

Genetically Modified Seeds Spread *The Implications of the Percy Schmeiser Decision*

Percy Schmeiser was found guilty of a) having Monsanto genetics on his land, and b) not advising Monsanto to come and fetch it. He was not found guilty of brownbagging - obtaining the seed fraudulently. Indeed, all such allegations were dropped at the actual hearing, due to lack of evidence.

Regardless, in his 29 March 2001 decision, Judge W. Andrew MacKay made it clear that how it got there it didn't matter anyway. The guilt was the same. Specifically, "Yet the source of the Roundup resistant canola...is really not significant for the resolution of the issue of infringement..."

It also didn't matter that Schmeiser did not benefit - at all - from the RR seed. In order to derive any economic benefit from growing RR seed, you'd either have to sell it as seed, or spray Roundup.

He did neither, selling the crop as grain. He acknowledges spraying Roundup around his telephone poles - a standard practice - which first alerted him in 1997 to the contamination in his field because some of the plants didn't die. Then he made a couple of passes leading away from the road to see how far the contamination reached - total sprayed area was 3 acres out of the hundreds of acres sown in 1997. None of these points are disputed. No one - including Monsanto - argued that Schmeiser actually benefited, or even intended to benefit, from growing a crop contaminated with RR plants. But it didn't matter. He was guilty nonetheless and fined \$15/acre x 1030 acre. Monsanto also seeks the value of his crop \$105,000, plus \$25,000 for punitive and exemplary damages.

He also lost the improved genetics resulting from his lifelong practice of saving his own seed to produce his own tailor-made variety of canola, as the crop was confiscated.

The harm that has been done to Percy and Louise Schmeiser, now in their 70's, is grievous. But of even greater concern is how this incomprehensible decision will affect all western Canadian farmers - regardless of whether they even grow canola, let alone GM canola.

The Problem(s) with Canola

Canola is a relatively primitive crop, and

as such, retains many of the characteristics of a wild species. Unlike corn and wheat, which have been domesticated by over 10,000 generations of breeding, canola pods mature unevenly, obliging farmers to cut and place the crop in windrows to allow the green seed to dry prior to combining. The dry pods also shatter upon maturity, dropping a fraction of the mature seed to the ground where the seed retains dormancy, meaning that especially under the reduced or no-till conditions favored in the prairies, the seed can remain dormant for 6-10 years, and the seed can germinate anytime in the season - not just in the spring prior to seeding

Further, because the seed is very small, round, and smooth, it travels readily in the wind. It is not uncommon for windrowed canola to be picked up and blown over adjoining fields. Seed is known to be dispersed by open haul trucks. Schmeiser's contaminated fields are to the east side of a major haul road leading to Bruno, Saskatchewan, and the prevailing wind direction is west to east. The initial samples used by Monsanto to charge Schmeiser were actually taken from the roadside - not the sown fields.

Although canola is primarily a selfing species, outcrossing is in the range of 20-30%, and canola pollen can move long distances, several km at least, primarily via insect pollinators. The required isolation distance for hybrid canola seed is 800 m. Who is it that has to absorb the cost of installing an 800 m buffer between GM and non-GM crops on neighboring farms? Pollen has always moved, but this is the first time we've called it genetic pollution, because the genes that move are proprietary.

The lengthy dormancy interval of canola allows the soil seed bank of contaminated seed to accumulate in the soil with each successive year's addition. Land can be contaminated with proprietary seed in other ways. If you intentionally planted RR canola [or any other herbicide tolerant (HT) canola variety], shattered RR seed would contaminate your soil next year anyway, and the next, and the next. Emergence of 'volunteer' canola in subsequent crops is

See **Genetically Modified**, page 8



Women in Black at the Ashland Plaza - Photo Courtesy of Maridale and Bill Moore

Medea on Iraq

Medea Benjamin spoke at Southern Oregon University on Nov. 17th:

Following an enchanting set by ethereal, acoustic duo Gypsy Soul, Medea Benjamin, co-founder of Global Exchange, Occupation Watch, and Code Pink showed slides of her experiences in Afghanistan and Iraq to the Britt Ballroom audience on the SOU campus. She spoke first about Afghanistan, how in the two years since the invasion of Afghanistan, opium trade has gone from 12% to 76% of world production. Bush had not planned to allocate any money to Afghanistan this coming year, but Congress is giving a paltry \$800,000 of \$80 billion earmarked for Iraq.

The first slide was a photo of a skeleton-like building in Iraq, the crumpled remains of the Ministry of Education. The U.S. bombed every government ministry in Baghdad, including the Ministries of Health and Education, destroying all records and infrastructure. The notable exception was the Oil Ministry, which sent an ominous signal to Iraqis about the intent of the U.S. "liberation." It also raised concerns that the U.S. would be sabotaging Iraq's ability to recover from twelve years of sanctions and now two wars. The U.S. also changed Iraq's laws to allow U.S. citizens to have 100% ownership in Iraq. Medea talked about the excessive profit made by Haliburton and Bechtel, and the model of neo-liberalism that Iraq has become as the U.S. privatizes and buys up Iraqi resources and businesses. It

See **Medea**, page 2

Women in Black

Women In Black meet in Medford, Grants Pass and Ashland. In Medford, on the first Wednesday of the month at 12 noon on Vogel Plaza for a half an hour of silence. In Ashland, every Friday at 12 noon on the Ashland Plaza, standing silently on Main St. In Grants Pass, every first and third Monday at 11am til 11:30 at the Post office and after, meeting til 12 noon at the Community Room behind The Creative Alternative (229A G St, under the Art Museum).

Women in Black stand in solidarity with women all over the earth to protest war, rape as a tool of war, genocide and human rights abuses. If you feel moved, please join us. Men are welcome to stand behind the women in support.

Martha Shonkwiler writes: Dr. Rev. Ruth Miller began our (Grants Pass) group in June of '01 after attending a peace conference in Sarajevo, former Yugoslavia. This semester she is teaching a class in Portland for the New West Seminary, which she helped found, using the text *The Self-Aware Universe*: how consciousness creates the material world by Amit Goswami, professor of physics at U of O. I just purchased this book and want our WIB's focus to be on holding the image of our world at peace so this becomes reality. Ruth promotes a morning and evening peace meditation that brings tranquility. I also plan to encourage the writing of poetry and prose by our WIB participants so that we can have a reading or create a chatbook in about a year.

See **WIB**, page 8

NONPROFIT ORG
US POSTAGE PAID
ASHLAND OR
PERMIT NO 47

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

P.O. Box 524, Ashland OR 97520

Peace House

Justine's Farewell



So Long, Farewell, Peace and goodbye to the State of Jefferson - It's been a huge couple of years for all, and Peace House was no exception - along with two US invasions and the Patriot Act was the task of putting Peace House back together again after a period of inactivity.

Anti-War Marches, helping to launch other community groups, new systems, fund-raising, nonmilitary recruitment efforts, and Molly Ivins (!) have all added to the health and rebirth of Ashland's Peace House.

