All are invited to Olympia's Arab Festival

Rachel Corrie Foundation promotes festival to counter negative stereotypes

Jordan Beaudry

During Art's Walk Weekend, the Rachel Corrie Foundation for Peace and Justice hosted Olympia's Arab Festival, a fun-filled family event kicked off at the Olympia-Rafah Solidarity Mural, on the corner of State and Capital, Friday, October 5, at 5 pm.

Members of Olympia's Arab community presented the idea for an Olympia Arab Festival to the Rachel Corrie Foundation for Peace and Justice, and with the support of Olympia's Arab community the festival has been created.

Overview of Events

Friday's free festivities is an Arabian night of hookah, DJ's, dance, and refreshments. The Arab Café and Hookah Lounge will continue at the same location on Saturday, October 6, from 12-2 pm, in conjunction with a day-long Arab Festival, at The Olympia Center, 222 Columbia St. NW, from 11 am to 5 pm. Admission to both events is free to the public.

Saturday's Arab Festival features panels discussing topics ranging from Women of the Arab World to the Arab Spring. There will be children games, Arabic lessons, storytelling, scavenger hunts, and a fashion show, as well as a live Falconry display and educational booths. The event also includes performances from the Batiste Dabble Dance Team of Seattle and the critically acclaimed House of Arab Arabic Music Ensemble. Following a keynote by Jordan Beaudry, there will be child-friendly Dabke Dance Team of Seattle and the Hookah Lounge will continue at the Solidarity Mural, on the corner of State and Capital, Friday, October 5, at 5 pm.

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Love Your Body Day
Awareness is more than skin deep

The movie will be followed by a panel and discussion sponsored by Thurston County National Organization for Women (TCTV), Panelists will include Debrah Vinseal, CEO of TCTV, Lori Blewett, Women's Studies, The Evergreen State College and Lyndsey Young, MA, LMC, therapist.

“Every day, in so many ways, the beauty industry (and the media in general) tell women and girls that being admired, envied and desired based on their looks is a primary function of true womanhood. The beauty template women are expected to follow is extremely narrow, stereotypical and frequently hazardous to their health. The Love Your Body campaign challenges the message that a woman’s value is best measured through her willingness and ability to embody current beauty standards.”—NOW Foundation

Note that:
• A shocking 80% of 10-15-year-olds are afraid of being fat.
• As many as 10 million women and girls suffer from anorexia and/or bulimia, in the United States alone.
• The body type portrayed in advertising as the ideal is possessed naturally by less than 5% of females (Social Issues Research Centre).
• Percentage of female Fortune 500 CEOs: 2.4%

Women hold only 17% of the seats in Congress
Women of color represent only 4% of Members of Congress.

—Patricia Ireland

On October 17th there will be a film and community discussion about the problem of the lack of healthy empowering role models for girls and women in the media. How does this affect our dreams, our bodies, and our authority in society? Join us on Love Your Body Day, a day established by the NOW Foundation to examine the affect of the way women are represented in the media and its messages.

The Olympia Film Society will be showing “Miss Representation” at 6:30 pm at the Capitol Theater Wednesday Oct. 17. General admission is $8.50 and $6.50 member price is $5.50. The film explores how the media’s misrepresentations of women have led to the underrepresentation of women in positions of power and influence.

Tobacco alcohol and fashion advertising are not only a health problem but also a political problem for women, because these industries contribute to stereotyping of women and discrimination against us.

—Patricia Ireland

Working in WIP

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

Submissions
Please send us Word attachments. Artwork and photos can be sent electronically or we can scan them for you at camera-ready black & white.

Works In Progress is committed to stories misrepresented or ignored by the mainstream media. We value local, well-researched news stories, accounts of personal experience and reflections by local authors. Opinion pieces are also valued, and are best supported by facts, examples, and sources, and we encourage writers to include these elements to submissions. We’re also looking for great poetry, cartoons, and comics that push the boundaries of conventional journalism.

WIP reserves the right to publish in whole or part all submissions. For editing purposes, please enclose your phone number. Articles may be reprinted. Please cite sources. If your issue isn’t being covered in Works In Progress, it’s because you aren’t writing about it (or haven’t found someone else who is.) Send submissions to olywip@gmail.com or mail to Works In Progress, PO Box 265, Olympia, WA 98507-0265.

Governing Tool
The governing tool is part of the editorial policy and is the governing tool for the associate editors.

WIP will make every effort to work with the material considered by WIP to be effective in order to reach a mutually agreed upon resolution, but WIP reserves the right as a last resort to edit or not print submitted material.

Mission Statement
Our mission is to continue to advocate, persuade, and encourage a participatory democracy based on economic, social, and environmental justice. Works In Progress is dedicated to providing a voice for those not often heard by the media. It is our role that only requires a two-hour commitment of 2-3 hours after work to prepare them for publication.

Anti-Discrimination Clause
We will collectively endeavor to be sensitive and respectful to all those opposed in this society and their issues. However, if and when such an attempt to make this point is made, we will expect to acknowledge it and to express regret for injury or insult given.

Back Issues
WIP is archived on microfilm by the University of Washington. You can subscribe for a subscription.

On the front cover
In support of Proposition #1
Photographer: WIP News Service

Submission Deadline:
October 19
PO Box 295
Olympia, WA 98507
olywip@gmail.com

Proofreading:
October 27 • Noon
Lacey Timberland Library in the Group Study Area
(For there be the first read)

ADVERTISING RATES

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ADVERTISING RATES

7.25” x 4.75” $125
7.25” x 4.75” $83
3.0” x 4.75” $52
3.0” x 4.75” $30
3.5” x 2.25” $30
2.25” x 2.25” $20

Special microbusiness deal! 4 months for the price of 3
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* Ask for nonprofit rates

Why Puget Sound Energy does the Green Power Program

1. Initiative 937 requires it.
2. It lets the uninformed think they’re actually doing something to save the environment.
3. It’s great public relations.

