincoln Memorial and the Washington Monument. With permits from the National Park Service, Resurrection City was to be a place where anywhere from 1,500 to 3,000 poor people from across the country could take part in the struggle for dignity as a dramatization of the issues taken up by the Poor People’s Campaign.

Peer People’s Campaign

Unfortunately, the unity and organization needed for the Poor People’s Campaign of 1968 to complete all three of the planned stages and form the “new and unsetfing force” capable of disrupting “complacent national life” and achieving an economic bill of rights was not easy to come by. The assassinations of Dr. King and Senator Robert Kennedy, a key proponent of the Campaign and Presidential candidate, only served to cripple the Campaign and greatly limit its impact. King emphasized the need for poor whites, blacks, Latinos, Asians, and Native Americans to unite. He asserted that the Poor People’s Campaign would only be successful if the poor could come together across racial and barriers set up to divide us and if they could overcome the attention and resources being diverted because of the US engagement in the Vietnam War. In August 1967, he preached: “One unfortunate thing about [the slogan] ‘Black Power’ is that it gives priority to race precisely at a time when the impact of automation and other forces have made the economic question fundamental for blacks and whites alike. In this context a slogan ‘Power for Poor People’ would be much more appropriate than the slogan ‘Black Power’”

King and the other leaders of the Poor People’s Campaign asked fundamen- tal questions about the contradic- tions of their day. Today, many of the groups interested in re-igniting the Poor People’s Campaign, are asking similar questions about the problems of inequality, power and class. King exemplified the clarity, commitment, capability, and connectedness needed to build a movement to end poverty.

I choose to identify with the underprivileged. I choose to identify with the poor. I choose to give my life for the hungry. I choose to give my life for those who have been left out. This is the way I’m going. This commitment is needed from all leaders interested in taking up King’s mantle. We demand that we have moved from the era of civil rights to the era of human rights...This history was originally published on poorpeoplescampaign.org.
We are on strike today because May 2018 Works In Progress Page 9 Burgerville

We are on strike today because Day is a coordinated effort by more

Fund Network is again bailing out ma-

During their struggle for union rec-

A win for workers and their

community

By after all. It was won by workers and

their communities fighting hard and

fighting together.

But the fight is not over. Until Burgerv-

nee negotiates a fair contract with workers we are continuing to call for a

boycott. Because even though Burgerv-

nee's press release claims that they believe "that the employee's voice needs to be respected," we know the lengths they have gone to over the past two years to silence workers and

bust the union. Burgerville has fired multiple workers for supporting the union, has assaulted workers on the picket lines, and has spent God knows how much on a union busting law firm while continuing to pay workers

poverty wages.

If Burgerville truly respected its work-

ers voices, they would have negoti-

ated with us a long time ago. They

would have started paying us living

wage, provided consistent scheduling,

stopped using e-verify, and offered af-

ordable health care a long time ago.

The National Bail Fund Network works with community bail funds that have been established across the country to counter the impact of mass incarcer-

ation. A unifying principle across all of these bail funds, and one that guides the

Network, is a belief that bail funds are a temporary intervention, not a permanent solution to the mass injustices embedded by the criminal legal system. We believe that bail funds can play a critical and immediate harm re-

duced role and a long and impor-

tant history as a way for communi-

ties to push back on an unjust system.

Burgerville

From page 1 Plea to Portland

vention Center Burgerville in Port-

land began a strike that lasted three

days. Three of the four locations partici-

pated in the strike and picketed many other Burgerville store fronts throughout Oregon. The central demand of the strikers was that Burgerville negotiate with the

Burgerville Workers Union. Strikers also urged the public to boycott the company until negotiation occurred.

On the first day of the strike, the

BVWU announced that the union would seek a National Labor Relations Board-administered election should Burgerville continue to refuse to rec-

ognize them. Soon after that, Burger-

ville announced an agreement with a press release stating that they would honor the elec-

tion process at the 92 Ave Burgerville.

