

The Vision of the Mayors for Peace

In August 1945, atomic bombs instantaneously reduced the cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki to rubble, taking hundreds of thousands of precious lives. Today, more than fifty years after the war, thousands of citizens still suffer the devastating after effects of radiation and unfathomable emotional pain. To prevent any repetition of the A-bomb tragedy, the cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki have continually sought to tell the world about the inhumane cruelty of nuclear weapons and have consistently urged that nuclear weapons be abolished.

On June 24, 1982, at the Second UN Special Session on Disarmament held at UN Headquarters in New York, then Mayor Takeshi Araki of Hiroshima proposed a new Program to Promote the Solidarity of Cities toward the Total Abolition of Nuclear Weapons. This proposal offered cities a way to transcend national borders and work together to press for nuclear abolition. Subsequently, the mayors of Hiroshima and Nagasaki called on mayors around the world to support this program.

The Mayors for Peace is composed of cities around the world that have formally expressed support for the program Mayor Araki announced in 1982. As of August 25, 2004, membership stood at 619 cities in 109 countries and regions. In March 1990, the Mayors Conference was officially registered as a UN NGO related to the Department of Public Information. In May 1991, it became a Category II NGO (currently called an NGO in "Special Consultative Status") registered with the Economic and Social Council.

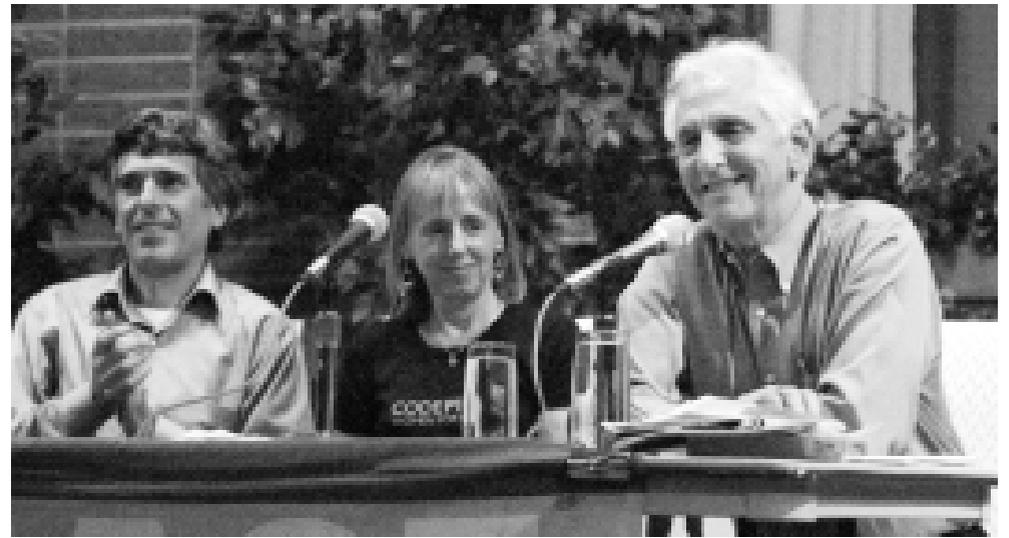
The city of Ashland is a member of the Mayors for Peace and Peace House would like our southern Oregon communities to be aware of the abolition campaign launched by the Mayors for Peace in November 2003. The Mayors' international emergency campaign is focusing on the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT), also known as the 2020 Vision campaign, seeks the elimination of nuclear weapons by the year 2020. To date the Mayors for Peace campaign has received an endorsement from the European Parliament,

See *Mayors*, page 8

Talking Peace

On Friday, September 24, over 300 people attended the Unitarian Center in Ashland to hear Norman Solomon, Medea Benjamin and Daniel Ellsberg speak about the upcoming election.

The responsive crowd was treated to comedy and original protest songs prior to the introduction of the speakers. Speaking first, Norman Solomon encouraged us to "Do everything we can to fulfill our optimism." He told a story of the wild geese and their support of each other in their V formation flight pattern and how this story prompted an image in his mind of geese changing to planes that would fly in V formation over Iraq. He stated how this image epitomized how every day we endeavor to embrace life, to honor life, yet at the same time we know there are murderers who run our government; and we live with that contradiction.



Photos by Helga Motley

We have to figure out the best way to move things forward and to prevent the further disintegration of what's left of our democracy. In the next four years, one to three Supreme Court Justices will retire. Mr. Solomon warned that if there is a GOP victory, he believes we will see a renewed and massive assault on civil liberties. Commenting on the news media, he said that

See *Talking Peace*, page 3

The Bank Threat and What You Can Do About It

The attack on credit unions is real. All three major banking associations have come together to impose taxes on credit unions and, essentially, to put credit union's out of business. Their actions toward this goal include advertising in journals on Capital Hill and meeting with the President, his people, the National Credit Union Administration (NCUA) and the Treasury.

What They Say:

The American Bankers Association says that the federal income tax exemption gives credit unions an unfair and unwarranted privilege that puts banks at a competitive disadvantage. If that were true, why are banks reporting record growth and profits? At year-end 2003 banking institutions held more than 14 times more assets than did credit unions (\$9.077 trillion vs. \$629 billion). The nation's largest bank, J.P. Morgan Chase, is as large as the entire credit union industry.

What We Say:

The reasons why Congress exempted credit unions from paying federal income tax are as viable today as they were in 1934, when Congress passed the Federal Credit Union

Act. Congress exempted credit unions from paying income taxes because of their structure and purpose. The basic reason that banks, like any for-profit corporation, are taxed on their income is because they have the option and ability to retain income at the corporate level. Cooperatives like credit unions typically do not pay income tax because they must pay all their income to their members. After transferring a portion of their income to reserves and loss accounts, credit unions must return all surplus earnings to the members as dividends, lower loan rates and higher savings returns. Because credit unions cannot retain income at the corporate level, but instead pay distributions to members who are taxed, providing an exemption of corporate income tax on credit unions made sense 70 years ago and continues to make sense today.

It is important to remember that credit unions do pay taxes. Our federal tax exemption covers only corporate income tax. Credit unions pay all personal and real property taxes, employment taxes and sales taxes where applicable. Our corporate profits are paid back to the members, as owners of the credit union, in the form of dividends based on their share holdings or deposits.

