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of Eastern Maine
Newsletter



Making a difference here and now

by Christina Diebold, editor

By the time this Newsletter is delivered, we will probably know what President Obama has decided to do about Afghanistan. Indications are that at the behest of his generals and defense secretary, he will send up to 40,000 more troops, despite the golden opportunity offered by the recent fraudulent election there to withdraw. And despite the fact that as American military presence in Afghanistan has increased over the last eight years, so have the strength and activity of militants. Afghans don't like occupiers.

On the home front, it has been instructive to watch the for-profit health-care industry flex its lobbying muscles on Capitol Hill, and to see how easily right-wing demagogues can whip up fear and hysteria.

Less often in the headlines are two issues that I believe pose a grave threat (melodramatic as this may sound) to our civilization – nuclear proliferation and climate change. Obama's willingness to work with Russia on dialing back nuclear weapons is reassuring, but nuclear destructiveness is the Damocles sword under which we all live. Meanwhile, Arctic ice is thinning at an alarming rate, and scientists are predicting the region will be largely ice-free in summer within ten years.

The local scene is where we can make a difference, and that is also the most hopeful place. Social justice activists have been working hard to prevent repeal of Maine's marriage equality law. If they succeed, it will be cause for great pride in this state. Peace activists boarded a bus for Boston to join an anti-war rally. Those fighting for a fairer, more rational health-care system protested outside Senator Snowe's office. Many of us are trying in myriad ways to be greener, celebrating local food and land (as Charlotte Herbold describes eloquently in this issue). Think of Dick Hoyt, standing lonely vigil for peace in Lubec (story by him inside), or the folks at Tidemill Farm way Downeast, who spoke at our Harvest Supper, producing quality organic food day after day.



Protesters call on Snowe to back public option

by Ilze Petersons, coordinator,
Peace & Justice Center of Eastern Maine

One day after Senator Olympia Snowe was being praised for her lone Republican vote for the Senate Finance Committee's health-care reform bill, members of the Peace & Justice Center of Eastern Maine, Orono Peace Group, Maine Healthcare Reform and Midcoast Peace & Justice quickly organized a press conference and rally to call attention to Snowe's opposition to a public option. The press conference was called to announce MoveOn's report of insurance company and HMO contributions to Senate campaigns, including Snowe's.

Standing on the hillside below Senator Snowe's office on October 14, more than 40 assembled to protest the senator's opposition to a real public option even though a recent poll showed 57 percent of Mainers support it. A large check held by members showed that Senator Snowe had received over \$477,000 during her career from the same companies that are spending \$5 million a day to defeat real health-care reform. Speakers, including Ron Davis of the Orono Peace Group, Jerry Call, co-founder of Maine Healthcare Reform and member of the Baucus 13; Diane Messer, cancer survivor, who lost her younger brother to cancer; and Dr. John McDevitt all urged Snowe to show her independence from insurance companies. The group chanted, "Everybody in, nobody out," and held signs supporting the Hacker public option as well as photos of insurance company CEOs and a listing of their million-dollar compensation packages.



Photo by Ilze Petersons

At the Oct. 14 press conference, from left Ted Hale, Libby Hanley and Darrell Geisler present a check representing contributions to Sen. Snowe's campaign by insurance companies and HMO lobbyists. The amount was reported by MoveOn.org.

All three television stations covered the event on the evening news. The Bangor Daily News featured a front page story heralding Snowe's vote and only included a small photo of Diane Messer and a caption vaguely mentioning that the group was protesting in front of Snowe's office. We need to continue to write letters to the editor and call on our representatives to represent the will of the majority, urging support for a real public option. So many lives depend on it.



Single payer out, but HPO offers hope

by Jerry Call, co-founder of Maine Healthcare Reform

It is most unfortunate but we have to face the reality that President Obama and the Democratic Party have been successful in preventing any chance to achieve single-payer health care this year, or even to have an intelligent discussion about it. I believe that this is just the latest example of the insidious nature of the hundreds of millions of dollars spent on campaign contributions by special interest groups.

Even though it will still be a huge fight, we must draw a line in the sand; otherwise there will be no way to recover from the detrimental effects of current health insurance reform legislation. I speak specifically of a demand to incorporate the original Hacker Public Option (HPO) into pending legislation. I believe the HPO can eventually allow us to achieve single-payer health care.