Puget Sound Energy (PSE) can talk all day about their Green Power program and hope we’ll forget that 32% of the power they supply comes from burning coal and that instead of running rid of their interest in the Coalstrip plant, they’ve doubled-down on coal by signing a deal with TransAlta to buy more coal-fired power!

Overheard at the Lacey Library

On September 22, 2012

From the mouth of the person sitting at the PSE Green Power table and trying to entice people to sign up for the program: “Most people get their energy from fossil fuels. If you sign up for the Green Power program, we can supply your house with only green energy (like the white solar panels). Are you interested in signing up?”

—John Pearce, Public Power Initiative

Working in WIP

Works In Progress is a publication that depends on its community and its volunteer members. From articles written and advertiser bought to page purchased, we are a volunteer organization that depends on its community and its volunteer members.

WEBSITE MANAGER: WIP is looking for someone or someones to maintain the new website. Experience is not necessary. We are willing to train. Commitment of 2-3 hours after work is published each month.

LAYOUT: Looking for computer literate individuals with eye for balance and basic skills in InDesign. Commitment is during the week before the last Monday of the month. Take on as little or as much as you like.

PROOFREADING: Relax in the Lacey Timberland Library (Group Study Area) while you read the latest issue of WIP. This is an important role that only requires a two-hour monthly commitment. Proofreading occurs on noon on the Saturday before the last Monday of the month. No need to contact us, just drop by.

GRAPHICS/PHOTOGRAPHER: WIP can always use one more photo/graphic. Please consider submitting your work to WIP.

PHOTO WRANGLER: WIP is looking for someone to collect photos and prepare them for publication. Knowledge of Photoshop and the printing of black and white photos on newspaper is desired.

For those interested in joining Works In Progress, please contact us at olywip@gmail.com.
The race to the cliffside (and beyond)

Dana Walker

October 2012

So much for ‘legitimacy.’

In another interesting and related development, neither party is even saying anything about the rigged machines much less doing anything about it.

Gee, now why would that be? Hmmmm.

Even if the voting machines weren’t rigged the only two real choices that we have are either a lying corporate fascist or another lying corporate fascist who is arguably even worse. Do you really think that using a rigged voting machine to vote for a lying corporate fascist is going to bring about any kind of change we can believe in? Or any kind in any way or in any manner whatsoever? Really? So much for ‘importance’.

History proves it over and over again. The only thing that ever changes anything is mass movements in the streets. You can rarely count upon a person who is benefitting from the status quo to bring about meaningful ‘change we can believe in’. These things always come from the bottom up. I have heard of research stating that non-violent civil disobedience succeeds at roughly twice the rate of armed revolts but I don’t know the criteria or conditions or if those studies even exists and many challenge them but whatever; non-violent civil disobedience has been highly successful before and the only caveat seems to be that it only works if the people have enough guts. Thus, we need everyone that we can get. They can’t bring in the cattle cars if there are too many of us. They really should buy a bullhorn make a sign and join us. It’s actually a lot of fun and you meet a lot of truly awesome people.

The Machine will be making a list and checking it twice but if we don’t reach the critical mass then everyone wins. We are in it whether or not you find yourself on any secret federal pooldation lists; the people who act now will merely be the first to be disappeared if we, the people who act now will merely be the first to be disappeared if we ever wake up. If the people who act now will merely be the first to be disappeared if we ever wake up. If the people who act now can compare history. This writer can personally testify.

China’s extending hatred in Anti-Japanese protests

K. T. Cox

Anti-Japanese protesters have been rallying outside the Japanese Embassy in Beijing, China since Saturday; the magnitude of masses has extended beyond so much that even select subway stations had to be closed off to ensure the safety of traveling community members—as this writer can personally testify.

As for the importance and as for the legitimacy of the upcoming ‘election’ I think it important to keep things in proper perspective: First and foremost is the fact that right from the top it has been a sea of lies masquerading over numerous times over and over that the frigging voting machines are rigged. (blackboxvoting.org)

Rather than pointing out that our government is run by a criminal gang, the Media Machine instead spews forth crapola like some never-ending waterfall of putrid vomitus completely drenching whatever news source that you may attempt to reference. I would suggest composing it but it is highly toxic.

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Anti-Japanese protesters have been rally
I-522: The Washington state initiative to label GMOs

Trudy Bialic

You think the odds of getting 1-522 on the ballot to label GMO (genetically modified organism) foods are stacked against you? You’re right. To get the recommended 320,000 signatures in the time allowed by the state takes money. Hiring professional signature-gathering contractors appears to be essential to get what volunteers can’t do alone. Time is short and weather cold and wet, signatures cost $2 each, or more.

Since 2000, in Washington state, the only initiatives that have succeeded in achieving enough signatures to make it on the ballot have had major financial backing (from fast food chains or Costco) (liquor privatization).

The grass-roots 1-522 is a grass-roots effort, filed by a young vegan couple from the Tacoma area who somehow had to get it 50 signatures. They set up a website, LabelItWA.org, and supporters of the initiative have grown across the state.

If PCC member contributed just $5, there would be enough to put I-522 on the November 2013 ballot. Much of the money that might have supported I-522 already has gone to California; $1.2 million was raised to pay for signatures for its initiative to label GMOs, Prop 37, up for a vote November 6.