It's no secret that the goal of the bankers is to rid themselves of the competition from credit unions. Within the scope of the entire financial services market, credit unions hold only a 3% to 4% share, but reign supreme on rate offerings. Nationwide averages show we are 1% lower on loan rates and 1% less on fees. Imagine how costly other lenders would make credit card or auto loans if they didn't have to compete with credit union rates. If the banking industry can eliminate credit unions, they will have the freedom to charge whatever they choose. This will give consumers absolutely no choices. It would be a victory for the bankers, but it would be a major and costly defeat for the American consumer. This is a very critical issue.

Where We Stand:

This is the 70th anniversary of the credit union industry, which has grown to 85 million members nationwide. Rogue Federal is 40,000 members strong; and if each member is heard, we will be doing our part to insure a strong advocacy for credit unions. How? One of the most effective ways to turn back the banker's threats is to work with our elected officials.

See *Bank Threat*, page 6

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From the Staff of Peace House Vote No on Constitutional Amendment 36

Among the many important choices facing voters on November 2, Oregonians will decide on an issue of vital importance to all who care about social justice. Measure 36 would amend the Oregon Constitution to ban same-sex marriage, but in reality it would do much more than that.

Our Constitution is designed to protect people, not hurt them. Constitutional Amendment 36 hurts real Oregonians by putting unequal treatment for gays and lesbians in our Constitution. It would deny many families health care, inheritance rights and the ability to make life-saving medical decisions.

The opponents of same-sex marriage want Oregon voters to think that Constitutional Amendment 36 is simple. It's not. Measure 36 will hurt real people in real ways and it will undermine some of the most basic protections for everyone in the Oregon Bill of Rights.

Because Measure 36 is a constitutional amendment, rather than a statute, it is intended to override the Oregon Bill of Rights protection that guarantees all Oregonians equal treatment under the law.

Peace House has been on the forefront of

the struggle for peace and social justice for over 20 years. Paramount in this ongoing struggle is our work to defend all people's basic human rights.

It is imperative that all people of conscience join together to defeat Measure 36. Please join the broad coalition of community, religious and business leaders, equal rights advocates, labor unions, legal rights groups, non-profit organizations and individuals who will vote NO on Amendment 36.

Thoreau wrote (and Daniel Ellsberg recently recalled), in his essay *On the Duty of Civil Disobedience* in 1848: "Cast your whole vote, not a strip of paper merely, but your whole influence. A minority is powerless when it conforms to the majority; it is not even a minority then; but it is irresistible when it clogs by its whole weight." Use your whole vote and speak out boldly, put a lawn sign in your yard, flood newspapers with letters, and above all stand up as people of peace against a hurtful, discriminatory measure that has no place in our community.

For more information on the campaign, log on to www.noon36.com or call the Southern Oregon field office at 541-482-1660.

What a Good Coalition Can Do

As I described in a previous issue, our April disability rally/sit-in was quite successful. This was largely due to the fact that we were a coalition of nine groups, involved with different aspects of social justice. One of the more active groups was Peace House, with a team of activists led by Linda Richards. This time I describe a couple of long-range benefits we are still enjoying today, half a year since that one morning in April.

At the rally, we presented to Disability Services and DHS a list of demands on behalf of the disabled. To our utter surprise, this was received very favorably by senior DHS officials, who openly stated that they would rather see the disabled protesting effectively rather than playing dead. This resulted in a full day visit, late July, by James Toews, DHS Assistant Director, also in charge of the programs for seniors and people with disability. He had read our document in detail, and promised to get back to us and discuss issues concerning our very livelihood and survival.

The second result is more subtle. DUDE claims to be a voice for the voiceless, power for the powerless. Here is one example showing

what that means. One of our rally speakers had previously been approached by a reporter who wanted to publicize her story. This speaker was reluctant to reveal her name, and the story could not be written. When she heard about the rally, her decision to speak led to a transformation in her attitude. We have prepared a short video focusing on her plight. This time she insisted on having her name revealed. This is one of DUDE's best achievements since inception. See the video at rogueimc.org/en/2004/07/2896.shtml.

We are currently involved with other projects, including the election races. Results will be reported elsewhere. In the meantime, we are grateful to all our coalition partners for helping us in our struggle.

We are a pro-active support group providing a voice to the disabled, and raising public awareness of the plight of the disabled. If you share our goals, or have a talent or a skill to offer, please contact us at (541) 488-5639 or at <mailto:dude@cybernetisp.net>.

Nathan Jacobi, DUDE President



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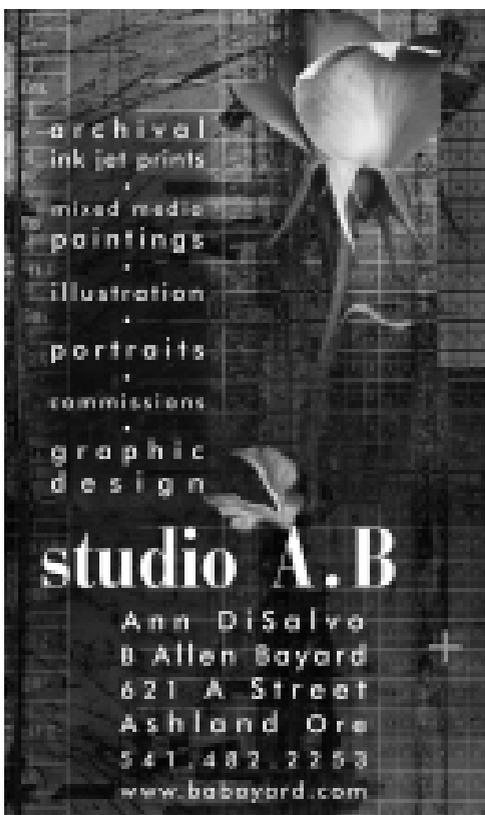
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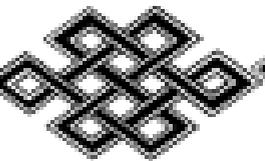
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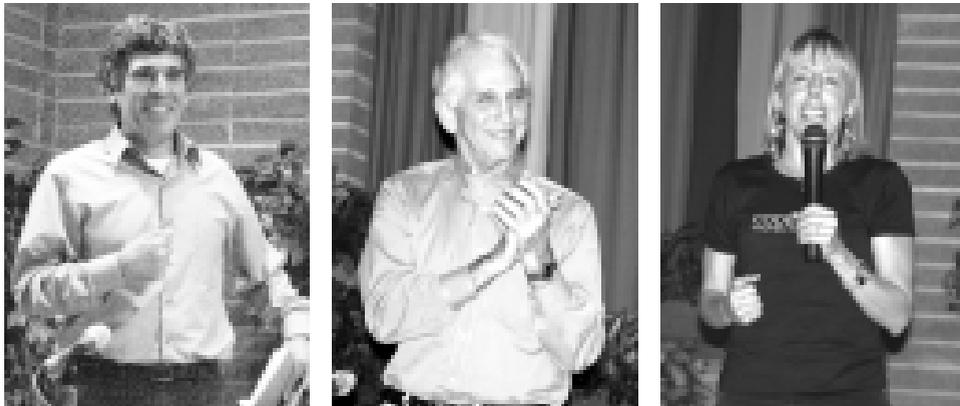
it is engaged in a “fogging” operation, constantly bombarding us with secondary issues. It has been said that the news media can’t tell us what to think, but they can tell us what to think about. It is his hope that people will make the pragmatic choice to oust Bush, not as an end, but as the beginning of a movement to create change.