The original Hacker Public Option had five requirements that must be adopted to succeed:

1. All subsidies for people with low incomes to be available ONLY through the HPO, NOT the private insurance companies. (Subsidizing the irresponsible insurance industry with our taxes is totally irresponsible and unacceptable).
2. Everyone not on Medicare must be eligible to purchase the HPO, even large private and government employers – not just the few as currently allowed in HR3200.
3. The HPO must be pre-populated with millions of people currently receiving federal assistance for health care – i.e. Medicaid, SCHIP and non-military federal employees.
4. The HPO must be tied to Medicare reimbursement rates, infrastructure and acceptance by Medicare providers.

5. The minimum coverage of the HPO must also be the minimum for the private insurance industry; this prevents underbidding through “skeleton plans.”

The Congressional Progressive Caucus, the largest Democratic caucus, has done a good job of holding out for a public option and has forced the Speaker of the House, Nancy Pelosi, to say that the House will not pass any health care reform without a public option. However, their public option is not adequate. It is still under the influence of the special interests.

Now is the time to contact members of Congress and the caucus to demand the five requirements listed above. Google Congressional Progressive Caucus for addresses, and for more information go to: www.MaineHealthcareReform.org.

Jerry Call is a cancer survivor and one of the Baucus 13, thirteen people arrested for demanding that single-payer health care be on the table at Senate Finance Committee meetings chaired by Senator Max Baucus. He can be reached at (H) 596-7784, (C) 542-8214



View from north of the border

A humor column by Bruce McCall in the Toronto-based Globe and Mail newspaper took a look at the ongoing dispute over the merits of Canadian and U.S. health-care systems, citing Canada's unfair health-care advantages that make Americans sick. Here are the first and last items on the list:

Canadian health-care costs are artificially lowered, and life expectancy artificially prolonged, by the lack of gunshot wounds, a direct consequence of the nation's centrist-liberal-socialist-Marxist-Stalinist-type suppression of the constitutionally guaranteed right to kill and maim.

Polar bears forced southward from the melting Arctic by global warming eat many Canadians who might otherwise be filing expensive medical claims.



Monsanto's sterile seeds pose grave threat

By Ryan Parker, farmer and activist-Parker Produce

Many folks who read this Newsletter are sure to be familiar with Monsanto for things such as the manufacture and sale of Agent Orange, the willful deception of people in order to dump PCBs into the ground and water, the development,

manufacture and sale of genetically modified seeds. But many people do not know that Monsanto has the power to unmake the world.

Monsanto is joint owner of a patent for “terminator technology.” This genetic modification is one that allows the reproductive function of a plant to be switched off so it will produce sterile seeds. This is a great idea for Monsanto and the many seed companies it owns. It will force farmers who plant their seeds to purchase seeds every year because any seeds they save will be sterile.

But what will happen when the terminator gene crosses out of commercially planted commodity crops and gets into nature? The possibilities are endless: global famine, deforestation, desertification, massive loss of animal life. It will make a nuclear war look like the Disney channel.

But we can fight back against this, and we must. A growing number of organizations are dedicated to helping promote local food, intelligent food policy and fighting back against corporate control of food. Food for Maine's Future, one such group, is involved in activities that directly target companies like Monsanto. Many small, conscientious farmers in Maine are also engaged in this struggle. To learn more about Monsanto you can view a new documentary by Marie-Monique Robin titled “The World According to Monsanto.” You can find the film by performing a Google search and watching it on Google Video. Watch the film, become enraged, and join local farmers and groups engaged in the fight. It truly means the world.

“The World According to Monsanto” was shown in 13 Maine communities, including at the Peace & Justice Center in Bangor, on October 16.



Local food can be ordered from home

by Jane Livingston

If you live in the greater Bangor area, you can now **shop for local food from home**. And if you order with a few neighbors, co-workers, fellow worshipers, etc., you can take turns doing the pickup run. Supplier availability sheets generally are sent out Monday or Tuesday. Pickup is Thursdays at 6 p.m. at the Bangor Grange Hall, 1192 Ohio Street (just past Griffin Road).