BVWU acknowledged their victory on Facebook:

“This victory for the union testifies to the power of the workers at Burger-

ville, the strength of our February strikes, and the commitment of our community supporters. The win was not just given to us by Burgerville, after all. It was won by workers and their communities fighting hard and fighting together.

But the fight is not over. Until Burgerv-

nee negotiates a fair contract with workers we are continuing to call for a

boycott. Because even though Burgerv-

nee's press release claims that they believe "that the employee's voice needs to be respected," we know the lengths they have gone to over the past two years to silence workers and

bust the union. Burgerville has fired multiple workers for supporting the union, has assaulted workers on the picket lines, and has spent God knows how much on a union busting law firm while continuing to pay workers

poverty wages.

If Burgerville truly respected its work-

ers voices, they would have negoti-

ated with us a long time ago. They

would have started paying us living

wage, provided consistent scheduling,

stopped using e-verify, and offered af-

ordable health care a long time ago.

In addition to their day-to-day work

organizing people and uplifting the

presumption of innocence, we believe that bail funds can be a potentially cat-

alytic tool in the fight to end money

bail. Bail funds must be conceptualized as tools of resistance in comprehensive campaigns to end cash bail. The Net-

work works with organizers and legal

providers to learn from current and

past bail fund models and to serve as a vehicle for experimentation and learn-

ing within a larger movement strategy.

BVWU announced that the union would seek a National Labor Relations Board-administered election should Burgerville continue to refuse to rec-

ognize them. Soon after that, Burger-

ville announced an agreement with a press release stating that they would honor the elec-

tion process at the 92 Ave Burgerville.

In their victory statement, the

BVWU also urged their supporters to "turn [their] attention to the 4.5 million other fast-food workers in the United States" who continue to receive poverty wages, unpredictable schedules and minimal if any benefits.

Kelly Miller organizes with Economics for Everyone in Olympia, and studied political economy at The Evergreen State College.

Dan

4/16/18

BLUEBIRD, WASHINGTON

She saw me coming. Stepped into the woods. I turned my car around, stopped.

She was young, skinny, dressed in drenched black. Black pants, black hoodie, sandals.


Where can I take you? I'm thirsty. I drink anything. Vic's has expresso. Is expresso coffee? Here's $10 bucks. Vic's has sodas, coffee, food She shuffled off to Vic's With one sock, never looking back.
The Months of Labor—May 1, 1886

A May Day message from Mother Jones

Mary Harris Jones

Really, I am just an old Irish working-class woman, born in Cork, Ireland sometime around 1830. Later, I launched into Labors’ cause. I declared my birthday as May 1, because of its relevance to the labor demonstration of May 1886 at Haymarket Square in Chicago. That event began as a peaceful rally for an eight-hour day and a May Day Worker’s Holiday— and in reaction to the police killing of several workers the previous day.

This is when I found my true calling; organizing communities and workers. I’m not a humanitarian, I’m a hell-raiser. (I think this is why WIP asked me to tell my story during the month of May.)

I joined the United Mine Workers cause after Haymarket and became known as Mother Jones by “my boys,” the striking miners. Those miners were forced by the mine owners into armed struggle. I shuddered and fought like hell when the mine owners ordered their contracted militias to fire upon my boys on the line. I went to Colorado and helped organize coal miners. I was once again arrested and served some time in prison. Then I was escorted from the state in the months prior to the Ludlow Massacre.

Oh my, people worked for 10 to 12 hours a day back then, and in the most dangerous conditions! Imagine yourself being made to work more hours than you spent time with your family. I understand conditions now are worsening again. Back then workers had begun to organize for better conditions of employment. We made our demand for an 8-hour work day. The Federation of Organized Trades and Labor Unions (with my friend Peter McGuire of the Knights of Labor) said we were in the era of the Social Democratic Party. I helped this struggle in Chicago and America, and became recognized for including women and children in the rallies and marches for workers’ rights.

Can you believe a district attorney later dubbed me “the most dangerous woman in America” during my trial in West Virginia for organizing hanged meetings of miners? LOL!