Daniel Ellsberg discussed his concerns about Iraq and the preparation for the elections in Iraq through an attack on its cities and civilians. He speculated that the Shia majority of Iraq will rise up in resistance if the US attacks Iraqi civilians, which may be as soon as the day after our elections. Mr. Ellsberg summarized his thoughts: 1) the Iraqis are never going to be pacified. 2) The USA is an unstabilizing influence. 3) Kerry is promising to keep us there for four years. 4) Americans will be killing and dying in Iraq for a long time. We are going to have to be in an anti-war movement for a long time. He added, “Another reason why it is such a desperate time is that domestic implications here are like nothing I’ve ever seen in my life.” He spoke of the draft being possible, even under Kerry, unless we get him to change the policy. He defined the situation as a commentary on our country, our institutions and the cowardice we’ve seen so far by congress and the courts, and the passivity of the Democrats. He

quoted Thoreau discussing the duty for civil disobedience, “Cast your whole vote, not a strip of paper merely, but your whole influence.”

Medea Benjamin was introduced with the notoriety of being kicked out of both the Democratic and Republican 2004 conventions. She talked of how the peace activists were told, even by the Democratic Party, not to attend the GOP convention. Yet, there were 500,000 people demonstrating in NY. Code Pink was able to get into the GOP convention and perform a protest action each night. She discussed the courageous activism of families of service men and women and the founding of the organization ‘Military Families Speak Out’, and told the story of how a 23-year-old woman soldier came home and founded ‘Iraq Veterans Against the War.’ Nov. 2 is a milestone in the struggle against empire and the world is watching and waiting. Ms. Benjamin is optimistic as she travels around the country, yet also reminds us that this government is capable of stealing an election. What if it is a replay of the 2000 election? She said, “We say this time we will not let it be determined in the courts.” There is a “No Stolen Election Campaign” for Nov. 3. If we need to, “We stay out in the streets this time until we get some justice.”

S.C. Porcaro



(Photos L to R) Norman Solomon, Daniel Ellsberg and Medea Benjamin.



(L to R) Stuart O'Neill, Daniel Ellsberg, Medea Benjamin, Norman Solomon, Grady Boyd, Linda Richards, musicians David Rovics and Dave Lippman. Photos by Helga Motley.

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This summer was busy for activists in our region — from protesting logging to commemorating Hiroshima and Nagasaki to disrupting V.P. Cheney's speech, lots of people have been out there promoting non-violence!

See www.rogueimc.org to find out the latest news made for and by activists for change.

10,000 Strong “Bridge The Gap”

Bridging the Gap: 10,000 Make Historic Walk Across Golden Gate Bridge to Call for National Solution to Health Care Crisis

In one of the largest public demonstrations ever held on the Golden Gate Bridge, nearly 10,000 SEIU members and allies on June 19 turned the world-famous structure into a virtual stream of SEIU purple as they made a dramatic walk across the bridge calling for quality, affordable health care for all.

The “Bridge the Gap for Health Care” walk was the anchor event in SEIU-sponsored marches, rallies, and events in more than 150 cities in every state. As in San Francisco, “Bridge the Gap” participants in city after city said the goal was to send a message to elected officials that every man, woman, and child should have access to decent, affordable health care. Quality health care that once seemed reliable is quickly being priced out of reach for millions of hardworking, taxpaying Americans.

“With skyrocketing premiums and rising prescription drug costs, more and more work-

ing families simply cannot afford the health care they need,” said Andrew L. Stern, president of the Service Employees International Union (SEIU), the nation’s largest union of health care workers. “This is a day for Americans to send a loud and clear message to our elected leaders: In the wealthiest country in the world, every man, woman and child should have access to quality, affordable health care.”

According to a recent Families USA study, 82 million Americans were uninsured at some point since 2002. Under President Bush, 4 million more Americans lost their coverage, average health care costs have risen nearly 50 percent, and premiums have gone up more than three times faster than average wages. Nearly 44 million Americans—8.5 million of whom are children—have no health care. Five Americans lose their health care coverage every minute. Eight out of 10 of the 44 million without health care come from working families.

www.BridgingTheGapForHealthCare.org

Indigenous People's Day October 12

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Labor Day 2004

"The unions have been the only bulwark for the American family for the last 25 or 30 years in this country. It's all we've got, we've got to keep building you," said Democratic Senate candidate Dr. Alan Bates to nearly three hundred workers and their families at the Labor Day picnic in Hawthorne park.

The picnic was a smashing success and the first in what the Southern Oregon Central Labor Council hopes will become a favorite local tradition.

Democratic candidates Sue Densmore, Peter Buckley, and Tom Doty addressed the gathering, as did representatives of the Oregon AFL-CIO and Veterans for Kerry. Dave and Tammy Marston sang labor songs during the free lunch and the afternoon heated up with a searing performance by local favorites Broadway Phil and the Shouters.

The chow line stretched the entire width of the Medford city pool area but the caterers kept the chicken, hot dogs, hamburgers, potato salad, and baked beans coming even though the turnout far exceeded expectations and no one was turned away.