The Bangor Local Food Buying Club will host a public program on Wednesday, November 4, at the Bangor Public Library at 5:30 p.m. with a viewing of “How to Buy Local

Food Year 'Round," including a big-screen demonstration of the online ordering system and an opportunity to join the Bangor club and place an order. Some additional drop sites for orders by small groups will be discussed. Future programs are planned; to be notified contact Jane at jane_livingston@myfairpoint.net.

Ordering online, and off

Members of the club (annual membership is \$5) can place their orders online at a googledoc site. Email Orlina Boteva, order coordinator, at: orlina.boteva@gmail.com to notify her that you would like to order online, and get instructions on how to use the simple online order form.

Alternatively, area buyers may email their order to Orlina, identifying which supplier sheet an item is from, the full name of the item, the amount of each unit desired, and the price per unit quoted by the supplier.

All orders are placed after payment has been made (by mailing a check or money order to the accountant). As long as the minimum amount of an item is requested by club members, that item will be ordered. This does not always guarantee its arrival.

Members who use the Google site will be able to track how much of an item has been ordered. Orders can be changed until 6 p.m. Wednesday. They will also be able to see if their payment cleared in time to make that week's order. If not, the order will be placed the following week unless the member changes or cancels it.

The club welcomes inquiries from local suppliers—farmers, bakers, etc.—interested to see if this venue makes sense for them. Contact swederolf@aol.com.



Refuge: What we grew in Amherst, Maine

by Charlotte Herbold, Pax Christi

We were back-to-the-landers. By 1969, the battle between Ronald Reagan and Vietnam war protesters in Berkeley, where my husband, Tony, taught, had made teaching and studying Shakespeare nearly impossible. Professors and students had been tear-gassed, and the Berkeley scene had grown ominous. We decided to look for jobs in safe New England, the land of plain living and high thinking. Tony was hired in the English Department at the University of Maine, and we bought a farm in Amherst.

On August 11, 1970, we drove our big Jeep station wagon up the long driveway past apple and spruce trees. I saw that solid New England farmhouse and knew we were safe. Fifty-six acres -- twenty of pasture surrounded by thirty-five of woods -- this was Herbold-land, our kingdom in Maine, where we were to grow our own food, live like Thoreau, and build our lives on love and hard work.

And we worked like demons. We built two barns, fenced in the pasture, bought beef cows, a milk cow, horses, pigs, geese, turkeys, and bees. We watched calves being born, milked morning and night, traded milk for honey, fed the pigs what was left of the milk and vegetables from our huge garden; built a riding ring, killed and plucked geese and turkeys, and froze and canned peas, beans, broccoli, cauliflower, eggplant, zucchini, and tomatoes. We also made pickles, applesauce, hundreds of apple and blueberry pies, ice cream, and bread. Each of the five oldest children -- Sarah, Tim, Hannah, Hilary, and Jessica -- took care of a set of animals, and we all helped with the garden and the cooking. Our days became liturgies: up, breakfast, do your chores, school, home on the bus, play, chores, dinner, homework, bed. In the fall we did the harvest and cut and stacked wood, in the winter we skated on the pond, in spring we fished and planted, in summer we swam in the river and raked blueberries for spending money. Seth turned five and got his own calf, and we got another little brother, Pablo. When Tony died in an accident at 41, before Emily was born, the farm held us together. We knew how to keep on going because we had become rooted in our land.

The eight children are grown-ups now, and we are expecting grandchild number sixteen. Though we sold the farm in Amherst when the kids who worked it left to live their lives, we know that we grew wiser and tougher on our Maine farm. We are and will always be thankful for our refuge, our own land of milk and honey.



Sleepy Americans

by Dick Hoyt

A friend asked me as we stood together on the Triangle in Lubec one Saturday, "Are the American people asleep?"

It was a good question. After all, between Iraq and Afghanistan there have been over five thousand GIs killed in those two Bush-initiated wars, the unemployment rate is close to ten percent, and U.S. taxpayers are still spending between \$10 and \$12 billion per month in Iraq and at least that much in Afghanistan. And forty million of us still don't have health insurance.

Am I missing something? Why aren't we marching in the streets? Why are we so passive?

I mused on the above and then, bored on a rainy Sunday afternoon, I turned on the TV and watched the Patriots at Foxboro. I understood. What's the capacity of that packed football stadium? Forty thousand? Fifty thousand? How many millions of us were watching at home?