For nearly 50 years, I traveled the country to be the voice of child mill workers, deported Mexican workers, steelworkers and most famously coal miners. But I won’t nag or scold you who work under the bosses now. But I do pray that you heed the call to see who you are and your position in the world.

You need a national convention of workers to set a new, minimum wage standard, equal pay, elimination of sexism and racism in the workforce! I helped in this struggle in Chicago and America, and became recognized for including women and children in the rallies and marches for workers’ rights. Can you believe a district attorney later dubbed me “the most dangerous woman in America” during my trial in West Virginia for organizing hanged meetings of miners? LOL!

For nearly 50 years, I traveled the country to be the voice of child mill workers, deported Mexican workers, steelworkers and most famously coal miners. But I won’t nag or scold you who work under the bosses now. But I do pray that you heed the call to see who you are and your position in the world.

Times are changing again for workers in America. I have heard of your struggles for a living wage, equal pay for women, your so-called “gig economy” (which plays on the false notion that a worker can become an “entrepreneur” or his/her own boss, but in reality, makes the worker responsible for taxes and costs previously the employers’ responsibility), racism, and other forms of oppression. Back then, we fought against these conditions, which are nothing more than industrial poorness. I reminded workers that they had to take power, and that marching in the streets is an essential part of gaining collective rights. I say to you now, it is again the day for raising ourselves up for the sake of children to a nobler manhood and better womanhood. Pray for the dead and fight like hell for the living. As you say now, time to Stay Woke.

This month MB, our long-time union member/author, channels the voice of Mary Harris Jones. Jones was a founder of the Social Democratic Party in 1898 and helped to establish the IWW in 1905. She remained active even at the age of 82 when she was arrested for her part in a West Virginia miners’ strike. She was sentenced to 20 years in jail, but an outcry by union supporters forced the governor to grant her a pardon. She died in 1930.

A Playback Theatre performance

Coming Out of Darkness and Into Light

In collaboration with YouthSound

Friday, May 11, 2018 • 7:30 p.m.

Traditions Café – 300 5th Ave., SE

downtown

Olympia

Cost: Suggested Donation $7.00-$12.00

(No one is turned away)

Each month we invite a guest artist(s), community organization, arts program or social service agency to be a part of our performance. Through this collaboration we acknowledge and honor the work individuals and organizations do in our community.

This month we collaborate with YouthSound, a state program that promotes the power and importance of youth voice. They believe that all youth have the right and ability to be empowered leaders in creating change in their lives, their communities and the systems that impact them.

Be part of a Foster Care Community!

Join Family Behavioral Health as we build an intentional community to support our foster families!

We Provide:

* ongoing training
* 24/7 support and crisis response
* reimbursed respite
* an innovative approach to care
* a team of professionals dedicated to supporting your family

For more information:

Scarlett Gentry
360-280-5017
scarlettg@ccsww.org

A Playback Theatre is a spontaneous collaboration between performers and audience. People tell moments from their lives, then watch them re-created with movement, music and dialogue.
The May 2018 episode of “Glen’s Parallax Perspectives” interviews two very knowledgeable guests who have been working to protect the broad public interest in matters affecting our local community.

Typically, local communities assume that they are supposed to grow in population. Local population growth is promoted as good for us, but the promoters avoid disclosing the real costs—the hidden costs—of local population growth. This interview explores the costs of such growth. Although some of our examples come from the greater Olympia area, the principles pertain elsewhere too.

The City of Olympia expects 20,000 more people here in the next 20 years. Who will pay for the roads, sewers, schools, parks, police and fire services needed so forth? Should growth pay its own way, or should all of the rest of us subsidize it? Also, how will we deal with the non-financial costs, such as the increased noise, traffic congestion, and visual clutter?

Two guests help us explore these concerns. I have known and respected both for about 30 years:

Jim Lazar has worked as a professional economist since the 1970s. He specializes in energy issues but also knows a huge amount about local government and other issues too.