PCC is supporting signature-gathering for Washington’s I-522 at all PCC stores and other locations, providing campaign support materials to sister co-ops across the state, from the mid-Atlantic states to the west coast, and organizing contests at sister co-ops or Costco (liquor privatization).

The American Medical Association recently passed a resolution saying GMOs should be required to undergo mandatory safety assessments, which are not required by US law.

The following was extracted from GMO Mythbusting: an evidence-based refutation of the claims made for the safety and efficacy of genetically modified foods. By David A. Keisler. Published by Earth Open Source (Jun 2012).

Feeding studies on laboratory and farm animals show that GM foods can be toxic:
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• Calgene’s Flavr Savr, as well as the SRC varieties of tomatoes, were differ-
• ent from those fed non-GM rice.
• Rats fed GM BT rice developed significant differences as compared with rats fed non-GM isogenic line of rice. These included differences in the populations of gut bacteria—the GM-fed group had 2.3 higher levels of coliform bacteria. There were differ-
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• A re-analysis of Monsanto’s own rat feeding trial data, submitted to obtain approval for GM corn hybrid 98001, showed toxic effects on liver and kidney.
• In females, all treated groups died earlier.

Calorie and nutritional information was required on labels until 1990. Country-of-origin labeling wasn’t re-

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Abstract

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Myth: GM foods are safe to eat

The following was extracted from GMO Mythbusting: an evidence-based refutation of the claims made for the safety and efficacy of genetically modified foods. By David A. Keisler. Published by Earth Open Source (Jun 2012).

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• A re-analysis of Monsanto’s own rat feeding trial data, submitted to obtain approval for GM corn hybrid 98001, showed toxic effects on liver and kidney.
• In females, all treated groups died earlier.

Calorie and nutritional information was required on labels until 1990. Country-of-origin labeling wasn’t required until 2002. The trans fat content of foods didn’t have to be labeled until 2006. These labels are accepted now as important, and consumers use their information every day.

Supporters

GMO foods are labeled already, by law, in 49 countries including China, Japan, South Korea, Taiwan, Australia, New Zealand, Indonesia, Malaysia, Thailand, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, South Africa, Saudi Arabia, Egypt, Sweden, Switzerland, Norway, Denmark, Ireland, the UK, Portugal, Spain, France, Greece, Croatia, Poland, Italy, Ukraine and Germany, and all the other nations of the European Union.

Many have bans or other restrictions against GMOs. Some, such as India and Mexico, have bans or labeling in several states.

The American Medical Association recently passed a resolution saying GMOs should be required to undergo mandatory safety assessments, which are not required by US law. The American Nurses Association, the American Public Health Association, three states—Oregon, Washington, Washington—passed resolutions in support of the label GMOs initiative.

Disclosure through labeling

The People’s Right to Know Genetically Engineered Food Act,” I-522, is simple. It would require food sold in retail outlets to be labeled if produced through genetic engineering.

Female sheep fed Bt GM maize over generations suffered damage to liver and kidneys and alterations in blood pressure and obesity. The authors of the re-analysis stated that while the findings may have been due to the pesticides specific to each variety, genetic engineering could not be excluded as the cause. The data suggest approval of these GM maize varieties should be withdrawn because they are not substantially equivalent to non-GM maize and are toxic.

Most animal feeding studies on GMOs have been short-term or medium-term in length. Long-term and multi-generational studies are needed to see if the worrying changes common to many studies are also seen by US government regulators.

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The American Medical Association recently passed a resolution saying GMOs should be required to undergo mandatory safety assessments, which are not required by US law. The American Nurses Association, the American Public Health Association, three states—Oregon, Washington, Washington—passed resolutions in support of the label GMOs initiative.

Disclosure through labeling

The People’s Right to Know Genetically Engineered Food Act,” I-522, is simple. It would require food sold in retail outlets to be labeled if produced through genetic engineering.

Female sheep fed Bt GM maize over generations suffered damage to liver and kidneys and alterations in blood pressure and obesity. The authors of the re-analysis stated that while the findings may have been due to the pesticides specific to each variety, genetic engineering could not be excluded as the cause. The data suggest approval of these GM maize varieties should be withdrawn because they are not substantially equivalent to non-GM maize and are toxic.

Most animal feeding studies on GMOs have been short-term or medium-term in length. Long-term and multi-generational studies are needed to see if the worrying changes common to many studies are also seen by US government regulators.

Important animal feeding studies on GMOs have been short-term or medium-term in length. Long-term and multi-generational studies are needed to see if the worrying changes common to many studies are also seen by US government regulators.
The Washington Apple Commission

In addition, more than 300 US hospitals

its readers to show their support for this

ing to take us to victory in November.

us the transparency these companies

fair trade coffee with the latest copy of

deliver delicious fresh pastries and hot

that will allow them

weather-fickle Oregon is especially challenging. Fall is here and winter is coming; its time for the purchase of winter equipment that will allow them to safely continue their work. WIP wants to keep its ethical delivery service provider and is once again inviting Star Courier in this fundraising drive.

For Works In Progress, money is always an issue. While we have amazing advertisers who support us financially (see the list below), printing costs are much, much higher than they were 22 years ago. WIP has also become dependent on occasional advertising for events (that actually have advertising money) and reactions to the actions of the Olympia City Council, such as the knuckle-headed stance on the now canceled y-eleven project on the Westside. But those opportunities are uncertain and, with the economy as it is, tend to catch us by surprise.

For a 12-page issue, WIP currently pays the Shelton Journal approximately $400. If we were to print a 16-page, the price would be substantially more. There are times when WIP will fund only the past when there were 20 and sometimes 32 pages, but that's about it. And, while we would love to use color, it would cost hundreds of dollars more. (We don't like to think about color; it just makes us sad.)