The Roman emperors gave the people bread and circuses to keep their minds off those foreign wars and the environmental degradation that eventually led to that empire's collapse. We give them professional football and Budweiser light.

Our generals call for more troops in Afghanistan while forty cents of every tax dollar already goes to the military. Our young president and commander-in-chief, surrounded by the generals, agonizes over sending the troops abroad while we suffer in our native land.

Georges Clemenceau, a French prime minister, said, "War is too important to be left to the military." Let us bring them home. Today. And begin to rebuild a truly peaceful and prosperous America.

Dick Hoyt stands vigil, wide awake and often alone, on Saturdays, 11 a.m. to noon, on the Triangle at Flat Iron Corner, Lubec, opposite the IGA. He welcomes company.



God Keep Me Tired

by Dick Hoyt

God keep me tired when I fly from Bangor.
Numb me, please, from the pain.
Blind me, please, to the sorrows.
Don't let me see the young men
Going to and coming from that foreign war.
Shut my eyes to the young father in La Crosse
In combat fatigues and desert boots,
Nose sniffing, striding, not seeing
Through security,
His young son waving from the escalator
Above.
Dad not seeing, not returning the wave.
One going up, one headed out.
Would that I too had not seen
And could hold back the tears.
Safe trip, my young friend.
Would that I know
Why
You are leaving.



NO to drones in Brunswick

by Selma Sternlieb

This past summer Greater Brunswick PeaceWorks was alerted to a proposal for a drone testing center at Brunswick Naval Air Station (due to close in 2011). The proposal was one of many for Maine's economic development that appeared on Rep. Chellie Pingree's website, although not necessarily endorsed by Pingree.

PeaceWorks began a concerted effort to ward off such an eventuality. In August, we had a petition addressed to our Congressional delegation, the Maine Legislature, the Midcoast Regional Redevelopment Authority and the Brunswick Town Council at the Peace Fair in Brunswick, which many people signed. Anyone who would like to sign the petition can send his/her name, address, phone number and email address to Selma Sternlieb at ssternli@gwi.net.

Some 30 of us attended a meeting of the Brunswick Town Council and the MRRA, tasked with planning for the use of BNAS. During the comment period, some of us spoke passionately about the immoral technology that drones represent and about our hopes that BNAS would be used for constructive and peaceful purposes.

Early in October we had an event at the public library to bring the issue to the attention of the public.

On October 16 we ran an ad in the Brunswick Times Record signed by some 266 Mainers from around the state. The ad said in part "We the undersigned strongly oppose use of Brunswick Naval Air Station as a base or a testing facility for Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (Drones). These weapons, flown by pilots sitting at consoles in Nevada and New Mexico, have killed hundreds of civilians in Afghanistan and Pakistan and are devastating communities.... We the citizen/taxpayers of Maine will be asked to help pay to redevelop the base. We want our community to invest in a sustainable future, not remote warfare."

For more information call 725-7675



Call to end poverty

by Vickie McCarty

Along with six other folks from Maine, I was fortunate enough last July to attend Building the Unsettling Force: A National Conference to End Poverty. Co-sponsored by the Poor People's Economic Human Rights Campaign (PPEHRC), the Social Welfare Action Alliance (SWAA), and the local chapter of Women In Transition, a nonprofit advocacy group for poor families, the conference was held

at Spaulding University in Louisville, Kentucky.

PPEHRC is a national grassroots organization dedicated to building a movement that unites the poor as the leadership base for a broad movement to abolish poverty everywhere, believing that everyone has the right to health care, housing, living-wage jobs, and access to quality primary, secondary, and higher education. What struck me the most about this experience was the vast range of people who came together, from California to Canada, several of whom hitchhiked to the conference. It was amazing to see the organizers come up with innovative ways to feed and house approximately 400 people who gathered for this extraordinary event.

For four days, the lines of social classism disappeared as everyone from lawyers to those who considered themselves homeless united to share their expertise on creating an action plan to address the gross inequalities of human and economic rights that exist in this country. As a result, nearly 400 representatives of PPEHRC member organizations voted to organize the next phase of the campaign—a march from the Katrina-torn Gulf through the Mississippi Delta and on through the Rust Belt. The march will culminate in Detroit at the 2010 U.S. Social Forum, which expects upwards of 20,000 participants from around the country and the globe.