My job is, therefore, done. I had hoped to stay until February for leisurely goodbyes, but health issues have finally caught up. And it's time to go back to my communities in Eugene. For those of you I didn't see, consider yourselves hugged! and remember that it takes work for change, not just wishes.

Blessings,
Justine Cooper
Retired Executive Director of Peace House

The Board's Gratitude

December 1, 2003

Dear Justine,

In recognition of your fine work with the Ashland Peace House, we would like to thank you.

In your 19 months of service you brought to life a large pool of volunteers, helped to educate the larger community about current issues and concerns, supported the development and growth of rural peace groups, raised dollar support for Peace House, organized many exceptional speaking events and encouraged leadership and action on many fronts.

Your persistence and courage are commendable and your passionate efforts to promote justice, peace and social equity during a time of war will carry on in the hearts of many. You helped change the face of the Southern Oregon peace movement to one of veracity and meaningful action.

Thank you for all of the wonderful work you have done in our community.

In deep appreciation, The Peace House Board of Directors

Shri Estes
Tina Freimuth
Marie Jordan
Rich Rohde
Pamela Roessler

Corrections and Apologies

The poem "Wage Peace" was written by Judyth Hill, not Mary Oliver, as printed in the Nov '03 issue of Clear Actions. We regret any problem this may have caused.
Editor

We apologize for the inconvenience of the Peace House office closure during our remodel. We hope to be back in the office by the time this newsletter comes out.

Medea

Continued from page 1

appears that the U.S. is deliberately destroying Iraqi's economy, as tariffs were lifted and markets flooded with foreign goods. Iraqis used to be able to purchase Iraqi scarves and other homemade products, but such things have become scarce. Iraqi unemployment is at 70%, while U.S. engineers are being paid \$1,000/day hardship wages to do the work. Plenty of doctors, engineers and professionals are unemployed and cannot work to rebuild their own infrastructure. Medea explained how it had been recommended to the Bush administration before the invasion that both the 500,000 strong military and the 60,000 to 80,000 police force be retained after the top echelon were dismissed to maximize law and order. However, all were fired from their positions without their guns being confiscated. Members of the military were told that if they laid down their arms and did not fight, they would be considered heroes and rewarded, but instead their true reward was unemployment. In addition, teachers and other professionals who belonged to the Baath Party under Hussein were dismissed after the U.S. invasion.

Medea explained that the only thing preventing starvation among the 75% unemployed in Iraq is the current food distribution system. Currently, one-quarter of the Iraqi children die before age 5.

We learned of the progress Medea's organizations have made with the U.S. soldiers themselves. She said that this is a unique opportunity to work with the military. Most service people she met are miserable and feel that Bush has put them in harms way. They were devastated and felt betrayed by Bush's "bring 'em on" comment. The soldiers live in terrible conditions, often without running water, they are being shot at and are asking "why are we here?" For two months, in the summer's heat, with tempera-

tures up to 120 degrees, they suffered along with everyone else. The troops are doing sweeps and putting hundreds of Iraqis in prison with no legal council. Iraqis are unable to travel, they have no telephones or electricity, and are not even able to find out if their relatives in other parts of the country are alive. The troops kill or shoot ten to twenty people a day. These activities are taking a toll on the troops and some soldiers are starting to defect - they are not returning from R&R. The government is keeping this quiet. An organization called G.I. Rights is trying to help the troops.

The status of women has sunk in both Afghanistan and Iraq as women find themselves unable to leave their homes because of fear of rape, crime and abductions. A few brave women are organizing and have become active and are standing up to the troops.

Media has been offering trips to Iraq, and so many people want to go that they have to turn many away. Military wives and family members are going to Iraq.

The Iraqi people feel that the United Nations must come in to help set up the new government, and that the U.S. must leave. Medea reminded us of the square where we saw the staged tumbling of the statue of Hussein. In that square now, she says, there are large letters stating "all is done, go home."

Media ended on a positive note. The U.S. may be the only super power, but those of us who care about human rights and justice are part of the global majority. The date to keep in mind is August 29 - the opening of the Republic National Convention in New York. There will be large demonstrations in New York and around the world to send a message to George W. Bush and his administration.

Vanya Sloan, League of Women Voters



A publication of Peace House

Interim Co-Directors

Grady Boyd
Linda Richards

Special Projects

Shelley Elkovich

Counter Military Recruitment

Kerul Dyer
Ea Murphy
Kayla Starr

Newsletter Editor

Ann DiSalvo

Newsletter Layout

Ramana Waymire

Contributors

Tracy Bungay
E. Ann Clark, Ph.D.
Justine Cooper
Marguerite Craig
Nancy Golden
Vanya Sloan
Ruth Walsh

Board of Directors

Shri Estes
Tina Friemuth
Maire Jordan
Kevin Preister
Rich Rohde
Monty Walters

Visit www.peacehouse.net

MERCURY
DESIGN



DESIGN IS COMMUNICATION

Effectively communicate your business identity, message, service or solution.

Special rates for non-profits.

Ramana Waymire
201-1160

*Invest in the Future
of Peace House*



Make a Bequest

Peace House appreciates bequests from supporters estates; these gifts ensure our financial stability and demonstrate your belief that our work should continue.

By putting Peace House in your will or estate plan, you are investing in the future of the peace movement. Provide Peace House a lasting legacy - a legacy of peace and justice.

*Contact Linda Richards
(541) 482-9625 about leaving a bequest to Peace House.*

Ski Ashland Expansion Boycott



"A majority of Ashland Citizens have spoken out against the Ski Ashland expansion. With the beginning of ski season, this majority opposition has placed a banner over the Ski Ashland access road. The EPA has harshly criticized the Forest Service science used in the EIS. It is time for the Forest Service to withdraw this inadequate document and the Mt Ashland Association to cut their losses and realize that expansion won't happen. We will continue direct action to stop this grossly unconscious development proposal into our municipal watershed."

Siskiyou Green Brigade

The first survey of the Ashland Creek watershed was done in 1900 by John B. Leiberger. In his analysis of the watershed he states clearly, "But whether easy or difficult of access, it is obvious that the maintenance of the Ashland Creek water volume is prohibitive to lumbering operations in the reserve."

The Ashland Creek watershed would remain relatively untouched until the mid-fifties when the District Ranger convinced the City Council to open the door to commercial logging arguing that increased fuel loads needed to be addressed. The Forest Service proceeded by logging 17 major clearcuts and completing extensive highgrade logging projects of large diameter trees. These areas now represent some of the worst fuel loads in the watershed as the fractured canopy has allowed an increase in small diameter highly flammable fuels.

In the early sixties the Ski Ashland development was approved by the Forest Service and funded by local investors.

Shortly after the development was completed, the 1964 flood resulting from a "rain on snow" event would devastate the watershed and leave the reservoir heavily filled with sediment. Although several floods had taken place previously, none had resulted in significant sediment delivery to the reservoir.