Again, please support this joint effort by Star Courier and Works In Progress and enjoy your Saturday morning on November 1!

Thanks to the support of Traditions, the Olympia Food Co-op, and 8 Arms Community Bakery in making this fundraiser possible, and all of WIP's financially supporting advertisers:

- Jamie Lee & Company
- TC Pro-Net
- Vic's Pizzeria
- Cartridge Care Inc
- Inklife
- Centralia Square Antiques
- Inklife
- The Olympia Food Co-op

Like Brownshirts in dark blue...

Both the hearings and the trial will be preceded by early bird support vigils, beginning about one-hour prior to entering the courtroom. Folks are invited to attend!

For those who are new to this ugly melodrama, please refer to the "Scott Yoos Support Page", (http://scottsupport.blogspot.com/), for further details and advertisements. More information needed! Scott is also (occasionally) reachable via Face Book: at “Scott Yoos Id.”, (but, more-of-ten, it is "frankly overwhelmed" by that scene!)

Because it seems very relevant to the time of this whole discussion, we've decided to include a (fairly recent) comment given by the esteemed Dr. Cornel West, at a press conference regarding the 'terror-ific' National Defense Autho

"I am full of joy to be a plaintiff in this particular case. Why? Because we're in a turning point in the history of this nation. We need to stand for freedom. There's an escalating authoritarianism and even a creeping fascism. Think about arbitrary police power and my dear brother, Trayvon Martin. Think about arbitrary judicial power and arbitrary press who can do anything—section 2121 and 2122. The president has the right to assassinate and murder whoever he or she pleases. That is the benchmark of an authoritarian regime, a crypto-fascist one, and I come from a tradition that says we must stand for freedom in the context of the courts or in the context of the streets."

- Please do not flee. If you don't fight for it, you lose it.

- "Nuff said!"

If you see many WIP readers at the County Courthouse in October and November!

Share of bad jobs has risen since 1979

Washington, DC—Almost one-fourth of US workers are in a bad job, according to a new report by the Center for Economic and Policy Research (CEPR). Despite substantial increases in the education, age, and quality of the workforce over the last three decades, the share of the workforce with ‘bad jobs’ has risen since 1979, the CEPR researchers concluded.

The report, "Bad Jobs on the Rise," defines a bad job as one that pays less than $15,700 per year, does not have employer-provided health insurance, and lacks some kind of retirement plan. The $15,700 figure (which translates to about $12.90 per hour, full-time) is equal to the inflation-adjusted earnings of the typical male worker in 1979. The report attempts to use a consistent measure of data analyzed in the report. The new report complements earlier CEPR research documenting the decline in good jobs over this same period.

By this definition, in 2010, 24 percent of the workforce had a ‘bad job,’ up from 18 percent in 1979. Compared to the end of the 1970s, the typical worker today is almost twice as likely to have a four-year college degree, is about seven years older, and works in a workplace with a recent and more substantial physical capital, and uses much more advanced technology. Despite this, the share of bad jobs has grown.

The increase in the share of bad jobs has come in "little notice, little trust, little recession," said John Schmitt, a senior economist at CEPR and one of the report's co-authors. "Almost all of the increase we document had already occurred before 2007, before the downturn."

The main driver of the rise in bad jobs, the report argues, was the systemic decline in workers' bargaining power since the end of the 1970s. The reports' authors point to the fall in the inflation-adjusted value of the minimum wage, the decline in union representation, trade deals, and the decline in the nominal wages of the key factors reducing the bargaining power of workers relative to their employers.

"—Center for Economic and Policy Research

Star Courier and Works In Progress delicious Saturday (Nov 3) morning fundraiser!

Name: ____________________________________________________________________________
Address: __________________________________________________________________________
Phone: ____________________________________________________________________________
Choice of pastries (made with organic ingredients): traditional gluten-free vegan
For a minimum donation of: $20 - order for one; $35 - order for two; $12 extra per order over two.
Place an order with Works In Progress by October 30 at olywip@gmail.com or PO Box 295, Olympia, WA 98507. Deliveries available to the Lacey, Tumwater, and Olympia area only. Make checks out to Works In Progress.
They have a lot in common
Community building and fungus

Ava Arvest

On August 20, as part of the Village Building Convergence, the Olympia Mycelia Network (OMN) put in three new mushroom beds at Olympia’s local Bed and Breakfast and community garden, Fertile Grounds. The OMN installed two Garden Giant (Stropharia rugoso-annulata) beds and a Shaggy Mane (Coprinus comatus) bed. They also incorporated some Garden Giant mycelium (mushroom “roots”) into an Elm Oyster (Hispisys ulmarius) bed the group laid during last spring’s Occupy Solidarity Social Forum.

The Garden Giant mycelium will hopefully take off on the chips that were laid in the spring and get what it needs to fruit in the summers. The two species can thus cohabit in the same space, with each fruiting at different times of the year. Both mushrooms are known for their benefits in the garden, and the Garden Giant is known to be a delicious addition to the dinner table. The Elm Oyster is known for its unique quality of having a beneficial relationship with the Brassicas in our gardens.