Cheri Honkala, the national organizer for PPEHRC who visited Maine last April, has inspired a number of us to form the Maine Poor People's Economic Human Rights Coalition. For more information on Maine PPEHRC, contact Larry Dansinger, 525-7776, or rosc@psouth.net.

“Cut and Run” logging issues relevant today

In the mid-1970s, independent Maine loggers, pushed to the wall by Maine's paper companies, organized the Maine Woodsman's Association to defend their livelihoods and their communities. Over the following few years, their struggles exposed corporate domination over state government and deep divisions between English-speaking Maine resident woodsmen and the French-speaking Canadian workers who made up a substantial part of the logging workforce.

The movie “Cut and Run” is a powerful documentary of these struggles. A number of people who are still active in eastern Maine's peace and justice community, including P&JC Coordinator Ilze Petersons and PICA Director Jon Falk, were intimately involved in the making of “Cut and Run.”

The issues the MWA took on 30 years ago are very still very much with us. Loggers from the Allagash area, led by Troy Jackson, a logger and member of the Maine Legislature, are currently out of work while the Irving Corporation, the major landowner in that area, uses Canadian crews to cut and ship wood to Canadian mills. More generally, events in the Maine woods are an example of the ways in which globalized capital benefits from a workforce divided by language, culture, race and nationality. This dynamic is the focus of PICA's “kNOw US AND THEM” program, which links the issues of immigration and free trade.

On Sunday, November 22, at 7 p.m. at the Peace & Justice Center, 170 Park Street, Bangor, Jon Falk will show “Cut and Run” and lead a discussion of the issues portrayed in the film, how those issues are being played out in Maine and in our hemisphere today, and what we can do.

Imperial Presidency author David Swanson to speak

by Mary Dolan

The Peace & Justice Center of Eastern Maine will sponsor a public lecture by David Swanson titled “Forming a More Perfect Union: Rights We've Lost and Rights We've Never Had.” The lecture will be held Thursday, November 5, at 7 p.m. at the Center, 170 Park Street, Bangor.

Swanson is the author of the new book, *Daybreak: Undoing the Imperial Presidency and Forming a More Perfect Union*, published by Seven Stories Press. He has worked as a newspaper reporter and as a communications director, including jobs as press secretary for Dennis Kucinich's 2004 presidential campaign, media coordinator for the International Labor Communications Association, and three years as communications coordinator for ACORN, the Association of Community Organizations for Reform Now.

He is co-founder of AfterDowningStreet.org, creator of ProsecuteBushCheney.org, Washington director of Democrats.com, a board member of Progressive Democrats of America, and a regular columnist for The Black Commentator.

Swanson's website AfterDowningStreet was named a Most Valuable Progressive by The Nation Magazine's John Nichols in 2005, 2006, and 2007. He regularly serves as a judge in the annual labor media contest overseen by the International Labor Communications Association and has served on the steering committee of the Charlottesville (VA) Center for Peace and Justice (2006-2008). Swanson will have copies of his book available for signing.

Earlier in the day, he will talk on "Undoing the Imperial Presidency" at 12:30 p.m. in the Bangor Room, Memorial Union, University of Maine, Orono.



Norse extinction holds lessons for us

by *Christina Diebold, editor*

New discoveries have complicated the story of the extinction of the Norse colony in Greenland around 1450. "It's not as simple as we thought it was," said Thomas McGovern of Hunter College, CUNY, at a lecture sponsored by the Climate Change Institute and the Hudson Museum at the University of Maine in Orono on October 13. He admitted that the information he gave at a previous lecture at UMaine has been corrected, and that the view presented by Jared Diamond in *Collapse*, based on that research, is no longer adequate.

"We used to think, 'Silly Vikings, they misunderstood their environment,'" McGovern said. Bolstered by numerous charts, graphs, and maps, he explained researchers' new conclusion: That the Greenlanders, whose colony lasted almost 500 years, were pretty well adapted after all – that they almost survived, but not quite. That conclusion, he said, is actually scarier than the previous one, and may be more relevant to the present.

There is little evidence of soil erosion on Greenland, and the hunting of sea birds and caribou was conducted sustainably. The Vikings hunted communally, and had written laws for communal resource use. "You can do things right and have a negative outcome," McGovern said.