Bob Jacobs had a long career as a public policy analyst for state government and other organizations too.

We debunk the assumption that endless growth is good. While we acknowledge some benefits of local population growth, we discuss a number of non-financial costs and spend most of the interview explaining the hidden financial costs that real estate developers and local governments impose upon everyone when local population increases. Although new construction may pay modest impact fees for transportation and schools, those are far less than the actual costs, so ordinary people who already live here end up subsidizing the real estate developers. We explain these hard financial realities in ways that are easy to understand.

We also expose serious inherent flaws in the “Missing Middle” proposal that the City of Olympia is trying to impose upon us.

We offer sources of information so you can learn more.

Watch Powerfully Insightful and Important TV Programs Through Your Computer or on TCTV

Everyone everywhere can watch this interview—and/or read a thorough summary of what we said—through the TV Programs’ part of my blog, www.parallaxperspectives.org. Each program is also posted to one or more categories listed on the blog.

Cable TV subscribers in Thurston County can watch this interview on TCTV. Everyone can watch this interview on Thurston Community Television (TCTV) three times a week throughout the entire month: every Monday at 1:30 pm, every Wednesday at 7:00 pm, and every Thursday at 9:00 pm.

Questions? Contact Glen Anderson, the TV series’ producer/host at (360) 491-9093 glenanderson@integra.net

During crazy political times, humor and creativity are revolutionary acts—and they can be effective in “making end runs” around politics as usual.

An appreciation of Olympia’s older, established neighborhoods and the diversity they represent

[Note: This is the conclusion from a “context statement” on single-family residential development in Olympia, up to 1975. It was prepared by Peter Meier, Architects and submitted to the City of Olympia in August 2015. As stated in the conclusion, “This document may help promote the appreciation and preservation of representative neighborhoods and structures across time in Olympia.”]

Since Olympia’s early foundation, single-family housing has played a fundamental role in shaping its built environment. From the native long houses that pre-date American settlement to the mid-modern ranch style homes that mirror each other at the end of a cul-de-sac, Olympia’s single-family housing, dating to 1975, has changed as drastically as the city itself.

Collectively, this interwoven relationship between architecture and change has contributed to the diversity in single-family housing style and size that continues to tell a visual history of Olympia.

Prompted by its “unofficial” capital title in 1853 and the rise of the timber industry in the 1870s, Olympia became a conclusion to one of America’s earliest expansions from a stream of new residents who came from the Oregon Trail. This pilgrimage along with Olympia’s capital status and industry contributed to the rise in early single-family residential housing that can still be viewed today.

Years later, after Olympia received its official capital title in 1853, the newly incorporated state of Washington in 1889, Olympia, in a tradition that it was supposed to grow, did as the range in housing type and style.

This later evolution of Olympia, and its architecture were the result of multiple social and technological changes. These factors, which include the pre- and post-War economy, the introduction of Interstate 5, contributed to shifting the single-family home to reflect a new American culture. This culture, largely driven by major changes in American industry and technology, turned Olympia’s single-family residential home in Olympia, like much of the United States, from a just a home to a reflection of new suburban community ideals.

Prompted by an expanding landscape, these suburban communities rede- fined the single-family home and how Americans live, as many continue to do so today. Up to 1975 and continuing to the present day Olympia has continued to grow and change. Like many communities in the Pacific Northwest, Olympia has had to adapt to the decline of its early economic base; the timber industry. However, Olympia experienced a new demographic in The Evergreen State College, which was founded in 1967. This new demographic, along with the increasing governmental presence in Olympia, supported the development of growth in single-family housing through the late 1960s to 1975.

Overall, viewed through the diversity in single-family housing throughout the City of Olympia and Thurston County, is the story of early settlement, industry, setbacks, and continued growth that gives the Olympia its proud sense of history in the Pacific Northwest. Today these housing types not only continue to tell a visual history of Olympia, but continue to contribute to an ever changing landscape that is Olympia.