Brassicas are a hearty genus of plants in the mustard family and includes broccoli, cabbage, kale, mustard greens, and kohlrabi. By growing the Elm Oyster in proximity to Brassica plants, repeated tests have demonstrated an increase in the growth and yield of Brassicas by two to three times! All three of these mushrooms are local to the area and will get along with the climate and conditions the Pacific Northwest provides. Though they like different habitats, they all work well in the garden. Mushrooms are underplayed as a primordial organism because of their size and hidden life cycles, but their relevance in our lives is undeniable. They are well known for being delicious, medicinal, remedial (table to clean up pollution), and yet are stigmatized for being psychedelic as well as deadly. With so many different kinds of mushrooms out there, and the risk of meeting either deadly or misconstrued ones, some people are more inclined to throw in the identification towel, and not risk the repercussions of misidentifying fungi. Simply do not mess with a mushroom, unless you are absolutely sure. Like all great adventures in life, we should learn to accept our mortality, and respect the fragile strands that weave this world together. This is a lesson the mushrooms can teach us.

What else do mushrooms have to teach us in this critical time of expanding digital wisdom distribution? Digital wisdom distribution, otherwise coined traditionally as the ‘internet’, has been likened to the workings of our very own nervous systems. When looking at how these organisms relate to the larger hole of their ecological bodies, we also see similarities in how our nervous systems releases synapses to the whole of the human psyche.

The nervous system relates messages from one side of our cellular matter to the complete opposite end. Just like this ebbing of information that courses through our body, there are similar information highways in the ecosystem that inform the microbiology when soil has been disturbed, polluted, or has simply changed. It is the mycelium, the underground portion of fungi, that are of the first to send these messages and are seen to manifest some of the first on site responses to forest fires and disturbances.

Though symptoms are a relative term of a larger process occurring, they are generally seen as a negative ailment that result from an undesirable situation. Not all mushrooms are signs of undesirable situations, but all of them have something to say about the larger picture.

Since they have been lovingly compared to that of the earth’s nervous system, in kin with Gaia theory, it is also a pleasant surprise to learn that some mushrooms have incredible nerve healing properties. Since they have been lovingly compared to that of the earth’s nervous system, in kin with Gaia theory, it is also a pleasant surprise to learn that some mushrooms have incredible nerve healing properties. Lions Mane is known for its amazing ability to regenerate nervous tissue and the emotional and physiological implications of this is more than timely for the societal obstacles we are confronting right now. The medicine doesn’t stop there, in fact, Turkey Tail mushrooms are known for their amazing effects on cancer patients. The krestin in Turkey Tail (Trametes versicolor) mushrooms has been isolated for its immune boosting qualities and its effects on cancer cells. Known to be a prevention treatment it has been popular in Europe, China, and Japan.

Then there are the studies coming out of John Hopkins University that find mushrooms, some of the scary magical kinds, are helping people to rebuild their relationships with partners and family members, and also give the neurological opportunity to rewire their habitual addictions by creating new synapse sensitivity. The most controversial of the mushrooms are being studied and funded by grants from the government all over the country. While they remain illegal to use they are of great curiosity as shown by our tax dollars at work.

With all of this said about some of the most underplayed organisms in our diverse ecology, we find that mushrooms are more closely related to mammals than any other kingdom of organisms. We have a lot in common with them and can learn a lot about ourselves through them. Yet they are still very much a mystery. Like any great mystery we’re intrigued and hungry to know more. If the possibilities of cleaning up pollution, healing relationships, rebuilding nervous tissue, and normalizing cell growth aren’t enough to perk your interest, well don’t fret there’s certainly more.

A group of excited mycologists put on the first ever Radical Mycology Convergence in September of last year, and were pleasantly surprised to find that lots of other people are intrigued by the timely characteristics of fungi. This amazing event is being put on again this year for 5 glorious days—October 18-22—in Port Townsend Washington. In the interest of the knowledge being accessible to people from all backgrounds, no one will be turned away for lack of funds. More information on this great event can be found at www.radicalmycologyconvergence.com

And if your busy schedule doesn’t allow for long camping trips in the wildness, not to worry! The spores of last year’s convergence have fruited something locally that you can participate in at your own leisure.

Join the Olympia Mycelia network for their bi-monthly meetings, and free workshops by joining their listserv to hear about their up and coming fungal explorations and projects to bring mycology to the Olympia community. Contact the OMN by emailing Olymmyconework@gmail.com.

Ava Arvest is a resident of Olympia.

Photo: Thorsten Wiersberg

Interested in writing for WIP?
Thursday
October 4
5:30 pm
Traditions Cafe

For more information, contact WIP at olywip@gmail.com.
301 Bing Street Primer

Sunrise Neighborhood Community

The proposed 301 Bing Street Apartments is a 119 unit, 6-story (75') apartment complex. The project site, a 2.39 acre vacant lot, is located behind the WSECU building at 2302 Harrison Avenue and the Westside Bowling Alley. The various components of this project, including planned travel routes for the expected vehicular traffic, pedestrian safety, character and livability, and stormwater and flood issues, have led many neighbors to express serious concerns about the project design and plan to the City of Olympia's Community Planning and Development (CP&D) staff.

This article is intended as an introduction to some history and description of the proposed building. Note that the surrounding neighborhood is almost entirely one and two story homes and commercial buildings. A six-story building will forever change the landscape of Olympia’s Westside.

The primary access from the north for the proposed apartments will be a developer-constructed extension of Bing Street and a cul-de-sac serving the apartments. The southern and secondary access point will utilize the Desco driveway which runs between the WSECU building and Desco Electronics. The site lies within the HDC-3, or high density corridor zone, as defined by the Olympia Municipal Code. This designation, stretching west from the city along Harrison Avenue and east following Fourth and Fifth Avenues, is designed to create infill, a planned option to urban sprawl. In this zone buildings are permitted a height of 60'; however, if 50% of the parking for the proposed development is located under the building, the height allowance is 70'.

In 2009, the developer, Harmen Verbrugge of Kamehual, Hawaii proposed a slightly different version of the project: a 132 unit, 60' apartment complex. Mr. Verbrugge withdrew his proposal in January of 2010 citing financial reasons.