Labor unions represented there included the Electricians, AFSCME, Carpenters, Teachers, Farmworkers, Nurses, Home Care Workers, Laborers, and Service Employees, for example. Veterans for Kerry speaker Dan Duggan pointed out the number of American veterans involved with organized labor and the parallel goals the two groups share.

"Working together, American soldiers kept each other safe. Working together, organized workers have kept each other strong." Duggan served in Viet Nam in 1969, the same year as John Kerry, and described how both organized labor and American veterans have to fight for many of the same basic rights. "Thank you, George W. Bush for gutting the Veterans Administration while we are at war."

Oregon House candidate Peter Buckley agreed. "We have lived under the worst administration for labor in our lifetimes and it's got to end." Buckley described how the Labor Department circumvented Congress and the Courts to subsidize outsourcing and provide overtime "reform" for big business, violating the late Senator Paul Wellstone's admonition that politics is about making people's lives better. "We are engaged in that process now," continued Buckley, "and if we are not making people's lives better, we should get out of the business."

Thanks to Arden Prehn at the Southern Oregon Central Labor Council, Kurt Kessler, Assistant District Director with SEIU 503, OPEU, and all the other organizers and volunteers who helped. All of us workers and family members who attended look forward to another successful Labor Day picnic next year.

Come out in 2005 and help us recognize and celebrate the struggle of the American worker on the 119th Labor Day.

Steve D. Ryan
NWU Oregon Local

Farm Worker Day in Hawthorn Park



the farm workers and their families, to hear their music, to dance and sing and to be together to celebrate their harvest and hard back-breaking labor. This accomplishment is their personal and collective victory — a victory over the blistering heat of the working day, the loneliness, the difficult living conditions they face each year, and of course, the low pay and lack of security or benefits that leaves their families, even after long days of toil, still in poverty.

For six years, UNETE, "Farmworker Advocacy and Support Organization and Union" has sponsored Farmworker Day on August 29th, at the peak of the pear and peach harvest. This year, over 1,300 people participated at Hawthorne Park in Medford. Twenty agencies that serve the Latino community in such fields as health care, legal aid, housing, and immigration counseling offered on-the-spot information and services. A Peace House booth was staffed by bilingual volunteer Regina Castellon providing counter-military education and Spanish opt-out forms for high school youth. Citizens for Peace and Justice also gave away stickers and information about the Medford peace group.

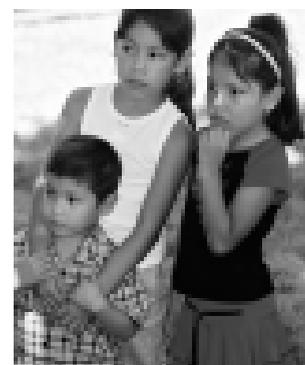
Each year the Mexican Soccer League brings sixteen teams to compete for the honor of winning one of the impressive 3-foot high gold trophies.

It is a day of celebration, a day when we bring together the larger community with their brothers and sisters who work in the fields and orchards, harvesting the bounty that flows to our tables. It is a joyous day for

Though it is, each year, a wonderful day, it is also a time for others of us to pay tribute and honor to those among us who still struggle for dignity, for the right to education for themselves and their children, to decent housing and health care and for the right to organize.

It must be one of the most important issues the people of our valley should discuss and act upon. We must remember, we must realize when looking to find work in service to social and economic justice, that these brothers and sisters are our people. They live among us, they share our valley. The injustice they suffer is at our doorstep. We need not look to far-off lands or distant cities to find our challenge; it is here in the beauty of the children's faces, in the tired but hopeful eyes of the workers. Let us join their struggle and make their dream of justice come true! Please call UNETE at 245-1625 or visit their office at 33 North Central, room 419 in Medford.

Cynthia Zavatski
UNETE



Photos by Jim Freeberg

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THE WALL WITHIN *by Steve Mason*

MOST REAL MEN, HANGING TOUGH IN THEIR EARLY 40'S WOULD LIKE THE REST OF US TO THINK THEY COULD REALLY HANDLE ONE MORE WAR, AND TWO MORE WOMEN, BUT I KNOW BETTER, YOU HAVE NO MORE LIES TO TELL, AND I HAVE NO MORE DREAMS TO BELIEVE, I'VE SEEN IT IN YOUR FACE, I'M SURE YOU'VE NOTICED IT IN MINE, THAT THOUSAND YARD STARE THAT DOES NOT LOOK OUT, IT LOOKS IN AT THE UNSPEAKABLE, UNCHANGEABLE TRUTH OF OUR WAR, THE EYES SEE WHAT THE MIND BELIEVES, AND ALL THAT I KNOW OF WAR, ALL THAT I HAVE HEARD OF PEACE, HAS ME LOOKING OVER MY SHOULDER FOR THAT ONE BULLET THAT STILL HAS MY NAME ON IT, CIRCLING ROUND AND ROUND THE GLOBE, WAITING AND CIRCLING, CIRCLING AND WAITING, TILL I BREAK FROM COVER, AND IT TAKES ITS BEST LAST SHOT, IN THE ABSENCE OF TIME, THE ACCURACY OF GUILT IS ASSURED.

SINCE VIETNAM I HAVE RUN A ZIG-ZAG COURSE ACROSS AMERICA, ON THE GRASSY URBAN KNOLLS OF AMERICA I HAVE SEEN AN ARMY OF COMBAT VETERANS, HIDDEN AMONGST THE TREES, VETERANS OF ALL OUR RECENT WARS, EACH A PART OF THE BEST OF HIS GENERATION, WAITING IN HIS MIND FOR PEACE, I HAVE SEEN THEM IN THE QUIET DIGNITY OF THEIR ALONENESS, ALWAYS AT THE EDGES OF THE CLEARING, PATROLLING AS PERIMETER GUARDS, EACH IN HIS OWN WAY LOOKS OUT TO THE PARK, THAT HE MIGHT SEE IN TO THE TRUTH. I REMEMBER YOU AND ME PICNICKING IN THE RAIN ON THE HO CHI MINH TRAIL, EATING THE LIMAS AND THE BEANS FROM THE CAN, DRIVING HARD BARGAINS WITH EACH OTHER FOR THE C-RATION GOODIES WE OPENED LIKE X-MAS PRESENTS. AND WE WOULD HAPPILY WASH IT ALL DOWN WITH STRAWBERRY KOOL-AID. STRAIGHT FROM THE CAN-TEEN, ANYTHING TO KEEP FROM CHOKING ON THE TASTE OF PURIFIED WATER. BUT NOW I FEEL ALL THE WHILE, I'LL NEVER BE ABLE TO FORGIVE MYSELF FOR ENJOYING YOUR COMPANY SO MUCH... OR BEING SO GOOD AT THE GAME WE PLAYED, WE WERE THE BEST YOU AND I.