Regardless, by 1972 the first proposal to expand the Ski Ashland development was put forward and an EIS was completed. The Forest Service scientists concluded that the expansion would have negligible impacts. In 1973, at the request of the City of Ashland, the DEQ completed a study of the watershed. With regard to the ski development, the DEQ stated, "Even more alarming than the poor land management associated with the present ski facilities is the plan to immediately expand these facilities and trails to almost double their area and capacity." However, the proposal was finally stopped when the 1974 flood would again devastate the watershed

leaving even more sediment in the reservoir. A moratorium was placed on Forest Service activity and the City completed an extremely costly dredging and sluicing project to remove the sediment.

The next expansion was proposed in 1991, an EIS was completed and again Forest Service scientists felt the expansion would have negligible impact. Two consecutive dry years followed and Harbor Properties, the owner at the time, was unwilling to invest in the expansion and threatened closure. An Environmental Assessment was completed to remove the lifts and restore the area. Fund raising bailed out the development and the City of Ashland took over the lease. This was the third time the development had failed since the sixties because of minimal snowfall.

Expansion was put on hold until 2000 when the Forest Service released another EIS, despite the obvious devastation from the 1997 flood. This was stopped when the EPA and US Fish and Wildlife harshly criticized the document as completely insufficient for not offering a broad range of alternatives or sound science. The document was withdrawn by the Forest Service, more analysis was completed and a second Draft EIS has now been released.

Again, the EPA, even under the Bush Administration, has harshly criticized the document for offering insufficient information. They state, among other criticisms of the proposal and the inadequate science offered by the Forest Service, that the expansion would "change the periodicity of surface runoff, increase creek flows during "rain on snow" storm events, and increase the potential for erosion."

History has shown that our municipal watershed is extremely sensitive and highly prone to sediment delivery and flooding. The proposal to double the size of this development has been attempted for years and has always been stopped. It is difficult to imagine a more unsound, environmentally

unconscious proposal. Not only is this a small sensitive municipal watershed, but also an inventoried Roadless Area and prime Spotted Owl habitat with various rare plants and sensitive species.

As conscious citizens we have a responsibility to speak out against this unnecessary proposal. One of the most effective means to put pressure on the Mount Ashland Association is by not supporting the expansion through buying lift tickets. Several groups are now calling for a unified boycott of Ski Ashland. Please act responsibly by not buying this expansion and stating that you are not skiing Mount Ashland until the expansion proposal is withdrawn.

By Tracy Bungay

Making Friends With Yourself

Andy Bayliss

- Healing Guilt and Shame
- Life Patterns and Relationships
- Spiritual Awakening Integration
- Educators Support Group
- Psychodynamic Roots of Suffering

*Nurturing Your Wisdom
With Personal Inquiry*

482-4324



COUNSELING

INDIVIDUALS • COUPLES • GROUPS

• Sliding Fee Scale •

**A Holistic Approach
Sheila Lewis, M.S.**

Anxiety/Trauma • Relationships • Grief
Communication Skills • Sexual Abuse
Women's Issues • Terminal Illness

482-6135

Speak Your Peace

Over 60 progressive & peace designs on t-shirts & sweatshirts. Great gifts! Order by phone or at earthshirtz.com.

#258, New
Peace Rainbow
4-color design
White t-shirt \$16
Hooded ash grey
sweatshirt \$30.



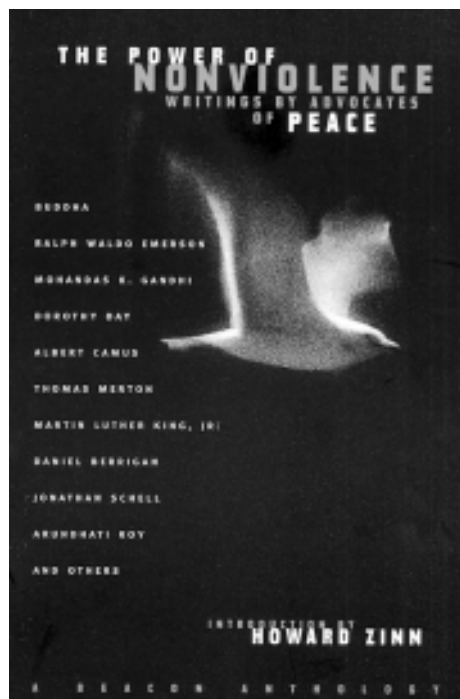
Darnell Design's
EarthSHIRTZ.COM
541.878.2757 800-845-3469
PO BOX 827 SHADY COVE OR 97539

archival
ink jet prints
mixed media
paintings
illustration
portraits
commissions
graphic
design

studio A.B

Ann DiSalvo
B Allen Bayard
621 A Street
Ashland Ore
541.482.2253
www.babayard.com

Book Review



A Beacon Anthology

*The Power of Non-Violence:
Writings by Advocates of Peace*
©2002, Beacon Press, Boston

In his introduction to *The Power of Nonviolence*, Howard Zinn says, "The cry for peace in these essays is not simply a protest against war. It also presents a vision of a different world, and suggests a way to fulfill that vision. Against the makers of war, it proposes not passivity but resistance, a resistance that, because it is nonviolent, has a unique power greater than the power of guns and bombs."

Zinn is right on. You will find in this slender volume not one, but many diverse analyses and suggestions, not all of which agree with each other. And you, in turn, may not agree with all of them. So much the better—lots of food for thought.

The 23 pieces are short and admirably suited for dipping into. Read one, let it mull, then go back and read some more. The collection begins in 520 B.C. with Buddha, jumps to William Penn in 1693, then moves

to Emerson and Thoreau, writers like Jane Addams and Dorothy Day in the first half of the 20th century, authors like Erich Fromm and Martin Luther King during the Cold War/Vietnam years, and coming up to the present, such thinkers as Daniel Berrigan, Thich Nhat Hanh, Jonathan Schell, and Arundhati Roy. It closes with the International Appeal of Nobel Prize Laureates in 2001.

Of the essays I've read so far—about three-fourths of them—I have disliked one and found all the rest fascinating. Some examine pacifism and nonviolence—what they are, how they work, whether they can succeed. Several begin with the proposition that whether governing entities around the world realize it or not, nuclear weapons have made war impossible, then go on to speak of our desperate need for a new vision, a new way to organize our affairs. Some deal dramatically with disarmament. Many talk of the personal bravery required to withstand the barbs of war lovers and the intellectual courage needed to explore alternatives and dream a different dream.

In 1946, Albert Camus pleaded, "All that I ask is that, in the mist of a murderous world, we agree to reflect on murder and to make a choice. After that, we can distinguish those who accept the consequences of being murderers themselves or the accomplices of murderers, and those who refuse to do so with all their force and being. ... Over the expanse of five continents throughout the coming years an endless struggle is going to be pursued between violence and friendly persuasion, a struggle in which, granted, the former has a thousand times the chance of success than that of the latter. But I have always held that, if he who bases his hopes on human nature is a fool, he who gives up in the face of circumstances is a coward. And henceforth, the only honorable course will be to stake everything on a formidable gamble that words are more powerful than munitions."

This is a book of powerful words, well worth owning. It's available at Bloomsbury Books in Ashland.