In 2011 Verbrugge’s 301 Bing Street Apartment proposal resurfaced; a Design Review Board Hearing was held in August of that year. At this hearing, focusing on design issues, the board approved the project with specific recommendations. In February of 2012 the developer resubmitted the plans with the required changes.

In the most recent revision of the Traffic Impact Analysis (TIA) from the developer, approximately 633 trips per day will be generated by the site. Currently, the traffic plan proposes that 77% of this average daily traffic will utilize the designated secondary access, the Desco Electronics driveway. This is a revision of an earlier TIA in which 80% of the expected traffic from the apartments would utilize the Desco driveway and the four ingress/egress driveways into the Westside Retail Center. The remaining 27% is expected to utilize Jackson Avenue with a minimal number traveling on Bush and Kenyon Avenues.

At this time, the most recent revisions to the stormwater engineering plan have been received by CP&D staff. An earlier Soils Investigation Report submitted by the developer but determined to be invalid is still awaited by staff. A land use review is tentatively scheduled for mid-October.

To express concerns please write to the Senior Planner, Cari Hornbein at chornbei@ci.olympia.wa.us and the Olympia City Council members. The local neighborhood group can be reached at buildgoodneighbors@nwlink.com.

Sunrise Neighborhood Community is a group of concerned neighbors who are in the process of forming a new neighborhood association that includes residential areas west of Division Street.

SHOWING AT THE OLYMPIA FILM SOCIETY
CAPITOL THEATER ON FIFTH AVENUE

Showing at the Olympia Film Society
Capitol Theater on Fifth Avenue

Annual Drag Show Extravaganza
Saturday October 6, 7 pm

“Experience and support the work of queer youth performers who have created this production based on their own experiences and commentary on the culture we live in! This is a full scale musical production that you can’t miss! This year’s theme centers around sex and sexuality with a little teen drama mixed in.” — OFS

Miss Representation
Oct 12 - Oct 17

...the film’s most vivid voices are those of teenagers — young people just learning that the world is a heady stew of both unfairness and possibility. And “Miss Representation’s” advice to these youth is important, both the inspirational words of Gandhi (“Be the change you wish to see in the world”) and the more down-to-earth adage to simply “turn off the television and read.”

— Moira Macdonald, Seattle Times

Pink Smoke Over the Vatican
Sunday, October 28

The film is an engaging, touching and surprisingly humorous exposé of one of the most pressing and important political issues of our time:

“...a guard at the Vatican smartly explains what is going on behind closed doors: ‘It’s like a high society brothel. They don’t want to know any problems, just the good stuff, the glamour. They don’t want to know anything that’s going on in the streets, or the problems of the poor, the sex, the AIDS, the corruption of the church. I mean, they go to the beach and have fun. They don’t want to know anything about the life outside of Rome.’

— Lou Fancher, Lamorinda Patch

River As Spirit: Rebirth of the Elwha River
Saturday, November 8

This film is a meditation on the soul of the Elwha River and the people and salmon stream and Puget Sound. — OFS

Saturday October 20th
10:00am—6:00pm

For Additional Information, visit omjp.net
Empty-handed in the battlefield

Adam Keller

It was a long and detailed ruling which Judge Oded Gershon of the Haifa District Court had composed, no less than 13000 words. The Haifa District Court had written it, the为企业发的 Volodymyr Chontak, who was commanding the Caterpillar D-9 bulldozers, and to scream, the bulldozer driver and his comrades, and the city of Rafah itself, and the bulldozer's place in the world. The bulldozer's place in the world was to maintain a suffocating siege on the Gaza Strip, to draw the soldiers who have endured hell there and made a hell for others. Media attention had impeded implementation of the General Samia's grand design, and only a portion of the city of Rafah has actually become an "exposed" sterile area. Samia himself left the army in frustration and embarked on a successful career in the business world.

The situation of the Palestinians is far from bright. The occupation continues, with many different forms of oppression manifesting themselves every day. Also for continuing the tight siege of the Gaza Strip, new and creative ways were found even without having Israeli troops holding The Philadelphi Route. But that particular battle scene is now quiet; there are no more soldiers or bulldozers there. The home that Rachel Corrie was trying to protect had been rebuilt shortly after the soldiers left, and also the rows of houses in front and behind it. The children are playing there, more or less quietly. She did not die in vain.

Adam Keller is an Israeli peace activist who served several prison terms for refusing reserve military duty in the 1967-occupied territories. His Crazy Country blog is reprinted with permission.

Two years after the day when the bulldozer crushed Rachel Corrie to death, Israel's political and military leadership decided to terminate the hopeless fighting on the Philadelphi Route and withdraw the soldiers who have endured hell there and made a hell for others. Media attention had impeded implementation of the General Samia's grand design, and only a portion of the city of Rafah has actually become an "exposed" sterile area. Samia himself left the army in frustration and embarked on a successful career in the business world.

The situation of the Palestinians is far from bright. The occupation continues, with many different forms of oppression manifesting themselves every day. Also for continuing the tight siege of the Gaza Strip, new and creative ways were found even without having Israeli troops holding The Philadelphi Route. But that particular battle scene is now quiet; there are no more soldiers or bulldozers there. The home that Rachel Corrie was trying to protect had been rebuilt shortly after the soldiers left, and also the rows of houses in front and behind it. The children are playing there, more or less quietly. She did not die in vain.