This document, along with other existing historic context statements written for and about the City of Olympia, 78-79 can be used as the basis for research into development of single-family residential areas in the City.

Ultimately, the document may help preserve the appreciation and preservation of representative neighborhoods and structures across time in Olympia.

Search for the full document using: single-family residential development in Olympia, Washington up to 1975
Renouncing missile envy: a Boeing epiphany

I.C.R. Meetoo

Our long-lived local company, Boeing, is a world leader in producing commercial aircrafts. Less well known to Washingtonians is its extensive role in producing military hardware, especially nuclear weapons (perhaps because most of this work goes on in Utah and Ohio).

Bigger and better for the 21st century
Since 1958, early in the nuclear age, Boeing was selected by the US Air Force as the prime contractor and original equipment manufacturer for the first ballistic missiles, the Minuteman ICBMs. That role has continued to the present. As part of the US military’s plans to “modernize” the nuclear triad - missiles, submarines and bombers - in August 2017 Boeing was awarded a $32 billion contract to develop a new ICBM system.

Proudly erect on the Montana plains
Boeing’s form of “nuclear envy” should not surprise us. This macho corpora
tion has always believed that the best way to forestall the enemy is to be bigger and tougher. And what seems bigger, and longer, than an ICBM's foot-long tube, tipped with a nuclear bomb, standing proud and erect on the Montana plains.

Well, maybe not so proud
But local residents around missile sites feel differently. The over 400 ICBM sites are located in the western states of North Dakota, Montana and Wyoming. A couple of residents in farms and communities near these death factories were not amused by plans to replace the missiles, again. A flurry of protests broke out in very traditional communities, with residents expressing anger that they will con
tinue to be targeted for incineration by our enemies. It is no secret to Putin or Kim where these sites are. Rent a car and tour them if you’re curious. The Air Force will provide the map. And, unlike the submarines, they aren’t go
ing anywhere if there is a nuclear war.

Nor so erect
These protests, coming from con
servative, military-supporting “red” communities caught and perplexed Boeing officials. This public outcry, together with the election of several new women members to their corporate board, coupled with the surprise appointment of a female CEO, led to a mini-corporate revolt. It’s been a little short of a corporate sexual revolution no more Boeing missile envy. The new leadership abruptly terminated the ICBM contract.

J.C. B. Metro is an astute observer of the changing times. They live in Shoreline.

* (This is a spoof)

May 2018

An axe and a myth: thoughts for June “Men’s Health Month”

Keith Hildebrand

On a cool, clear Saturday morning I was chopping wood. Chips and splin
ters sprayed when a neighbor peered over my fence in greeting. I welcomed him with dirt speckled face—an axe thrust over my shoulder. He looked around, seeing the pile of splinter and my sweaty brow he congratulated me on the “man’s work.” I smiled with pride, initially unaware that he wasn’t congratulating me for hard work, but for my maleness—he was reveling in it.

My neighbor was well intentioned, but our idea of masculinity is circumscribed by a false ideological construction. I wondered if he would have congratulated a woman hard at work, dusting, and dishes that were started before the chore of “being a man.” I don’t blame him for this, but rather American society’s gender assump
tions.

June is “Men’s Health Month,” a time when we are to look inward, contem
ing our health and male maleness. The plot follows a skilled assassin (who (like James Bond, Jason Bourne, Bearxx Kiddio, and many others) is a one-man army, an unstoppable force. In the film, Wick avenges his dog’s death and the theft of his vehicle by not merely killing, but methodically murdering countless men. His emotional release isn’t through tears or mourn
ing—his sordid catharsis is found through brutal “manliness.”

Popular American film often repre
sents a restrictive ideal of masculinity, and there are many other forms of media that perpetuate the myth (theartofmanliness.com, men’s mag
azines, body spray advertisements, etc.). Indeed, there are many films, actors, and public commentators who challenge this stereotype, but the problem is that the myth still exists, is propagated, widely ignored, and still affects modern society.