Nancy Golden

Friendly Faces at the Peace House Envisioning Meeting and Potluck January 4, 2004



Photos by Ramana Waymire

Reach a thoughtful audience and support Peace House.

Place your ad here.

30 per monthly issue, prepaid.

Call 541 482-9625

Clear Actions

Call For Submissions

Clear Actions is accepting article submissions from writers willing to serve on the newsletter committee. Help us get out the latest word on peace, justice, nonviolence and the environment.

Email Grady, info@peacehouse.net or Ann, hubcake@hotmail.com.

Meet the Peace House Board of Directors and Staff

Shri Estes has been working for peace since the 60's when she was active with Martin Luther King initiatives in Boston. She was a Peace Corps Volunteer in Northern India for three years and remained in India for another three years, involved in meditation practices. As a licensed psychotherapist in private practice with a focus on depth psychology, Shri has devoted her career to assisting people find peaceful means to their inner and outer worlds. Gandhi's quote "We must be the change we wish to see" has been an inspiration to understand that it is not enough that the world "out there" has to change, but that there must be an internal transformation that is congruent to the necessary work of peace in the world. Shri is also a consultant for family-run business and most recently has founded Estes Environments Inc., a project to create sustainable housing development for the mainstream.

My vision for Peace House is to assist in creating a congruent and strong infrastructure to allow Peace House to be an even greater force in this community as we meet the dynamic changes our society is facing in this next year.

Tina L. Freimuth - Tina L. Freimuth has twenty years of experience in San Francisco, Los Angeles, Boston, Northeast Washington and Great Britain. Her experiences range from grassroots, street-level youth work with teen prostitutes in Los Angeles and gang intervention and tenant organizing in Boston, to administration, teaching and management through program development, directorship, grant writing, program evaluation and community coalition building in England and Washington State.

From teaching art to K-5th grade children in public schools, organizing violence prevention programs with black and Hispanic youth to creating music with Gothic and Punk identified teenagers in Great Britain has provided her with a vast wealth of experience with children, youth and community services. In 1993, Our Positive Posse, the program she managed and designed in Boston, won the highest honor in America for community service; The Thousand Points of Light Award from President Clinton.

Tina has served on the Board of Directors for Ashland Peace House for 10 months. Writing a grant for a Counter Military Recruitment Program was her first initiative after accepting her position on the Board. Peace House has served as a Conscientious Objector center for years and realizes the emergency need to empower Southern Oregon high school students with a deeper knowledge of the military machine.

Tina's vision for Peace House in this coming year is to assist in uniting the peace movement in Southern Oregon with local grassroots strategies that have global connections. Enlightening youth with alternatives to violence problem solving skills is a vision that is currently attainable through the expertise of PH staff and program infrastructure.

She is currently employed as Program Designer for Life Resources Institute in Ashland and lives on Women's Land in Josephine County with her partner Barbara.

Grady Boyd - Grady Jo's involvement in the struggle for peace and social justice began early in life. Raised in rural Idaho, Grady's family inspired an interest in non-violence at a young age and encouraged her to take action. As a child, she organized a "Trash Bash" to clean up litter in her community. Following this, her activism

blossomed in many directions, working on diverse issues like indigenous sovereignty, women's choice, forest defense and animal rights. Specifically, she has worked with Planned Parenthood developing sex education programs for teens. She worked at the Buffalo Field Campaign for two years coordinating the community kitchen, organizing legal research, creating documentary films and organizing incoming activists. As a member of the Seeds of Peace collective, Grady has organized trainings in non-violent direct action and coordinated field kitchens for large events at the Nevada Test Site and throughout the West.

Grady began working at Peace House in August of 2003. Since then, she has helped coordinate the counter-military recruitment program and worked on outreach and communication with community supporters. She brings a wealth of positivity and hopefulness to her work for peace and justice. Her commitment to non-violence runs deep. She seeks to address the root causes of violence, challenging the hierarchies and social conditioning that allow injustice to persist. In addition, her skills as an organizer and a community leader add strength to her role as interim co-director of Peace House. Grady is thrilled to be working with Linda, ushering in a new era of peace and justice in southern Oregon.

Maire Jordan - I'm Maire Jordan (call me Maire), a soon-to-retire librarian in Yreka after almost 18 years. My passion for peace led me to Peace House. After working for years with Siskiyou County's "Do Something for Peace" group and attending workshops, wonderful pot lucks and marches in Ashland, I've devoted myself to "The Cause." Born in Independence, Kansas; raised in Oklahoma and Wyoming; college in Utah and Nevada before quitting to join the Peace Corps. After work in Venezuela, I chose to stay in South America to travel and teach English in Colombia, Peru, and Ecuador. After seven years I settled down with a partner and had two beautiful daughters, Jilayne and Nubez. I raised them in Mt. Shasta as a single mom and went back to college at Humboldt State. Since graduating in Communications in 1985, I've worked in media and libraries. I coordinated the Mt. Shasta Resource Council to keep a huge ski area off the south face of the mountain. I've been on the board for our local Audubon Society chapter and have served on the board for AFSCME, Local 3899. At this time I'm vice-president and devote time to the P.A.C. and giving orientations to new employees for the county. I stay sane by giving Reiki treatments at the Healing Arts Center, doing Gi Gong, meditating, reading and traveling back and forth to Ashland for "cultural" experiences and visiting friends. I'm looking for a place to live in Oregon that is an intentional community involved in "engaged" Buddhism or a similar communal arrangement practicing sustainable living. Please let me know if you know of one (530) 842-5466. I hope to meet more of the dedicated folks affiliated with Peace House soon. My hopes and dreams for the New Year include "regime change at home," continuing to coordinate with Northern California peace groups and hopes to move to Oregon soon. My priority is getting out the vote and I am available to speak as a librarian against the so called Patriot Act. As a retiree, I'll devote myself to the excellent projects already underway at the Peace House, helping to develop events, outreach and



Shri Estes, Grady Boyd, Tina Freimuth, Maire Jordan, Linda Richards, Rich Rohde

Photo by Ramana Waymire

communications.

Linda Richards - Linda Marie Richards has been a peace activist since third grade when she wrote President Nixon and asked if her father could come home from Vietnam for her birthday. Instead of replying to the request, a secretary to the president sent a packet of government propaganda. As a third grader Linda recognized the official US policy on Vietnam did not justify the crime of killing both Vietnamese and American service people. The horror of Vietnam and her father's role shaped her life's work as an educator for peace, justice and non-violence.

Linda worked for OSPIRG, CALC and The Council for Human Rights in Latin America while attending the University of Oregon. She has worked as a Peace House volunteer since her arrival in Ashland on July 4, 1987, after completing the Great Peace March for Global Nuclear Disarmament. It was on the 9 1/2 month cross-country walk that Linda became impressed by activists with roots in their communities that effectively create change, integrating non-violence as a way of life into their neighborhoods. During the Persian Gulf War I, she helped create a Peace Club on campus at SOU and graduated with a degree in Science and Peace Studies in 1991. As a non-violence trainer, newsletter editor, office volunteer, facilitator, board member and event organizer, Linda has loved organizing with Peace House. She worked ten years as a volunteer and employee at Briscoe Elementary, and her career experiences as a labor representative, news reporter, OSF usher and scene shifter, park patrol officer, and special education teaching assistant taught her the value of education, compassionate communication and a daily belief in the good in all people. Linda is convinced we all do have a peace of the puzzle, and she is thrilled to be working as interim co-director with Grady as a consensus leadership team at Peace House.