SOMETIMES WHEN I'M ANGRY IT SEEMS LIKE ALL THIS COUNTRY HAS TO OFFER ARE THE SAME 20 WORDS THEY HAND OUT TO OUR HEROES, WORDS LIKE PEACE, SACRIFICE, WAR, YOUNG, SUPREME, DUTY, SERVICE, HONOR, COUNTRY, NATION, MEN, AND MEN AND MEN AGAIN, SOMETIMES GOD, AND DON'T FORGET WOMEN, ARMY, AIR FORCE, NAVY, MARINE, AND FREEDOM.

THEN THE ANGER PASSES, AND REVERENCE TAKES ITS PLACE, THOSE ARE GOOD WORDS... NOBLE, AND SINCERE. IT SEEMS THERE IS NO ALTERNATIVE TO LIFE, BUT THERE MAY BE TO WAR.... STRANGE I HAVE OBSERVED THERE IS NO MONUMENT TO THE SURVIVORS, NO STATUE OF THOSE WHO LIVED TO FIGHT AGAIN, OR PERHAPS TO SPEAK OF PEACE, NO WHERE YET A WALL FOR THE LIVING. ITS NO WONDER GUILT IS THE SOLE SURVIVOR OF WAR, WE DON'T CELEBRATE LIFE AFTER COMBAT. OUR CONCEPT OF GLORY LIVES NEITHER IN VICTORY OR IN PEACE, BUT IN DEATH.

I STAND HERE LOOKING UP AT THE NIGHT SKY WONDERING HOW MUCH BETTER THIS WORLD MUST LOOK FROM UP THERE. FROM THE MOON ONLY ONE MAN MADE OBJECT IS VISIBLE TO THE NAKED EYE, THE GREAT WALL OF CHINA. A TRIBUTE TO MAN'S PARANOIA, IT'S STRANGE, BECAUSE WE'RE A LOT CLOSER, AND THE ONLY MAN - MADE OBJECT WE CAN SEE IS "THE WALL" IN WASHINGTON D.C.

THE VETERANS PLEDGE TO REMEMBER. THERE IS ONE OTHER WALL OF COURSE... ONE WE NEVER SPEAK OF, ONE WE NEVER SEE, ONE THAT SEPARATES MEMORY FROM MADNESS, IN A PLACE NO ONE OFFERS FLOWERS, IT'S THE WALL WITHIN.. WE PERMIT NO VISITORS.....

MINE LOOKS LIKE ANY OTHER BRICK WALL, IT STANDS IN THE GHETTO OF MY SOUL, THAT PART OF ME THAT REASON AVOIDS FOR FEAR OF DIRTYING IT'S CLOTHES, AND WHICH MY SORRY AND MY RAGE HURL BOTTLES AT MY PASSING YOUTH. YOU KNOW THE WALL I MEAN?

THE WALL IN D.C. HAUNTS ME, I REALIZE I HAVE GOT MY FIRST GLIMPSE OF THE WALL WITHIN, THE TEARS ARE REAL, WE DON'T SHOW THE WALL WITHIN TO THE PUBLIC, NO ONE WITH OUR SAVVY WOULD EXPOSE THEMSELVES LIKE THAT. SUICIDE LOITERS IN OUR SUBCONSCIOUS, AND BEARS A GRUDGE. WE MUST BE WARY.. ON THE WALL WITHIN ARE ALL THE OTHER CASUALTIES OF THE VIETNAM WAR, OUR LOVED ONE, THE ONES THE GOVERNMENT DIDN'T PUT IN UNIFORM BUT DIED ANYWAY, SOME BECAUSE THEY STOPPED BEING WHO THEY ALWAYS WERE, OTHERS BECAUSE THEY DID DIE... TRUE CASUALTIES OF THE VIETNAM WAR.

MY GRANDMA TURNED ON THE 6 O'CLOCK NEWS ONE NIGHT... AND DIED OF A HEART ATTACK. HER NAME IS ON THE WALL WITHIN.. YOU STARTING TO GET THE IDEA? OUR LIST MAY BE DIFFERENT, THE WALL WITHIN ADDS UP THE TRUE COST OF WAR. WE CAN RECITE 58,012 NAMES IN OUR SLEEP. EVEN THE DAY AFTER THEY UPDATE IT, BUT HOW MANY OF THOSE KIA'S HAD KIDS? WHOSE WALL DO THEY GO ON? AND WHAT ABOUT US VETS THAT CAME HOME TO OUR WIVES AND KIDS ONLY TO DIVORCE HER, BECAUSE THERE WASN'T ANYONE ELSE TO BE ANGRY AT? AND HOW MANY DIMES HAVE YOU LONG DISTANT FATHERS DROPPED INTO THE SLOT, JUST TO HEAR HOW ANOTHER MAN WAS RAISING YOUR KID?

YEA, I HEAR YA HOLLERING. PUT IT ON THE WALL. DAMN RIGHT IT'S ON THE WALL!.

YOU REMEMBER, YOU TOLD A THREE-YEAR-OLD DADDY LOVED HIM, AND MOMMY LOVED HIM, AND NOTHING WOULD EVER CHANGE? BUT IT DID ANYWAY. NOT BECAUSE YOU DIDN'T LOVE HIM... BUT BECAUSE YOU LOVED HIM TOO MUCH TO BE A PART-TIME DADDY, YOU COULDN'T EXPLAIN IT TO HIM, BECAUSE YOU SURE CANT EXPLAIN IT TO YOU.

WHAT THE HELL... YOU CAME HOME A 22 YEAR OLD MACHINE-GUNNER, WHAT YOU SUPPOSED TO DO? YOU DID THE BEST YOU COULD DO, PUT IT ON THE WALL..