In 2011, the United States Department of Justice released statistics showing that males comprised 90.5% of total homicide offenders. Some would ar

gue that this is the nature of men, but I refuse to believe that we are born vi
tolent. There are many men in my life and in history who show compassion, a commitment to solidarity and community, and have emotional aware
ness. Men must be allowed (and in many cases taught) to express emotion communicatively— not through aggression.

Many Americans have be
lieved the male character is defined as predatory, powerful and violent—lore to be idealized. This construction has cre
ated emotional problems, has influen
ted male affects in society, and has feelings of inadequacy among men. The myth of manliness is a collective issue, it bolsters the fallacy that sex is relegated to arrangements of power in society.

R.W. Connell defined “hegemonic masculinity” as a hierarchical posi
tion of sex according to male gen
der roles. Her argument suggests that by believing the ideal man is naturally violent and dominant, anyone defined as “other” is subordinated and innately less valuable.

A man who performs ballet, a man who cooks in public, a man who doesn’t watch sports, a man who doesn’t fight, or a stay-at-home dad, are examples of what might be considered “effeminate,” less than the ideal man. By negatively describing them as being “girly,” hege
monic masculinity simultaneously dis
minishes the value of some men and all women.

There are multiple examples in popu
lar media of how the “girly” man (and/or the “tomboy”) is being exploited to further reinforce the myth. The Big Bang Theory, 2014’s number one tele
vision comedy, is a show that inten
tionally, frequently, and effectively reverses gender norms to elicit humor. It relies on the audience’s implicit un
derstanding of assumed feminine and masculine roles.

The comedic reversal of culturally ac
tepted maleness demonstrates the ex
istence of the myth. However, it also helps create a method that allows a new definition of masculinity. Rede
fining gender roles through heroes in mainstream media reinvents the ideo
tological construction of gender.

By exposing the fallacies of manliness, masculine hierarchies can be elimi
nated. A progressive, more accepting and expansive paradigm must be cre
ated and reinforced. The heroes of gender representation are those who strive to eliminate hierarchical gen
der structures, defining all as valuable, and never above another. Through popular media, through our voices, and by our actions, we can influence ideology, working together toward gender equality in practice.

This still timely article is reprinted from the June 2015 issue of Works in Progress. Keith is a gradate of The Evergreen State College, now living in Seattle and working to develop education for adults. He is passionate about sociocultural issues and influencing positive change in American culture.

Birthing Roots Midwifery
Home Birth Midwifery Care
Stacey Callaghan
LM, CPM, IICCE, CD
360-789-9969
www.birthingroots.org
Stacey@birthingroots.org

Parallel University Radio Show

Wildwood
(360) 688-1234

Stacey@birthingroots.org

Birthing Roots Midwifery
Home Birth Midwifery Care
Stacey Callaghan
LM, CPM, IICCE, CD
360-789-9969
www.birthingroots.org
Stacey@birthingroots.org
Amnesty demands arms embargo to end Israel’s “murderous assault”

"Israel is carrying out a murderous assault against protesting Palestinians, with its armed forces killing and maiming demonstrators who pose no imminent threat to them," Amnesty International said on Friday as thousands of Palestinians taking part in Great March of Return rallies in Gaza faced Israeli bullets for the fifth week. Over those weeks, Amnesty stated, the Israeli military has killed 35 Palestinians and injured more than 5,500.

Palestine: MSF teams in Gaza observe unusually severe and devastating gunshot injuries

From MSF news release, 19 April 2018

[From April 1 through April 19] MSF teams in Gaza, Palestine, provided post-operative care to more than 500 people injured by gunshots during the March of Return demonstrations. The number of patients treated in our clinics over the last three weeks is more than the number we treated throughout all of 2014, when Israel’s military Operation Protective Edge was launched over the Gaza strip. MSF medical staff report receiving patients with devastating injuries of an unusual severity, which are extremely complex to treat. The injuries sustained by patients will leave most with serious, long-term physical disabilities.