Rich Rohde - Regional Organizer, Oregon Action. Rich has worked as a community organizer with Oregon Action, a statewide social justice organization. Starting as a VISTA volunteer in Greensboro, NC in 1966, he has organized in low income communities in Portland with Oregon Fair Share, as well as in Idaho, California, Minnesota, and other communities in Oregon. Rich is married to Caren Caldwell, minister at Ashland Congregational Church. He has two sons ages 12 and 16.

Involvement of churches and faith communities has been an important part of Rich's organizing and continues to be part of the living wage campaign in southern Oregon. Rich has been a Peace House board member for the last two years, after previously serving as board member at the end of the 1980's.

An Open Letter From Pamela Roessler, Outgoing Board Member

I want to thank you. Being a part of the Peace House community for the past year has been an incredible journey. As the New Year begins, I choose to leave the Board, to direct my energy in other ways. Last October, I began studying at the Ashland Academy of Art. This has fired up my creative juices and allows me to "follow my bliss," enhancing the whole in ways seen and unseen. I also am realizing another long-time goal: finding a way to be able to home-school my son. The power of intention is not to be underestimated!

My journey for peace continues. I dedicate my life's work to honoring what is sacred: creating conditions in which wisdom, beauty and freedom can prosper. Respectful, non-violent communication and cooperation are fundamental. My prayer for the New Year: May we all find and follow our bliss, whatever that looks like for each of us, harming none, allowing for diversity. May we dedicate our lives to love. May we find the courage to be peaceful, releasing negative patterns for the good of all. With every thought, word, and action may we invite love into our lives, healing the fabric of existence, now and forever. We are One.

I have some parting words about my vision for Peace House, Ashland, Oregon. I envision Peace House being a proactive branch among many others worldwide, part of a strengthening network of "peace force" organizations. The efforts to create a U.S. Department of Peace (HR 1673) is essential,* but why can't we start right now, right here? What the Department of Peace could do internationally, we can work on locally. Of course we already are in some ways, but I would like to see our mission clarified, our goals and values defined more specifically, and more sharing of wisdom and resources.

* For more information about the DOP campaign, visit the web-site www.dopcampaighn.org, sponsored by the Global Renaissance Alliance.

Blessings,
Pamela

Local Inventor Dreams of Conservation, Synergy and Sustainability

Not so long ago, David Ward had a dream. Today, that dream has produced a “Strawjet” harvester which could revolutionize building practices throughout the Middle East. The machine is not yet complete, but it promises to make life better where Ward thinks it matters most—in the lives of the least privileged, wherever they may be around the world. For his visionary invention, students at Ashland’s Wilderness Charter School recently honored him as Bioneer of the Year.

The “crazy inventor”

“Ashland needs a crazy inventor,” says Ward. His not-so-crazy invention begins with the stripped-down chassis of a combine, which he modifies to go through fields after wheat has been harvested, gather the leftover straw, and process it into “Strawcore,” a very light, very strong substitute for 4X4 dimensional lumber. The machine has three major components:

- The first component is a set of four cable makers. Each one gathers straw lengthwise and binds it into a continuous cable.
- The second component binds the four cables of straw together.
- The third component extrudes plaster to encase the quadruple cable and shape it into a square 4X4. The plaster is made of dirt and paper pulp.

One Strawjet machine can lay 100 miles of finished 4X4 Strawcore in 24 hours. That’s enough for one season’s worth to build a good-size town.

The advantages of Strawcore construction are many, especially in places where mud brick construction is common:

- Seismic stability is a major advantage over mud brick, whose weakness was so tragically demonstrated in Iran’s recent earthquake. Engineers at Tulane University have tested Strawcore with impressive results.
- Speed is another advantage. Mud bricks take two to three weeks to dry enough for use, while Strawcore dries in 24 hours in desert conditions, two to three days in Southern Oregon.
- Shape-ability is a unique feature. Laid out straight, Strawcore dries straight, but it can also be laid out to dry in curves for strong arches and creative design.
- Sustainability is an important asset. Straw is a residue wherever wheat is grown, so it offers a steadily renewable supply of raw materials.

Along with these building advantages, Strawcore offers to small farmers an additional source of income from what would otherwise be waste material. To the degree that it prevents field burning, it reduces air pollution. Further, it has the potential to turn the tide with respect to mankind’s reliance on trees as the primary construction medium.

Following the vision

A cheerful, high-energy optimist, Ward used to work in commercial construction. When he was hit by a mysterious illness

several years ago, his doctor told him, “Your blood reads like a list of industrial solvents.” Right then he began to search for alternative building methods. Straw was interesting because it’s so widely available, but bales were not versatile enough or strong enough. During the long days of his illness, as he drifted in an out of consciousness, the Strawjet vision began to form.

It was a remarkably accurate vision, he says, but it took him a long time to trust it. He had built the first prototype of the cable maker, but was having trouble finding a way to bind the straw. Eventually, he remembered that in his dreams, he had seen the cable binding in perfect detail. He decided to follow that pattern exactly and it worked.

Ward is two years into the project, which he says will take about seven years to complete at his present pace. He has applied for a Ford Foundation grant to purchase a used combine, mount and integrate the components, and perform the initial round of tests.

Ashland School of Environmental Technology

Ward has established the Ashland School of Environmental Technology as the not-for-profit agency through which he operates. The school sponsors development of the Strawjet and also runs an active intern program for area young people, encouraging them to find simple, positive, synergetic solutions to global environmental problems. One recent group made a solar oven with papercrete and

straw cables. It’s an exciting opportunity for students, and a valuable one, as well, for Ward, who says he learns constantly from their questions.

The organization has recently purchased a large shop building in Talent and is in the process of refurbishing it. This expanded facility will house both shop work on the Strawjet and the teaching programs.

What’s next, how you can help

When the Strawjet harvester has been completed and tested, Ward hopes to license the technology to someone else to manufacture and market. He knows the interest is there, because he has been in touch all along with United Nations Habitat and others who are working now in Afghanistan.

When he is able to move on to other inventions, one of the first will be a lower-tech version of the Strawjet—the “water buffalo” version—for use in places where mechanized farm equipment is not possible. Always, Ward comes back to his driving goal, to make life better for the least privileged among us. He is constantly looking for help. He needs

- Volunteer grant writers,
- Volunteers to make presentations,
- Volunteers to help develop contacts.

To find out more about the school or what you might do to help, contact Ward by email at dward@jeffnet.org. His web site is www.greeninventor.org.

Nancy Golden

Spotlight on Peace Calendar Events

Headwaters Hosts the 13th Annual Forest Conference

“Mobilizing the Grassroots in 2004” at the Ashland Springs Hotel in downtown Ashland, Oregon January 29 - February 1, 2004.