WANT TO HEAR THE DEDICATION TO MY WALL WITHIN? IT READS.. THIS WALL IS DEDICATED TO MOTHERS, FATHERS, SISTERS, BROTHERS, WIVES, HUSBANDS, SONS, DAUGHTERS, LOVERS, FRIENDS, AND MOST OF ALL DREAMS OF THE MEN AND WOMEN WHO RISKED IT ALL IN VIETNAM, WHILE YOU CONTINUED TO LOSE THEM, DURING AND AFTER THE WAR. WITH LESS OF A CHANCE FOR A PARADE, AND NO CHANCE AT ALL FOR AN EXPLANATION...

YOU LOST THEM TO BULLETS, INTERNMENT, DRUGS, SUICIDE, ALCOHOL, JAIL, POST TRAUMATIC STRESS, AND DIVORCE. BUT NEVER EVER DID ANY OF YOU LOSE THEM TO THE TRUTH, WHICH IS NOW BEING SHARED ACROSS THIS GREAT NATION IN SUCH A COURAGE.. IT'S LIKE HAS NEVER BEEN SEEN ON A BATTLEFIELD...

AMEN TO THAT BROTHER!

Steve Mason read his poetry during a fund raising event to benefit the National Gulf War Resource Center, held at Oregon Stage Works Theater, Sept 20 in Ashland. To learn more go to www.ngwrc.org. This poem was read at the dedication of "The Wall" on Veterans Day on 1984..... It was entered into the Congressional Record.

"We forget what war is about, what it does to those who wage it and those who suffer from it. Those who hate war the most, I have often found, are veterans who know it."
- Chris Hedges, New York Times reporter and author of "War Is a Force That Gives Us Meaning"

Check out www.militaryproject.org

Bank Threat from page 1

Here's What You Can Do

Sign petitions to Congress in support of maintaining the tax-exempt status of credit unions. Petitions are located in each of our branches. Our goal is to collect as many signatures from our membership and to deliver those petitions to Congress between now and the November election.

Contact your Representative. You have several options:

Use your PC: <http://capwiz.com/cuba/issues/alert/?alertid=5353021&type=CO>

This program will not only find your representative via the zip code you enter but will also help you write the letter. Then you simply choose to send it via e-mail or the postal service.

Writing your own letter to your elected officials:

Representative Greg Walden
Washington Office:
1404 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515-3702

Senator Gordon Smith
Washington Office:
404 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510-3704

Senator Ron Wyden
Washington Office:
516 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510-3703

Rogue Federal Credit Union is a member-owned, not-for-profit financial institution that earns its tax exemption every single day. We need your support today! Stand up and make yourself heard. Take action now to save your credit union

Anti-Nuclear Resources

www.corpwatch.org War Profiteers

www.kiddofspeed.com Text and Pictures from Chernobyl today

www.besafenet.com This year's national campaign to acknowledge the danger of nuclear weapons and nuclear pollution.

www.lclark.edu/History/HIROSHIMA Collection of artifacts from the bombing Aug 6, 1945

Local Chapter of WILPF Starting

Following Friday's Women in Black gathering (Sept. 24), several of us met at Brothers Restaurant to discuss the pros and cons of starting a local chapter of Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF). Fran Petschek joined us as a resource, being a member of the Portland chapter. After a fine discussion, we decided to postpone the beginnings of a chapter until after the election, as we are all involved in that in one way or another.

We decided to reconvene on Friday, November 5 at 1 p.m. at the home of Paula Sohl, 283 Scenic Dr., either to celebrate or wring our hands, and we will continue our discussion at that time. Anyone who would like to find out more or be added to our list may call me at 488-1561. (Of course, after listening to Medea Benjamin Friday evening, I wondered if we should throw our energy and numbers into the efforts of Code Pink.)

Nancy Spencer

Million Worker March

"We must keep marching ... before the elections and after the elections ... until we win justice for the homeless, the unemployed and we bring the troops home now ... Come out on Oct. 17th."

Danny Glover, actor

On Oct. 17 in Washington, D.C., you will have a timely and historic opportunity to unite the anti-war movement with an unprecedented and vitally necessary mass march of working people speaking for themselves. This is a rare opportunity, and the latest casualty numbers from Iraq show that it could not come at a more critical time. We must not rely on the elections in November to stop the war. We must raise our voices loud—not after the elections—right now.

Some of the strongest voices and most active groups in the labor movement, together with the active support and participation of organizations representing every progressive movement and cause, will be "getting on the bus" to D.C. on Sunday, Oct. 17, for the MIL-LION WORKER MARCH.

What makes the Million Worker March unique is that the event's principal organizers want to make the anti-war movement's demand to "End the occupation of Iraq, and bring the troops home now" central to the march's message and its goals.

Working people are coming to Washington, D.C. on Oct. 17 because whether their concern is about jobs, decent wages, layoffs, union busting, the battle to protect our pensions and Social Security, or to make health

care a universal right instead of a privilege for the wealthy—considering all that we face, we had better raise our own voices and act in our own interests instead of relying on the next president, whoever that will be. And the MWM will also be calling for the troops to be brought home—not two, three or four years from today, but NOW!

Why? Because it is working families who bear the burden. It is their loved ones who are sent off to fight and die—and it is workers' money that is stolen to pay for war and occupation.

The call for a Million Worker March came from one of the most well known labor organizations in the country, famous for its long history of militancy, boldness and courage in defense of working people—Local 10 of the International Longshore Workers Union in San Francisco.

Over the past few months this call has rolled across the country, picking up the support of scores of labor unions, labor activists and leaders

We urge you to work to make the Oct. 17 Million Worker March in D.C. the next major event for the entire anti-war movement. If we all rise to this challenge, we will put the next president and Congress on notice that we will accept no excuses for prolonging the occupation of Iraq and wasting lives and precious resources that should go toward satisfying people's needs like housing and schools. Moreover, we will have helped to forge a critical alliance between the grassroots of the labor movement and the anti-war movement that would represent a whole new level of unity, potential and power.

www.antiwar4themillionworkermarch.org

Benefit Films at the Mobius

LB Johnson, long-time videographer and activist, from Santa Cruz, California, and recent transplant to Ashland, will be presenting a benefit series of her award-winning films at the Mobius Studio, 281 Fourth St.. Johnson's work reflects a rich array of subjects from music videos, environmental awareness, and political activism.