Medical teams in Gaza’s hospitals prepared to face this massive influx of patients. MSF surgeons in Gaza report devastating gunshot wounds among hundreds of people injured during the protests over recent weeks. The huge majority of patients – mainly young men, but also some women and children – have unusually severe wounds to the lower extremities. MSF medical teams note the injuries include an extreme level of destruction to bones and soft tissue, and large exit wounds that can be the size of a fist.

Half of the more than 500 patients we have admitted in our clinics have injuries where the bullet has literally destroyed tissue after having pulverized the bone”, said Marie-Elisabeth Ingres, Head of Mission of MSF in Palestine. “These patients will need to have very complex surgical operations and most of them will have disabilities for life.”

Managing these injuries is very difficult. Apart from regular nursing care, patients will often need additional surgery, and undergo a very long process of physiotherapy and rehabilitation. A lot of patients will keep functional deficiencies for the rest of their life. Some patients may yet need amputation if not provided with sufficient care in Gaza and if they don’t manage to get the necessary authorisation to be treated outside of the strip.

To face this massive influx of patients, MSF has reinforced its capacities, increased the number of beds in its post-operative clinics, and recruited and trained additional medical staff. A fourth clinic will open soon in the Middle-Area region of Gaza to provide patients with the necessary specialised care.

In response to the crisis, MSF has also deployed a team of surgeons (including vascular, orthopaedic and reconstructive surgeons) and anaesthetists to operate – or re-operate – on the more severe cases. This team currently works side-by-side with Palestinian medical staff in Al-Shifa and Al-Aqsa public hospitals.

Amnesty also pointed to the evidence provided by doctors and medical personnel “that many of the serious injuries they have witnessed are to the lower limbs, including the knees, which are typical of war wounds that they have not observed since the 2014 Gaza conflict.”

The charities Medical Aid for Palestinians and Medecins Sans Frontieres have also extensively documented “horrible injuries” likely to leave hundreds of people with permanent disabilities.

Time for action
Amnesty is renewing its calls for “government worldwide to impose a comprehensive arms embargo on Israel.”

"The time for symbolic statements of condemnation is now over. The international community must act concretely and stop the delivery of arms and military equipment to Israel,” the group stated. “A failure to do so will continue to fuel serious human rights abuses against thousands of men, women and children suffering the consequences of life under Israel’s cruel blockade.”

Excerpted from Electronic Intifada, April 27, 2018. Read the whole article at https://electronicintifada.net/blogs/abu-abinraham/ amnesty
The threat of global war: Trump’s new cabinet appointments and the need for a stronger anti-war movement

An interview with Peter Bohmer, conducted in late March, 2018

Matt Lester

Matt: What are your thoughts about Trump’s selection of Mike Pompeo, John Bolton, and Gina Haspel for his cabinet?

Peter Bohmer: I have been particularly worried about North Korea—that if they, for example, did some testing of nuclear weapons the United States would attack them initially, not with nuclear weapons. But then if North Korea attacked South Korea or the United States might use nuclear weapons.

So the threat of nuclear war, even before these people were selected for the cabinet, was a reality and possibility. I am more afraid than I was in 1962 during the Cuban Missile Crisis. These new appointments include the same neoconservatives who, going back in the 90s or even earlier, have targeted Iran for regime change. These recent appointments include people that brought you the Iraq War. He’s treating the agreement with Iran that was prepared the Supreme Leader of Iran to prepare the treaty with Iran. He’s treating the agreement with Iran that was signed in the last years of the Obama Administration. The treaty was one of the positive things Obama did with the European Union—the US would reduce its sanctions and Iran wouldn’t develop nuclear materials.

The replacement of Tillerson with Pompeo is the indication of a shift. Of course, that’s not to speak highly of Tillerson. He was the head of Exxon Mobil, a powerful oil company and a liar about climate change, but he didn’t seem to be against the treaty with Iran. He also had talked about negotiations with North Korea, which Trump held against him and made fun of until recent.