Visit www.headwaters.org to see all the opportunities the conference provides for people to learn.

Hikes will be offered as well as oodles of enriching workshops. Gloria Flora, well known for her leadership in public lands management, will offer the keynote address on Friday evening. Activists will remember that Gloria resigned from the Forest Service to bring national attention to persistent anti-federalist activities in Nevada, which included harassment of public land managers and their families and wanton ecological destruction of aquatic and range habitats.

The Saturday morning keynote will be offered by Derrick Jensen, author of *A Language Older Than Words*, *Listening to the Land*, *The Culture of Make Believe*, *Railroads & Clearcuts*, and his latest - *Strangely Like War: The Global Assault on Forests*.

There will also be a “State of the Movement” plenary session featuring: former Congressman and forest advocate, Les AuCoin (invited), Patti Goldman -

Earthjustice Legal Defense Fund, Mark Hubbard - Resource Media, Randi Spivak - American Lands Alliance.

Saturday Night Conference Benefit Dance - Get down for the forests! Band and location details coming soon! Sunday hikes around southern Oregon - confirmed hikes in the Applegate Valley and the Biscuit Fire area. 482-4459 for more information.

Bioneer Video Series

Percy Schmeiser spoke at the October 2003 Bioneers Conference in San Rafael, CA. Bioneers is a not-for-profit organization that promotes environmental solutions and innovative social strategies for restoring the Earth and communities. The Wilderness Charter School is sponsoring a screening of taped videos from the 2003 Bioneers Conference. The video presentations of Percy Schmeiser and Paul Stamets can be seen on Jan. 22 at the Ashland High Theatre at 7pm. On Jan. 29 video presentations will feature Tom Hayden, progressive activists and John Todd, eco-designer. The Feb. 5 video presentations feature Maude Barlow speaking on the issue of water commodification and David Orr, Chair Environmental Studies at Oberlin College.

Ashland High School Theater, N. Mountain Street.

7pm Thursdays. Tickets \$5 at the door.

Additional info 482-6089. To learn more about the Bioneers call toll free 1-877-246-6337 or www.bioneers.org

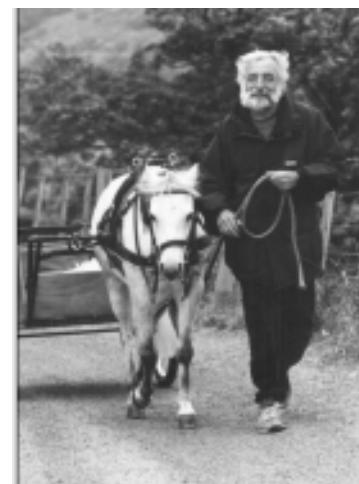
The Peace Walker Society Sponsored by Peace House Presents “Just One Step”

An evening program featuring a multimedia presentation of images showing the beauty of nature and walking in trust and faith.

Since 1986, Derek Walker Youngs has devoted much of his time to walking as a Peace Pilgrim. During that time he has walked over 24,000km in seventeen countries, each day walking in trust and faith, not knowing where he will sleep or get his next meal. Join us in listening to stories from Derek’s seventeen years of walking including a travelling children’s circus, walking with 500 people, walking with seven Japanese monks, walking with a pony across Europe and walking alone. True stories that will inspire, make you laugh, and at times, cause one to cry.

Included in the presentation is a ten minute preview of the documentary, “Walking in Israel”, filmed when he walked with a group of other Canadians from the Mediterranean Sea to Jerusalem.

Derek will be speaking at Havurah Shir



Hadash 185 N. Mountain (just below RR tracks) in Ashland from 7:30 - 9pm Tuesday, January 20, 2003. Complimentary refreshments and donations gladly accepted. For more information, contact Jonnie Dale Lieberman 482-0252.

Peace, Justice and Radical Politics Peace House Bookshelf Project

Ashland Public Library has graciously granted Peace House bookshelf space to build a collection of political, current events and movement-oriented books!

Contact Grady at Peace House (Not the Ashland Library!) about this project.

482-9625 or info@peacehouse.net.

We’d appreciate your donations of funds or new or like-new books, and suggestions for books to purchase.

Peace Community Calendar

The Peace Walker - Derek Walker Youngs

January 20 at the Havurah Shir Hadash, 185 N. Mountain (below RR tracks) in Ashland 7:30 - 9 pm. See article on previous page.

Roe v. Wade Anniversary

Thursday, January 22nd at 6:00-8:00 pm, Jazbo's (A Street Marketplace, Ashland) ~ Special Celebration co-sponsored by SW Oregon Planned Parenthood. FREE food, drinks, and live music! Under 21 okay! Support a women's right to choose!!

The Wilderness Charter School Presents: Bioneers Film Series

Selected videos from the 2003 Bioneers Conference will be shown including: Percy Shemeiser, Maude Barlow, David Orr and others.

Ashland High School Theater.

Thursdays at 7pm on Jan. 22, Jan 29 and Feb. 5. See article on previous page.

The Coup with Eastern Sunz

January 24 at the Ashland Armory. Doors open at 8 pm. Tickets \$23. Advance \$18 at Lowdown Board Shop and Music Coop in Ashland, Bad Ass Coffee in Medford, Listen Hear in Grants Pass.

Rogue Valley LPFM Meets Prometheus!

Rogue Valley Residents interested in creating their own radio station are invited to the United Methodist Church at 206 South 1st St. Talent to meet with Pete Tridish from Prometheus Radio on January 30 at noon, for nuts and bolts training of those working on the project, and at 7 pm that evening there will be a meeting for all who are interested in first steps toward local independent radio. Info: Suzi Auferheide 482-0102.

13th Annual Forest Conference "Mobilizing the Grassroots in 2004"

Thursday January 29 through February 1,

Hosted by Headwaters at the Ashland Springs Hotel in downtown Ashland.

See article on previous page.

Angela Davis

Friday Feb 6th, 6pm, Britt Ballroom.

Sponsored by the Women's Resource Center; Co-Sponsored by the Black Student Union, in honor of Black History Month!

Tickets \$3 Students and \$5 Non-students at SOU Raider Aid or at the door. Contact the SOU Women's Resource Center for details: 552-6216 or <http://www.sou.edu/wrc/>



Photo Courtesy of Speak Out

A Place of Rage

Monday Feb 9. WRC film. This exuberant celebration of African American women and their achievements features interviews with Angela Davis, June Jordan and Alice Walker. Within the context of the civil rights, Black power and feminist movements, the trio reassesses how women such as Rosa Parks and Fannie Lou Hamer revolutionized American society. A stirring chapter in African American history, highlighted by music from Prince, Janet Jackson, the Neville Brothers and the Staple Singers. In Honor of Black History Month. Contact the SOU Women's Resource Center for details: 552-6216 or <http://www.sou.edu/wrc/>

Wide Awake Film Forum presents: Report Back From the FTAA!

Friday January 16th at 7:00pm Evo's Java House 376 E. Main St.