Until around 1300 things went pretty well for the Greenlanders. They built stone churches and traded a polar bear for a bishop from the Norwegian court. After 1300 things started to fall apart, McGovern said, and the last recorded contact was in 1408, although he suspects survivors held on until around 1450.

The century of downward spiral was spurred by events beyond the Greenlanders' control. They had hunted walrus and sold the ivory to markets in Europe, but then walrus ivory became unfashionable. Incursions by waves of hunter-gatherers from Thule grew more rapid and could have led to warfare. Worse, the climate changed, becoming markedly colder and stormier. Drift ice affected the harbor seals and hindered travel. Storms made sealing much more dangerous.

"Are we smarter than the Vikings?" McGovern asked, showing a photo of an enormous SUV. "How are we setting ourselves up to vulnerability to climate change?"



Photos from the Harvest Supper



Photo by Ilze Petersons

Larry Dansinger, winner of a Hands of Peace Award at the Harvest Supper, with his wife, Karen Marysdaughter.



Photo by Tammy Olson

Kira Pilot took time off from her studies at Maine Maritime Academy in Castine to accept a Hands of Peace Award at the October 3 Harvest Supper held by the Peace & Justice Center of Eastern Maine.



notices

"Growing Peace" workshop to benefit Brit Tzedek

"Growing Peace Within Me and the World," a one-day introduction to Nonviolent Communication, will be held 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday, November 8, at 304 Hancock Street in Bangor. Sponsored by Open Communication with trainer Peggy Smith, the event will raise funds for the Eastern Maine Chapter of Brit Tzedek v'Shalom (the Jewish Alliance of Justice and Peace). A vegetarian lunch will be served. This workshop is open to everyone regardless of ability to pay. For more information go to www.btvshalom.org or email your questions to britzed@gmail.com. For questions about registering, contact Peggy Smith at 789-5299 or peggy@mainenvcnetwork.org. Registrations should be received by October 31, or as soon as possible after that.

23rd PICA auction on November 14

Mark your calendars for the socially responsible shopping event of the season—the 23rd Annual PICA Silent and Live Auction, where you can browse tasty treats, enjoy the creativity and generosity of our region, and support great work for social and economic justice. The auction will be held 3-6 p.m. Saturday, November 14, at the Union Street Brick Church, 126 Union Street, Bangor (a new location). All auction proceeds go to support work for social and economic justice in Maine and in El Salvador. If you have something special you'd like to donate for the auction, contact PICA Auction Coordinator Ellen Gray, elleng@pica.ws.

2009 *Changing Maine Directory* in print, online

Now available: The sixth (2009) edition of the *Changing Maine Directory* is available on the web at www.changingmaine.org and in print form as a 180-page directory. It is an incredible resource, listing nearly 1,500 grassroots social action and social service organizations throughout the state in 34 different categories. The print directory is available for \$12 (postpaid) from Resources for Organizing and Social Change (ROSC), 161 Stovepipe Alley, Monroe, ME 04951. You can order one or more copies just by sending a check (sorry, no credit cards) made out to ROSC to the above address. We can also bill you – send the order and we will ship with an invoice. For questions, call Larry Dansinger at (207) 525-7776 or rosc@psouth.net. Information is on the Internet at www.changingmaine.org.

Fair Trade Campaign seeks to show films on trade

The end of November marks the tenth anniversary of the Seattle protests against the World Trade Organization (WTO) in Seattle that demonstrated deep and widespread opposition to free trade. The Maine Fair Trade Campaign wants to set up more showings of films on fair trade. The group can provide the film and discussion facilitator. FMI: Sarah Bigney, 777-6387 or sarah@mainefairtrade.org.

Solidarity Harvest helps laid-off workers

Whether you are a farmer, a worker, a small business person, a member of a religious congregation, a student, or not even in one of those categories, you can support the 2009 Solidarity Harvest by donating food, money, time, or other effort toward good meals for laid-off workers. These meals are "solidarity, not charity" because they urge people who are struggling to stick together and work with each other to overcome temporary hardships. For more on how to contribute, contact Laura Binger, Food AND Medicine, 989-5860 or laurab@foodandmedicine.org.