Pompeo was formerly head of the CIA, a big supporter of the Iraq War, and opposed the treaty with Iran. He’s treat- ed war with Iran as necessary. With him as Secretary of State, the United States could resort more quickly to wars in Central America or Vietnam. Even though the movements there had problems, critical support was right. Secondly, the ruling class, government, and foreign policy analysts have figured out that people are less strong when there are fewer US casualties.

What we need to do is challenge the normalization of nuclear war and torture every way we can.

Peter Bohmer teaches political economy at the Evergreen State College. Matt Lester and Peter Bohmer organize in Olympia with Economics for Everyone

Heart Computers offers a 5-star experience in computer services w/ reasonable prices. $95 flat-rate PC/Mac computer repair — free pick-up/delivery & 48-hour turn around.

Risk-free $95 flat-rate data recovery. 30-day guarantee and follow-up support.

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

360-561-3608 or help@heartcomputersoly.com

Page 14 Works In Progress May 2018
Dear Cheryl, Nathaniel, Jessica, Clark, Lisa and Renata,

The three precincts of SW Olympia voted strongly for your candidacies in 2015 and 2017. You all won. Now you sit on the City Council.

The reasons we voted for you is what you said to us: that we deserve to live in a “quiet residential area”, should not have to fight bad decisions, applauded “our organizing efforts,” wanted “safety of our children walking”, wanted to preserve “the character and culture of our existing neighborhoods,” would “fight for neighborhood interests” and not “force the wishes of developers” upon us.

You need to act on your words and stop Alex Vo’s Wellington Heights. Sending Leonard Bauer to explain the appeal rules is insulting. This neighborhood knows them by heart. Telling us to spend a $1000.00 and appeal to the Hearing Examiner isn’t helpful. It is beside the point.

The point is this: What are you going to do to support us, like we supported you. You must reject Alex Vo’s application or is silence and dismissal all you have to offer? We’ve been asking for help since September, 2017 and yet the City staff only helps out his consultants while we are locked out of their private meetings.

Can you find your own statement? There is a handy numbered key below. :

“I believe your neighborhood deserves to remain a quiet residential area where people walk in the streets, children bike and walk to school, locals respect the stop signs and you can easily organize block parties to help build community.”

“The neighborhood should not be in a position where it has to react to bad decisions and organize to fight against a development proposal that is going forward.”

“I applaud the extensive neighborhood organizing efforts and civic participation to advocate for safe neighborhoods, urban parks and trails for community members to enjoy. “

“Neighborhood concerns about traffic, parking, and the safety of children walking should be key priorities in evaluating new land development. Olympia will continue to grow and evolve, and I’m not opposed to change. But, I will continue to fight for neighborhood interests to be taken seriously when land development is proposed.”

“I am firmly opposed to the Wellington Heights development proposal. While we do need to build for density to meet the growth we’re predicted to absorb in the coming years, we absolutely must do it in a way that preserves the character and culture of our existing neighborhoods.”

“Olympia has, in SWONA, neighbors who are organized and invested in creating the look, feel and character of their neighborhood. That is a gift! On Council I want to engage neighborhoods in planning for anticipated growth, not just force the wishes of developers upon them.”

---

1. Cheryl Selby, Mayor
2. Nathaniel Jones, Mayor Pro Tem
3. Jessica Bateman, Council Member
4. Clark Gilman, Council Member
5. Lisa Parshley, Council Member
6. Renata Collins, Council Member
Support Palestine and the Great Return March

Each Friday through May 11th, Percival Landing, Olympia, WA

Demonstrators in Gaza have called on the international community to do everything we can to bring awareness to the #GreatReturnMarch and the unlawful and devastating violence participating Palestinians face from the Israeli military.

To answer that call, RCF will join the Fellowship of Reconciliation Friday Vigil each Friday until May 11th from 4:30pm-6pm at Percival Landing in Olympia, WA in solidarity with the Palestinian people and the Great Return March. Help us show Palestinians that the world is watching, and they are not alone!

—Rachel Corrie