Adam Keller is an Israeli peace activist who served several prison terms for refusing reserve military duty in the 1967-occupied territories. His Crazy Country blog is reprinted with permission.
Why we should welcome Mitt Romney’s Middle East straight talk

Ali Abunimah

US Republican presidential nominee Mitt Romney has made headlines with secretly recorded comments released by Mother Jones in which he argues that there’s little chance of a two-state solution between Israelis and Palestinians, and that the given the realities—he sees them—the best that can be done is to manage the situation:

“There’s just no way.” And so what you do is you say, “You move things along the best way you can.” You hope for some degree of stability, but you recognize that this is going to remain an unsolved problem. We live with that in China and Taiwan. All right, we have a potentially volatile situation but we sort of live with it, and we kick the ball down the field and hope that ultimately, somehow, something will happen and resolve it. We don’t go to war to try and resolve it immediately.

To be sure, the general view that Romney puts forward in his full comments is a faithful rendition of the position of the Israeli government: there is no “peace” because Palestinians don’t want it and are “committed to the destruction and elimination of Israel” and that an independent Palestinian state would simply be a beachhead for Iran.

To this extent, Romney’s view of the Palestinians—who in his view can all be characterized in terms of generalities—represents the racist and colonial worldview of the Israeli establishment. Romney also stated, “The idea of pushing on the Palestinians to give something up to get the Palestinians to act is the worst idea in the world.”

But his comments get at a truth that is widely recognized in the US establishment though rarely spoken in public—and Romney too seems to have thought his comments would remain private among those attending the $50,000-a-plate fundraiser at which he made them. Although Romney does not use the term, what he lays out is a strategy of “conflict management”: the belief that no political solution is available, at least at any price a US administration is willing to pay, and therefore the best that can be done is to try to keep a lid on things and stop the problem from getting worse or flaring up in ways that damage other interests.

It’s a view that has been pushed by the Israelis right, but it is also the de facto policy of the Obama administration, the European Union and Arab states.

Rules of “conflict management”

The first rule of conflict management is that you claim that your actual goal is a just, lasting political solution as soon as possible.

The Obama administration observes that ritual. In his acceptance speech at the Democratic National Convention earlier this month, for example, President Obama asserted, “Our commitment to Israel’s security must not waver, and neither must our pursuit of peace.”

However, ever since Obama abandoned any effort to make Israel accept even a nominal freeze on settlement construction, and since long before his Middle East envoy Senator George Mitchell departed the scene, Obama’s approach has been conflict management. This involves:

• Appeasing Israel’s war-mongering toward Iran by waging an escalating economic and covert war on Iran while never ruling out a military attack;

• Maintaining, at Israel’s behest, financial and other support for the Palestinian Authority puppet regime in the West Bank which serves to keep a lid on the Palestinian population on behalf of Israel;

• Supporting “economic peace” aimed at pacifying the Palestinian population with consumer goods and illusions of prosperity;

• Supporting the siege of Gaza and maintaining the ostracism of Hamas in order to prevent a challenge to the West Bank puppet regime;

Always, always saying that you are fervently working toward peace negotiations and peace.

Romney lays out a strategy of “conflict management”: the belief that no political solution is available and the best that can be done is to keep a lid on things. It’s a view pushed by the Israeli right, but it is also the de facto policy of the Obama administration...

Romney vs. Obama

So how would a president Romney be different than Obama? He wouldn’t. Like Obama, he would let Israel gallop ahead with its colonization and de facto annexation of the West Bank. Like Obama, he’d support the siege of Gaza. Like Obama he’d block all international efforts to hold Israel accountable. Like Obama, he’d keep US military and economic aid for Israel at record levels. Like Obama, he would maintain funding for the Palestinian Authority, because this is a policy supported by the Israeli lobby, AIPAC.

Would Romney attack Iran?

And, like Obama, Romney would keep up pressure on Iran in order to appease Israel’s fanatical lobby. But wouldn’t Romney go to war against Iran for Israel—something Obama seems reluctant to do, to the great annoyance of Israel fanatics at home and abroad? I’m not so sure. Look again at what Romney said: You hope for some degree of stability, but you recognize that this is going to remain an unsolved problem. We live with that in China and Taiwan. All right, we have a potentially volatile situation but we sort of live with it, and we kick the ball down the field and hope that ultimately, somehow, something will happen and resolve it. We don’t go to war to try and resolve it imminently.

Sure, Romney is talking about “stability” on the Palestinian-Israeli...
Labor Rights in Canada and the United States

Washington, D.C. — Unionization in the United States has been on the decline since the 1960s. While many reasons have been offered to explain this drop in the rate of unionization, a new report from the Center for Economic and Policy Research highlights the roles that employee opposition, anti-union campaigns, and weak labor laws have played in this decline.

The report, “Protecting Fundamentally Labor Rights: Lessons from Canada for the United States,” begins with a comparison of the current state of organized labor in the United States and Canada. It notes that, from the 1920s to about 1960, Canada and the United States had roughly the same unionization rates. But in 1960, the two began to diverge. As of 2011, the unionization rate in Canada stood at 29.7 percent, compared to less than half that in the U.S., at 11.8 percent.

The paper then goes on to look at the legal process for forming unions and how impasses in contract negotiations are handled in both countries, reaching the conclusion that these institutional factors help to explain much of the difference in unionization rates.

While Canada and the U.S. both have elections as one route to forming unions, Canadian workers in several provinces also have the much faster option of card-check certification. Under card-check, once a majority of employees signs cards in support of unionizing, an employer is required to recognize their union. In the United States, however, unless an employer voluntarily recognizes a union, workers must vote in an election to unionize. In Canada, the unionization process is more conducive to forming unions in hazardous locales than in the U.S.\n
In Canada, the union being decertified. In Canada, the union must first file a petition showing support for unionizing and then vote to unionize in an election before an employer is required to recognize their union. As of 2011, the median amount of time between the petition to form a union and the election was 38 days, and it often extends far beyond this. During this time, U.S. employers usually engage in anti-union campaigns, often committing illegal acts such as threatening to close the workplace or threatening to fire workers to discourage unionizing. In Canada, employers are generally more likely to respect such practices and are more likely to refrain from such conduct.