PEACE & JUSTICE CENTER FILM SERIES

CUT AND RUN

Sunday, November 22, 7:00pm

Made by Maine filmmaker Richard Searls and narrated by Marshall Dodge, this film portrays working conditions in the Maine woods: corporate ownership and exploitation of land and labor; mechanization of work and loss of jobs; effects on mental and physical health of labor; tensions with imported Canadian labor; and struggle for better wages and better livelihood. Beautifully filmed, this is an important part of Maine history and its current relevance.

Discussion after program

Phone ahead for child care

In memory, in honor

The Peace & Justice Center is grateful for donations received recently in memory and in honor of loved ones. Your generosity is acknowledged and appreciated.

In honor of Isaac Curtis

Donald Curtis, father of Isaac, Levant, ME



c a l e n d a r

November 3: "Queens, Concubines, and Singing Girls: The Harem and Harem Politics in the Early Islamic Courts," Lisa Nielson, 12:15-1:30 p.m. Bangor Room, Memorial Union, University of Maine, Orono. 581-1228.

November 4: "Eat Local Year 'Round" discussion on getting local food throughout the winter and plans for local buying clubs, 5:30-7 p.m., Bangor Public Library, 145 Harlow St., Bangor. Jane Livingston, 947-4117 or jane_livingston@myfairpoint.net.

November 5: "Undoing the Imperial Presidency," author David Swanson, 12:30-1:45 p.m. Bangor Room, Memorial Union, University of Maine, Orono. 581-3861, and 7 p.m. 170 Park Street, Bangor, Peace & Justice Center of Eastern Maine.

November 6: "Whose House, OUR House" conference on getting involved in legislation supporting low income people, 9 a.m.-4 p.m., State Capitol, Augusta. MAIN, 1-866-626-7059 x204 (Chris Rusnov).

November 6: Rally to end U.S. involvement in Iraq, Afghanistan, other war spots w/ speaker David Swanson, 5 p.m., Monument Square, downtown Portland. Herb Hoffman, 646-5431 or pala@maine.rr.com.

November 6-7 (plus classes three more evenings): "Growing Peace Within Me and the World" workshop on nonviolent communication w/ Peggy Smith, John Street United Methodist Church, 98 John Street, Camden. Peggy Smith, 789-5299 or peggy@mainencnetwork.org.

November 6-8: Farmer to Farmer conference for farmers to learn new ideas and techniques, Point Lookout, Northport. MOFGA, 568-4142 or mofga@mofga.org or www.mofga.org.

November 8: "Growing Peace Within Me and the World" workshop on nonviolent communication w/ Peggy Smith, 9 a.m.-5 p.m., 304 Hancock Street, Bangor. Barbara Kates, 947-6858 or brittzedeck@gmail.com.

November 10: "Women Who Went to War: North American Writers and the Spanish Civil War," Kathleen March, 12:15-1:30 p.m. Coe Room, Memorial Union, University of Maine, 581-1228.

November 14: 23rd annual PICA Auction to benefit economic justice programs in Maine and El Salvador, 3-6 p.m., Brick Church, 126 Union Street, Bangor. Call PICA, 947-4203 or elleng@pica.ws.

November 17: "Women Writing Maine," Judy Hakola and Sandra Lynn Hutchison, 12:15-1:30 p.m. Bangor Room, Memorial, Union, University of Maine, Orono, 581-1228.

November 18: "Raised to Be Heroes" film (Israeli Refusniks opposing occupation of Palestine), 6 p.m., Free Library, Belfast. Cathy Mink, Peace and Justice Group of Waldo County, 338-4920.

November 19: "Climate Change and Environmental Justice," Michael Howard, 12:30-1:45 p.m., Bangor Room, Memorial Union, University of Maine, Orono. 581-3861.

November 19-22: Annual demonstration against School of the Americas in Columbus, Georgia. For travel options and carpooling from Maine (a few people are planning to go), contact Doug Rawlings, rawlings@maine.edu.

November 21: Film Screening John Trudell: "A Native Prophet of these Times" Discussion w/ John to follow. Saturday, 6:00pm Community Center Penobscot Indian Nation - Indian Island, FMI Maria Girouard 817-7471

November 22: "Cut and Run" film shown (new updated version on logging in the Maine woods) w/ discussion, 7 p.m., Peace & Justice Center, 170 Park Street, Bangor. Call 942-9343 or info@peacectr.org or www.peacectr.org.