From the streets footage and discussion with locals who went to Miami, FL to protest the FTAA talks.

The Demise of SDS 1969-70. Friday January 23rd with speakers Helen Garvy and Robert Pardun. 7:00 pm Evo's Java House 376 E. Main St.

Helen Garvy (director/producer) was a founder of the Harvard SDS chapter, spent 1964-5 in the SDS national office as assistant national secretary, then worked in an SDS community organizing project in New Jersey and later taught in an alternative school in San Francisco. She has been making films for 20 years. She is also the author of Before You Shoot: A Guide to Low-Budget Film & Video Production.

Robert Pardun (one of the people interviewed in the film) was a founder of the University of Texas SDS chapter in 1964 and later a regional organizer. He spent 1967-8 in the SDS national office as internal education secretary. He is also the author of Prairie Radical: A Journey Through The Sixties.

If These Walls Could Talk. Friday January 30th at 7:00pm Evo's Java House 376 E. Main St. In honor of the Roe v. Wade anniversary, we will show a film about choice with a guest from Planned Parenthood to inform us on upcoming events. This film was suggested by Planned Parenthood's Education program.

This is a thought provoking drama which looks at the issue of three unplanned pregnancies involving three women, in three very different political climates. "If These Walls Could Talk" is a story with three segments set in the same house, but with different occupants which spans nearly 40 years. The stories deal with issues around women and the topic of abortion and also with women and lesbianism.

Siskiyou Environmental Film Festival

Feb 24 - 29. Films will be shown in the Havurah Sanctuary 185 N. Mountain St. Tuesday -Friday, February 24-27 and in the Meese Auditorium on SOU campus on Saturday & Sunday February 28 & 29.

The Laramie Project Presents:

Keynote Speaker Judy Shepard, Matthew Shepard's Mother

January 23, 2004. For more information call 541-476-7434

The Laramie Project Play

February 20th and 21st at 8:00pm, February 22nd at 2:00pm at RCC.

February 25, at 8:00pm Craterian Ginger Rogers Theatre.

GPHS Performing Arts Center Grants Pass. A brilliant play about the brutal murder of Matthew Shepard. It's about a community becoming aware. It's about the courage to forgive. By Moises Kaufman and the members of the Tectonic Theater Project.

Directed by Bobbi Kidder. For more information call 541-476-7434

Active Resistance!

Peace House is organizing a weekend of trainings, workshops, and community dialogue in February or March to create alliances and teach skills. The Active Resistance! weekend focus will include Satyagraha (non-violence training), local campaign planning, direct action skills and strategies, anti-oppression and gender and indigenous issues.

482-9625 for information.

Women In Black

Meet at Vogel Plaza in Medford at noon on the first Wednesday of every month. In Ashland, meet at the Plaza downtown 12:00-12:30, every Friday. In Grants Pass meet beside the Post Office through the winter, 1st & 3rd Mondays, 11-11:30 a.m., and after till noon at the Community Room behind The Creative Alternative (229A G St, under the Art Museum). Peace House has **Women In Black T-shirts \$10**. Original design by Darnell Designs. For sale at Peace House, corner of Mountain and Ashland Streets above the SOU campus.

Quick, Write a Letter Now! Vote Yes On Measure 30!

A recent poll indicated that the February 3rd election will see the opponents to the budget passed by the legislature defeating those supporting it. What to do?

Consider writing a letter to the editor, and send it in now. Our two local newspapers will stop printing election letters around the time we receive our ballots. Election letters must be only 150 words and while they can be emailed, they cannot be "e-vents". Email addresses: letters@mailtribune.com and tiding-sopinion@dailytidings.com.

What to say? Consider discussing the community asset that is most important to you, e.g. SOU, k-12 schools, transportation, city government, OSF, etc. The point being that often the things we value most are community-sponsored, not the work of one individual, and that many of us are willing to pay our fair share for those community efforts. Ask the reader what he or she might buy that would add the kind of value to our lives that these community efforts add. If you read a letter that particularly expresses your

viewpoint, take advantage of the opportunity to write a letter supporting that view. If you know someone who has written a letter you respect, call that person and thank them. A little appreciation encourages each of us to write again. Sometimes a columnist includes a phrase that pinpoints our thoughts; include that quote in your letter and thank the newspaper for printing that column. Include how it applies to us here in Oregon.

Here is a start:

Dear Editor, I ask voters to vote yes on Referendum 30 on February 3rd. Small town and rural Oregonians need the stability that Measure 30 provides for our schools, seniors, and businesses. Endless cuts to needed services not only hurt our most vulnerable citizens; they also hurt our local economies due to the loss of public sector family wage jobs. We need a fair, progressive tax structure, where those who earn less pay less. Please join me in voting Yes for Ref 30 on February 3rd.

Ruth Walsh, League of Women Voters

Dance Dance Dance Dance Dance Dance Dance Dance Dance

COME CELEBRATE!

SpiritDance

Community Dance Jam!

Dance for Peace!

w/Ken Becker
aka DJKennyB!

Dance Move & Play!

Come Dance to the finest blend of World Fusion Dance Music! Including: World Beat, Funk, Soul, R & B, Devotional, Hip-Hop, Acid Jazz, Reggae, Rap, Contemplative, Rock, Ambient & More!

When: **1st & 3rd Saturday Nights: 8:00pm 'til 11:00pm**
Where: The Dance Space, 280 East Hersey, #B-10, Ashland
Wear: Comfy Clothes - No Street Shoes on Dance Floor.
Cost: \$5.00 per person. Please No Perfume/Scents!
P's: Call Ken at 301.5006 or Katie 535-3227

email: spiritdance@safeworld.com

Dance Dance Dance Dance Dance Dance Dance Dance Dance

Genetically Modified
Continued from page 1

nothing new in western Canada - but what is new is that the volunteer plants bear proprietary genes and are tolerant to one or more common herbicides.

You can also bring RR canola into your land inadvertently, as an unavoidable contaminant in your sown crop. Cross contamination of seed crops with GM seed is now so pervasive that seed companies will no longer guarantee “100% GM-free” even in the seed they sell to farmers, for any field crop that has been subject to genetic modification.

The impossibility of reproductive isolation - both on-farm and post harvest - is nowhere better illustrated than the recent occurrence of contamination within Monsanto’s own RR ‘Quest’ canola. Seed with an unapproved RR gene was found to contaminate bags carrying seed with the approved RR gene, obliging the urgent recall of thousands of bags of seed, some of which was already on-farm and being sown. This is just the latest example of cross contamination within the seed trade itself, of which StarLink contamination in the corn sown in 2001 is perhaps the best known example.

How then can farmers be held accountable for something which the seed trade itself cannot do?

Well, they can’t, and even Monsanto knows it. So, Monsanto’s position - which the judge inexplicably accepted - is that all the farmer has to do is call them up and they’ll come out and deal with it. No matter how the proprietary genes got there, the judge held that the farmer is accountable for it, and they are obliged to inform Monsanto about it - or risk the fate of Schmeiser.