It is worth noting that union decertification in Canada was no more common in periods where card-check certification was in place than in those where it wasn’t. Opponents of the Employee Free Choice Act, which would have brought card-check to the United States, argued that the process would allow unions to bully workers into signing cards, leaving them with union representation even when they didn’t really want it. However, the fact that decerti-
Community Special Events

Water-wise Plant Sale
Saturday, September 30, 11 am - 4 pm
4115 Mud Bay Rd NW, Olympia

Thousands of native and drought-tolerant ornamental plants to choose from! One-on-one plant consultations from expert horticulturists! Free mini-vouchers from Design Linda Anderson (by advanced appointment). Advice on rain gardens from Stormwater Stewards: Trees, shrubs, perennials, groundcovers, ornamental grasses, sub-shrubs, and vines! Great deals & hard-to-find plants, too! By Native Plant Salvage.

Come join the fun & tell your friends!

Shurq
Olympia’s First Arab Festival
Saturday/Sunday, October 6 & 7
Olympia Community Center

This is the first Arab Festival in Olympia. We invite our community to join us as we celebrate and experience the food, culture, traditions, lifestyles and peoples of the Arab World in a peaceful, joyous and authentic manner.

The Rachel Corrie Foundation for Peace & Justice Contact: (360) 754-3398 or info@rachcorriefoundation.org

Localizaton Not Occupiation
Sunday, October 7, 1 pm - 6 pm
Sylvester Park, Olympia

October 7th, is the 11th anniversary of the Afghanistan war: the unhappy day when America used its collective pain from 9/11 and the ongoing war in Afghanistan to separate the unhappy day when we can get together to rally for victory. Volunteers are needed, but just coming out to show your support would really help.

Olympia is our only outdoor event and we want as big a group as we can get. If you’re able to volunteer, contact us. We can arrange rides for people in or near Thurston or Pierce Counties! Please tell your friends because there will be sandwiches for all! For more information mbaleighj@gmail.com

Squat Orientation & Encuentro – Homes Not Jails – Puget Sound
Saturday, October 13, 10 am - 1 pm
Olympia Timberland Library (public meeting room)

This event is an orientation to squatting and re-claiming bank foreclosed properties in the Puget Sound Region. Houses for people, not for profit. For an additional information call 206-853-4779.

Love Your Body Day: Awareness more than Skin Deep
Wednesday, October 17, 6:30 pm
Capitol Theater in Olympia

There will be a film and community discussion around the problem of the lack of healthy and empowering role models for girls and women in the media. How does this affect our dreams, our bodies, and our authority in society?

Join us on Love Your Body Day, a day established by the NOW Foundation to examine the affect of the way women are represented in the media and its messages.

The Olympia Film Society will be showing “Miss Representation” 6:30 pm at the Capitol Theater Wednesday Oct. 17th. General admission is $8.50 and OFS member price is $5.50.

The film explores how the media’s misrepresentations of women have led to the underrepresentation of women in positions of power and influence. The film will be followed by a panel and discussion sponsored by Thurston County National Organization for Women.

For more information contact: Irene 943-1881 ianireneed@gmail.com

All Halows Masquerade
Saturday, October 20, 7 pm - 11 pm
The Olympia Ballroom

Celebrate the season and support the Thurston County Food Bank and Olympia’s Planned Parenthood. DJ, indoor trick or treat, tables, raffle, dancing and more! All Ages! Belly dancing! $8 with a food donation, $10 without. Tickets on sale now at Ranger Room Conics!

We envision this unique event to be a volunteer-run gathering of mycologists, fungal enthusiasts, and Earth healers coming together to share skills and information related to the benefits of the fungal kingdom in terms of remediative properties as well as human uses.

Our 5-day event will culminate in a remediation project (putting theory to practice) and its messages.

For more information contact: Irene 943-1881 ianireneed@gmail.com

Radical Mycology Convergence
Thursday-Monday, October 18-22
Port Townsend, WA

We envision this unique event to be a volunteer-run gathering of mycologists, fungal enthusiasts, and Earth healers coming together to share skills and information related to the benefits of the fungal kingdom in terms of remediative properties as well as human uses.

Our 5-day event will culminate in a remediation project (putting theory to practice) and will also be a unique chance to build community with like-minded mycophiles (aka mushroom lovers) from around the world.

The suggested donation is $10-50, but no one will be turned away for lack of funds. www.radicalmycologyconvergence.com

In gratitude to Olympia’s Women in Black for standing for the cause of peace with justice.

October 2002 - October 2012

Gar Lipow’s
Cooling a Fevered Planet
Tuesday, October 23, 7pm
Traditions Café, downtown Olympia

Gar Lipow will speak about “Cooling a Fevered Planet,” a lively, irreverent, and information-packed picture book to come out in 2013. It shows how to break through the political battle-

necks preventing us from solving the climate crisis. This accessible book shows that the climate crisis is a side effect of inequality, war, and injustice. Cooling a Fevered Planet draws a path for the 99%, and for the planet we live on, to escape the crushing weight of the 1%.

For more info contact Gar at Glipow@gmail.com 360-943-1529

Photo: Olympia Rafah Solidarity Mural Project, a project of the Rachel Corrie Foundation

In gratitude to Olympia’s Women in Black for standing for the cause of peace with justice.
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