December 2: "A Rising Tide: Advancing Women in Leadership and Excellence at the University of Maine," 12:15-1:30 pm. Bangor Room, Memorial Union, University of Maine, Orono, 581-1228.



Carly DelSignore and Aaron Bell spoke about their work raising organic food at their Tidemill Farm in Washington County at the annual Harvest Supper.

Photo by Tammy Olson

Photos of faithful folks whose attendance at the Bangor vigil spans many years

Photos by Ilze Petersons



Hope Brogunier and friends



Maren Helwig



Russell and Akemi Wray from Hancock, ME, at the Boston rally, Oct. 17th.



Kevin Holmes & Mary Perry



Suzanne Brunner, organizer of the Dixieland Jazz Band benefit for NO on 1



JoAnne Dauphinee of the Dixieland Band presents NOW PAC check for No on 1



Peace Vigils:

For additions & cancellations: cpdiebold@yahoo.com

Bangor: Tuesdays 5-5:30 p.m. Federal Building, Harlow St. Call the Peace and Justice Center at 942-9343.

Bar Harbor: Sundays on the Village Green; 1-2 p.m., a silent and respectful peace vigil; bring your own signs. For information, call Suzanne at 288-8037 or Dee at 288-4365.

Belfast: Sundays noon-1, High and Main Sts. Call 338-6365.

Blue Hill: Sundays, noon, Blue Hill Bridge. Call 326-4405.

Bucksport: Sundays at noon on the Bucksport/Vernona Bridge; meet at the traffic light on the Bucksport side; call 469-8972.

Deer Isle: Mondays 4-4:30, across from Deer Isle-Stonington High School, in front of ball field. FMI, 348-2511.

Eastport: Saturdays, 11 a.m. to noon, Eastport Post Office, David Gholson, 853-2633.

Ellsworth: Sundays at noon on the bridge in town; bring signs and songs. For information, call Martha at 667-5863.

Houlton: Fridays, noon-12:30, silent vigil at the Peace Pole in Monument Park. Call Marilyn, 532-3797.

Lincolnville Beach: Sundays at noon, Ducktrap Bridge. Call John, 230-2410.

Lubec: Saturdays, 11 a.m. to noon, Triangle at Flat Iron Corner, opposite IGA. Dick Hoyt, 733-2068.

Presque Isle: Sundays 12-1, Bridges for Peace on the Aroostook River Bridge.

Rockland: Sundays at noon, corner of Park and Main Sts. Call 273-3247.

Skowhegan: Sundays 12-1 at the Margaret Chase Smith Bridge.

Southwest Harbor: Saturdays 11 to noon, Pemetic School Green, Main Street. Westside Peace Group. Bring your own sign or use one from our collection. Kate, 244-3702.

Waterville: Sundays, noon-1 p.m, Messalonskee Bridge on Kennedy Memorial Drive (by CVS).



PEACE & JUSTICE CENTER *Newsletter*

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Opinions expressed are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect those of the staff, board, committees or membership of the Peace & Justice Center.

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This newsletter is available and can be downloaded as a pdf file from our website, www.peacectr.org. If you would like to be notified by email when the newsletter is online, send a message to - officemanager@peacectr.org. State whether you wish to receive the newsletter through the mail in addition to viewing on the web.

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Mission Statement

...to support as well as link individuals and groups concerned with peace, social justice, and environmental issues. Center services promote cooperation, expand awareness, explore connections, and encourage community involvement in working toward a peaceful and just society. The Center also develops programs in response to those community concerns not being adequately addressed by existing social change organizations.

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of Eastern Maine / ROSC
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of Eastern Maine
Newsletter
November 2009



**Yes! I support the work of the Peace & Justice Center.
Here's my donation.**

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___ in honor of (name)

Please send an acknowledgement of this memorial donation to

(name) (address)

My contact info is

Name (please print)

Address City/State/zip

e-mail address

telephone



Photo by Ilze Petersons

From left to right Bob Von Rotz, Betty Grant and Joyce Mykleby. These three folks came all the way from Cooper and East Machias. They got up at 3:30 a.m. to join the Bangor bus going to the Boston End the Wars rally.