Between a Rock and a Hard Place

Now, this is an interesting conundrum. Put yourself in the position of a farmer. To appreciate the gravity of the choice on-offer, you need to appreciate how Monsanto’s hired investigators operate. They come to the door, advise you that you’re suspected of brown-bagging, and offer you a letter stipulating what you must pay to avoid being formally prosecuted. Should you choose to pay the fee, you are also obliged to sign a letter which states that by signing, you agree to remain silent and tell no one about what has happened, or face further prosecution.

Let’s say you know that you have one or more of Roundup Ready, Liberty Link, Navigator/Compas or SMART canola (tolerant to the herbicides glyphosate, glufosinate ammonium, bromoxynil, or some ALS inhibitors, respectively) on your land. You know this because, like Schmeiser, the plants didn’t die when you used the corresponding herbicide. So - what do you do?

Do you call up the company (Monsanto, Aventis, Aventis, and/or Pioneer, respectively), inform them that you have infringed upon their respective patent(s), and ask them to come out for a visit - then hope they arrive with a sprayer and not a subpoena? If the latter, no one will ever know, will they? Or do you wait for a neighbor to report you for suspected brownbagging, using the anonymous hotline set up by Monsanto for

that purpose?

If the respective compan(ies) come out and actually do spray out the offending plants, do you call them back again a few weeks later, when late germinating canola has emerged in your wheat or pea crop? How is it that they are going to eradicate these late germinating, potentially seed bearing HT plants in your established crop? Will they compensate you for damage done to your crop in the process, or from spray drift (a particular problem with the herbicide of choice, 2,4-D) to your adjoining crops - or your neighbor’s?

What if it was canola you were intending to plant in the contaminated field? You know that you will not be able to distinguish volunteer HT canola from whatever canola you’ve planted. You know that volunteer HT canola will set seed and shatter, just like your sown canola, re-contaminating the land with patent-infringing seed. By definition, if you grow canola on land known to have HT canola in the seed bank, your problems will necessarily amplify over time. Where you had one HT plant this year, you could have dozens next year. So - do you abstain from growing canola entirely? For how long, given that fresh contamination can occur annually?

Or do you take responsibility yourself for eliminating the proprietary plants? Do you adjust your crop rotation, your herbicide expenditures - and your bottom line - to cope with contamination that you did not want and could not stop, and that will reoccur annually so long as neighbors choose to grow HT canola?

Like the StarLink debacle which continues to haunt US corn growers, marketers, consumers, government officials, and the seed trade itself, the guilty verdict in the case of Percy Schmeiser illustrates some of the shortcomings of applying GM technology to field crop agriculture. Far from making food cheaper, GM technology will necessarily make food more expensive - and particularly - but not solely - for those who have chosen not to grow GM crops. Why should non-GM growers have to absorb costs of coping with gene flow that is unwanted, involuntary, and unavoidable - or face prosecution?

Why should those who have managed their crop specifically for the high-premium GM-free market be forced to lose the premium because of contamination from neighboring land? Why should any farmer be forced to accept GM contamination in the seed they sow on their own land? Why should taxpayers be obliged to support the infrastructure needed to monitor, regulate, and negotiate to keep GM crops in the marketplace, and the virtually endless costs of recalling contaminated seed and food products from the market? Why should consumers have to pay more for food that is worth no more (and arguably, less to them) because the costs of dealing with unwanted GM must, necessarily, be passed on to the consumer? Since when do importing countries have to buy GM grains, just because we want to grow them? What happens when the traits that move are not

HT, but vaccines, pharmaceuticals, plastics, and industrial enzymes? When is the Canadian government going to stop promoting a technology which has been released prematurely into the marketplace, and which externalizes its true costs of production to its own citizens?

E. Ann Clark, Ph.D.

E. Ann Clark is a professor of plant agriculture at the University of Guelph in Ontario, Canada. You can reach her at eaclark@uoguelph.ca Visit <http://www.cropchoice.com> for more information.



A Woman in Black - Photo by Ronen Geffen

Women In Black
Continued from page 1

Maridale Moore writes: The highlight of the week for me is Friday at noon on the Plaza. Standing with Women in Black is so special. I have been doing it since March. We had over 200 women before the war actually started. The number varies, but there are many women who come whenever they can. We are part of a worldwide plea for peace. To see how the movement started and how wide spread it is, go to <http://www.womeninblack.net/>

Often people from out of town ask if they can join us. Many people thank us as they pass by. One week a little girl about four years old came and stood with us. She had a black cloth pinned around her shoulders and her Dad said she’d wanted to do it for a long time. The last few weeks have been cold and rainy or snowy. One nice man asked if he could get us coffee or something. When we thanked him and said no, he and two friends stood behind us, with Bert, who stands behind us every week. Please, when you have time, join us. You’ll be glad you did.

Apologies to anyone who went to the Plaza in Ashland on a Wednesday expecting to find Women In Black gathered. We printed the wrong day in our last issue. It is Friday in Ashland. - Editor

Help the Hungry
Tuesdays

Uncle Food’s Diner provides free meals for the hungry with food donated by Ashland Food Coop, S.O.U., and P.C. Market of Choice. Come as a volunteer and help with food prep from 3 to 5pm, or with serving and cleanup from 4:30 to 5:30 pm. Come to help and eat a good dinner, too! It’s fun and fulfilling.

Uncle Food’s Diner has been serving at Trinity Church, but due to their remodeling, the location has changed for approximately two months. Call Sue Ward for more information 482-2653.

Wednesdays

Caring Friends serves every Wednesday from 5 to 6:30pm at Pioneer Hall on Winburn Way. Volunteers are encouraged to show up around 4:30 to help prep and serve.

Thursdays

In Talent, Beeson’s Open House serves from 5:30 to 7pm on Thursdays at the Talent United Methodist Church, 206 W. Wagner. They welcome volunteer help. Call Ginger Rilling to sign up, 535-8531

Help a Soldier with
“Hero Miles”

Some soldiers will almost make it home on leave. Each day more than 470 soldiers arrive home on short notice for two-week R&R stints — but the military only takes them part of the way. Servicemen and -women are flown to Germany or one of three airports in the United States — from there they are on their own to get home.

You can donate your airline frequent flyer miles to Operation Hero Miles to bring them all the way home. Twelve major airlines will accept donations as part of this program, started by Congressman Dutch Ruppersberger, Democrat of Maryland

Because the last-minute notice the troops receive, they are forced to pay very expensive fares to finish their journey. Your miles can bring an American soldier on leave home to his or her family for a visit.

Visit <http://www.heromiles.org> for details.

Yes!

I Support the Work of Peace House.

Here is my: ☐ Contribution ☐ Pledge for:
☐ \$35 ☐ \$50 ☐ \$75 ☐ \$100 ☐ \$250 ☐ \$500

☐ Check Enclosed \$ _____ Mail to P.O. Box 524, Ashland, OR 97520

☐ I will pay my \$ _____ pledge by ____/____/____

☐ Bill my credit card: ☐ One-Time Payment ☐ Monthly

Credit Card # _____ Exp. Date _____

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____

Email _____ Signature _____