The first showing is a benefit for the Mobius at 8pm Friday, October 8th. It's an "80's retro" rock opera called *Happy*

Hour, starring the Humans, a new wave Bay Area band whose songs come to life on the screen. *Happy Hour* is insightful and ahead of its time, being made in 1981, before MTV hit it big. *Happy Hour* is a love story with political intrigue, a Samurai warrior, a sexy lightning storm. It's nuclear, it's the news, it's comedy and it's strange.

Wednesday, October 27th at 7pm, a Harvest Moon Hemp Show, featuring *Hemp Hemp Hooray! The Growing Industrial Hemp Market*, which won best documentary at the Earthvision Environmental Video Festival in 2002. There will be hemp foods to taste and



hemp fashions to check out. Come be inspired by this vision of a sustainable world made from plants instead of petrochemicals. This showing will benefit the Hemp Awareness Project, which donates Hemp Hemp Hooray to libraries.

Veterans' Day, Thursday, November 11th at 7pm, Two documentaries done in Viet Nam with American and Vietnamese veterans. Return to the Ville, about 10 Marines returning to the villages they served in the pacification program during the war, and *Forget-Me-Not, a Message from Viet Nam*, a diplomatic travelogue that discovers the harsh reality of a country in recovery from occupation, war and the effects of agent orange poisoning. *Forget-Me-Not* won best documentary at the Western Alliance for Video Excellence in 1996. This evening will benefit The Viet Nam Friendship Village, located in Hanoi, a healing home to victims of Agent Orange, who are still being born today with disabilities.

LB Johnson will be available for questions after each showing. These are all sliding-scale benefits - no one will be turned away for lack of funds, so please come! Info — 482-6446

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- Buddha

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BUDS!
Taste-E Pangola!
[&] Chew, Customers

Peace Community Calendar

Rock the Vote

Saturday, October 9 from noon to 7 pm.
SOU Stevenson Union Diversions Nightclub
Music with \$3 a plate BBQ. For more information call 552-6461. Ask for ASSOU

Phil Ochs Concert & Auction

Sunday, October 24 8 pm
6:30 Doors open for silent auction to benefit Peace House
Unitarian Center ,4th and C Streets, Ashland
Performers: SONiA of disappear fear, Greg Greenway, Magpie, Kim and Reggie Harris, Pat Humphries and Sandy O, David Roth, Tom Prasada-Rao, and John Flynn. Each performer or group will do one of Phil Ochs songs and one of his or her own.
Tickets are \$17 in advance, \$20 at the door, \$10 for kids 5-17
Hosted by Sister Sonny Ochs. For information and tickets at 541-535-3562 or www.stclairerevents.com. Advance tickets also available at the Music Coop in the A Street Marketplace.



Benefit Film Showings at the MOBIUS

Mobius Studio, 281 Fourth St.
Wednesday, October 27th at 7pm, a Harvest Moon Hemp Show, featuring Hemp Hemp Hooray! The Growing Industrial Hemp Market
Veterans' Day, Thursday, November 11th at 7pm, Return to the Ville and Forget-Me-Not, a Message from Viet Nam. Info call 482-6446. See article page 6.

Southern Oregon Friends of Cuba

Wednesday, October 27
6:30 pm Pot-luck at Peace House.
At 7:30 Brad Jones, who recently completed his fourth trip with Pastors for Peace to Cuba, will share his experiences. SOFA wants to educate Ashland about US Trade policy and engage the community in solidarity events.

Local Chapter of WILPF to form

Friday, November 5 at 1 p.m. meeting at the home of Paula Sohl, 283 Scenic Dr. Anyone who would like to find out more about Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF) or be added to our list may call Nancy Spencer, at 488-1561. See item on page 6.

Lecture by Richard Becker

November 9
Time and place to be announced. See www.peacehouse.net for more information.
Richard Becker from the International Action Center in San Francisco and International A.N.S.W.E.R will speak on the aftermath of the November 2 elections, an analysis and next steps.

ONGOING:

Free, Confidential HIV testing and counseling

Every Wednesday, 5pm to 6pm at the Abdill-Ellis Lambda Community Center in the Old Armory on Oak St. in Ashland. Call the Center 541-488-6990 for more info.

Citizens for Peace and Justice Protest

EVERY Saturday until the elections! Bring a sign! noon to 1 pm See article p. 8.

Conscientious Objector Counseling Training

Peace House is in the process of designing this program and will be scheduling a CO training for those interested in being CO counselors. We want to create a program with emphasis on peer to peer counseling and all ages are encouraged to attend. To be included in the training please call Peace House 482-9625 asap.

OREGON BIONEERS CONFERENCE

October 15-17, 2004

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Join us for a stellar gathering of the leading scientific and social innovators of our time.

Live via satellite from the Marin Center in San Rafael, CA

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Michael Lerner: The Emerging Environmental Health Movement - How to Connect Personal and Planetary Healing

Terry Tempest Williams: The Open Space of Democracy

Paul Hawken: The Other Superpower

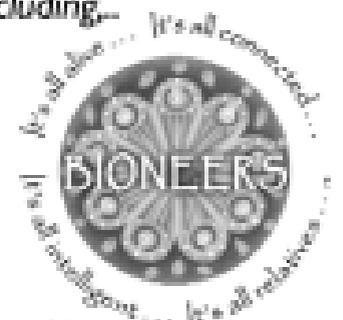
Martha Arguello: Precaution, Environmental Justice, Reciprocity

Jay Harman: Designing the Next Golden Age.

Solution Oriented Local Speakers, Educators & Workshops: Spirituality and Social Action, Building Community Collaborations, Youth Leadership, Oregon Food and Farming, and More.

3 day conference pass: \$100 • Daily pass: \$40

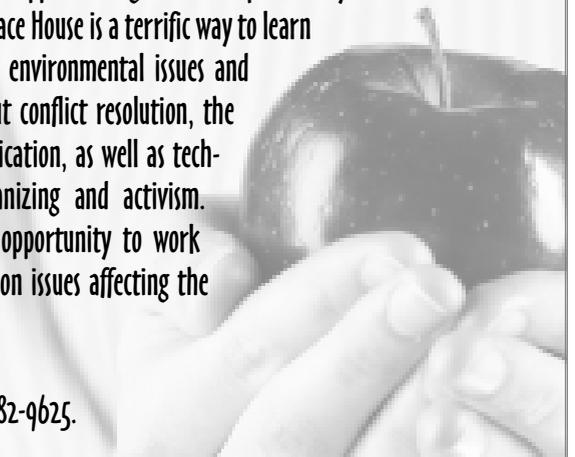
Contact: www.bridgingworldsnw.org, www.bioneers.org
Registration: www.inhousetickets.com, 1-866-384-3060



Peace House Seeks Interns!

Peace House is a multi-issue regional resource for organizing, education, action and creating a sustainable future. We are seeking interns to work with an established nonprofit for possible college credit. We are a locally based, community supported organization operated by a small staff and volunteers. An internship with Peace House is a terrific way to learn about local and global peace, justice and environmental issues and engage with your community. Learn about conflict resolution, the consensus process and nonviolent communication, as well as technical skills necessary to grassroots organizing and activism. Working with Peace House provides the opportunity to work with a variety of regional activist groups on issues affecting the environment and global community.

Call Peace House for more information: 482-9625.



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Bioneers

It's all alive...It's all connected...It's all intelligent...It's all relatives

Since 1990, Kenny Ausubel and Nina Simons have been assembling Bioneers for an annual conference, a gathering of scientific and social innovators who have demonstrated visionary and practical models for restoring the Earth and communities. Now, in its 15th year, this annual conference has become a national example of effective grassroots organizing.

Recognizing that, like politics, all ecology is local, the national Bioneers conference has partnered with communities around the nation to coordinate the "Beaming" Bioneers program. In its third year, Beaming Bioneers holds great potential for catalyzing action on behalf of the Earth. It is an opportunity to mainstream critical ideas about environmental and cultural restoration. The Beaming program allows communities to plan local conferences that coincide with a live satellite broadcast of the national speakers, offering plenaries each morning during the three-day conference. This year's 15 speakers include Terry Tempest Williams, Michael Lerner, Thomas Linzey, Amory Lovins, Amy Goodman, and Paul Hawken.

Register for the Bioneers conference at www.bridgingworldsnw.org or call 1-866-384-3060.

So who are the Bioneers? Bioneers are biological pioneers working with nature to heal nature and ourselves. They have peered deep into the heart of living systems to devise strategies for restoration based on nature's own operating instructions. They come from many cultures, perspectives and walks of life.

Bioneers are scientists and artists, gardeners and economists, activists and public servants, architects and ecologists, farmers and journalists, priests and shamans, policymakers and citizens. They are everyday people committed to preserving and supporting the future of life on Earth. They herald a dawning Age of Restoration founded in natural principles of kinship, interdependence, cooperation, reciprocity, and community.

Uniting nature, culture, and spirit, Bioneers embody a change of heart – a spiritual connection with the living world that is grounded in social justice. Their pragmatic strategies effectively address many of our most pressing ecological and societal challenges. Above all, Bioneers represent a culture of solutions. Their stories demonstrate that people have created the environmental and social problems we face, and people can solve them – through a reciprocal partnership with nature. Extraordinary human creativity focused on problem solving explodes the mythology of despair. The Bioneers focus on creative social strategies that can help us realize solutions by restoring community, justice and democracy.

To find out more about Bioneers or the regional satellite location near you, check out www.bioneers.org or call or email sherisa@bridgingworldsnw.org or (541) 345-6919 This year, Bridging Worlds Northwest will be joining with community members and Lane Community College in Eugene, OR to offer the Bioneers experience to the Northwest.

Sherisa Aguirre

Mayors from page 1

and a mayoral delegation has addressed a meeting of the NPT member states in April 2004. The U.S. Conference of Mayors has adopted a resolution supporting the immediate demand of the 2020 Vision: the commencement in 2005 of negotiations on the elimination of nuclear weapons. An international signature drive based on this demand is underway.

For further information on the Mayors for Peace and the 2020 Vision campaign, please visit: <http://www.pcf.city.hiroshima.jp/mayors/english>

Women In Black

In Medford, every Wednesday at noon on Vogel Plaza for a half hour of silence. In Ashland, Fridays at noon on the Ashland Plaza. In Grants Pass, first and third Mondays at 11am to 11:30 at the Post office and after, meeting to noon at the Community Room behind The Creative Alternative (229A G St, under the Art Museum) In Cave Junction, Mondays at noon for a half hour at the County building. In Roseburg, every Friday at 12:30-1pm in front of the fire station on Garden Valley. For information call (541) 677-9118.

WIB T-shirts

Women in Black T-shirts are available at Peace House with an original design by Darnell Designs for a \$10 donation.

Community Meal

Tuesday

Each Tuesday, Uncle Food's Diner provides free meals for the hungry with food donated by the Walker Peace Garden, Ashland Food Coop, S.O.U., and P.C. Market of Choice. Come as a volunteer (no need to call) and help with food prep at 3 pm or with serving and cleanup from 4:30 to 6:30pm. Come to help and eat a good dinner too! It's fun and fulfilling to see Peace in Action. Anyone is welcome, in the spirit of a true community dinner.

Uncle Food's Diner is serving at United Methodist Church, in the Wesley Hall at 175 N. Main, on the corner of N. Main and Laurel. For more information call Peace House 482-9625.

JOIN PEACEFUL DEMONSTRATIONS

Citizens for Peace and Justice is coordinating demonstrations against the policies of the Bush Administration every Saturday from 12:00 Noon until 1:00 PM in Medford on the corner of Riverside Drive and Barnett. We gather in the parking lot next to the Burger King. We are encouraging all who are outraged at what is happening both domestically and internationally to come and be heard.

Bring a poster/sign or banner that articulates your particular concern. The goal is to maintain a presence that speaks out against the occupation of Iraq, about environmental policies, labor issues, women's choice issues, etc. Another goal is to educate those who still may not be paying attention to the sorry state of affairs in our country. To help achieve these goals, we will be asking progressive groups all over the Rogue Valley to join in. We will do this every Saturday until the November elections. Tell a friend - bring your family.

For more information call Christine Haynie 773-168. Visit Medfordcpj.org.



Clear Actions

Call For Submissions

Clear Actions is accepting article submissions from writers. Help us get out the latest word on peace, justice, nonviolence and the environment. Email Linda at linda@peacehouse.net or Ann at editor@peacehouse.net

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Come Dance, Breathe, Move & Play!

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