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End Violence Together Rally & March September 15, 1 – 4 p.m., West Market Square

*by Kim Crowley,
UMaine student, Partners for Peace intern*

The core of American society is built on violence. It is in our history and the collective attitudes and cultural views we perpetuate from generation to generation. Racism, sexual and gender-based violence, war, imperialism, homelessness, poverty, environmental destruction, and domestic abuse plague our nation. I sometimes feel resigned to our collective fate. I think, "This is just the way things are. I'm only one person." It is easy to let cynicism push us ever deeper and deeper into apathy and despair. But we cannot lose hope! Without optimism and the firm conviction that we all deserve better, nothing will ever change. Creating a nonviolent world begins by creating nonviolent individuals, towns, and cities. How can you show your support for local and global nonviolence movements? Join with your community for the End Violence Together Rally & March!

On Saturday, September 15 from 1 to 4 p.m., the Peace and Justice Center of Eastern Maine and Pax Christi Maine along with over 30 co-sponsors will host the 5th Annual End Violence Together Rally & March at West Market Square in Bangor. Among this year's speakers are Sherri Mitchell, Indigenous Rights activist, and Hugh Curran, University of Maine Professor of Peace Studies. There will be music, informational tables, innovative art projects, opening and closing ceremonies with Jason Brown, and we will march.

EVT is one of over 1600 actions taking place across the country during Campaign Nonviolence Week, September 15-23, which includes the U.N. International Day of Peace on Sept. 21. Let's raise awareness of the interconnections between all forms of violence and work for nonviolent solutions to current societal problems.

Universal Basic Income

by Mike Howard

Interest in a universal basic income has exploded. Pilot projects have been launched or planned by governments in Finland, Canada, Scotland, and India. Privately funded basic income pilots are underway in two cities in California, the idea has been promoted by Robert Reich (former Secretary of Labor), Chris Hughes (co-founder of Facebook), the Movement for Black Lives, and others. Prominent politicians, including Barack Obama and Hillary Clinton, have shown serious interest. Some favor basic income as a response to job losses due to automation, or more generally, the growing precarity of work. Others emphasize a basic income as a more effective way to eliminate poverty than the current patchwork of welfare programs. Still others see it as the cornerstone of a free society, in which no one is coerced into labor by threat of poverty.

What would happen if people were guaranteed an income adequate for basic needs, without any behavioral conditions or work requirements? There is a wide range of opinions, but there is also data. From 1974-1978, citizens in Dauphin, Manitoba, were guaranteed a minimum income, called "mincome". The results of the experiment lay unexamined and unpublished for decades, but an economist at the University of Manitoba recently studied the results, and they are remarkable.

During the three years of the experiment, crime and mental illness declined, and high school completion rates went up. Recipients of the Mincome reported that it rescued them from poverty and opened up opportunities for them and their families that they otherwise would not have had. Join us for a viewing of "Mincome: A Story of Basic Income," followed by an informal discussion, at the Peace and Justice Center, Sunday, September 16, at 6 p.m.

Mike Howard is a National Coordinator of the US Basic Income Guarantee Network, editor of the journal Basic Income Studies, and member of the P&J Center Education Committee. For more information, check out usbig.net.



Dawnland

A story of stolen children and cultural survival

Witnessing the horrific separation of children from their parents at the Mexican border, we might forget the history of family separation here in Maine. As part of a century-long nationwide act of cultural genocide, the state of Maine participated in the removal of Native children from their families and placement in white homes. As one survivor noted, "My foster mother told me. . . she would save me from being Penobscot." These children and their families experienced devastating emotional, and often physical, harm.

In 2012, the state of Maine and the five Wabanaki chiefs entered into an historic agreement to establish the Maine-Wabanaki State Child Welfare Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) to determine what happened to Wabanaki children and families. The first of its kind, the Commission was initiated and supported by Maine-Wabanaki REACH, a collaboration of Wabanaki and non-Native peoples. The Commission's 2015 report states that Maine continues to remove Native children from their families at disproportionate rates; racism is still at work in state institutions; Wabanaki people suffer from intergenerational trauma as a result of child welfare practices; and ongoing work is necessary to truly uphold the welfare of Native children and families. Maine-Wabanaki REACH continues this work.

Dawnland, a feature length documentary, follows the 2-year TRC process. It is a powerful testament to the spirit of the Wabanaki people, and a call to white people to consider how they perpetuate the racist systems that lead to cultural genocide. The premiere of *Dawnland* will be on Independent Lens on PBS on November 5th at 10 p.m. (EST). The P&J Center is planning a local showing on Indigenous People's Day, October 8.



Changing faces at P&J Center

Amy Hughes says goodbye

After six years of involvement with the Peace and Justice Center, I will have my last day as an employee on September 15 when I will speak at the Center's annual End Violence Together Rally and March. My partner and I will be relocating to Southern New Hampshire this fall. During my time at the Center I have enjoyed working with our many committees comprised of passionate volunteers. I am proud of the work our teams accomplished and to which they remain committed. I have been managing a project funded by a grant from the A.J. Muste Memorial Institute to center and prioritize racial justice in our

work at the Center and with groups throughout the local community. New employee Desiree Vargas and contractor Dawn Neptune Adams will finish the grant work. Dawn will organize an Indigenous People's Day observance in Bangor and Desiree will work part time at the Center and lead the organizing for next year's Martin Luther King Jr. Day observance. The P&J community provides us all with hope that a better world is possible and stamina to keep fighting for justice. This might be the end of my time with the Center, but it's not the end of the relationships we've grown. Thank you all for your support and best wishes for a just future.

Dawn Neptune Adams to serve as consultant

Dawn Neptune Adams is a member of the Penobscot Nation, a stroke of lightning in a global storm of resistance to the status quo. Her activism stretches back to 1998 when she began fighting for indigenous rights and environmental justice in Huntington Beach, CA. Dawn has been on the frontlines of movements such as Occupy Wall Street, Idle No More, Standing Rock, and the struggle to resist territorial theft of Penobscot land and water. She is a narrator and citizen-journalist with Sunlight Media Collective, Wabanaki liaison to the Maine Independent Green Party, and a Racial Justice Consultant to the Peace and Justice Center of Eastern Maine. When not battling plutocrats and patriarchy, Dawn spends her time raising a daughter, writing, gardening, and building fine furniture. She dreams of a day when we can all eat the salmon from the Penobscot River and live together in peace.



Dawn Neptune Adams



Desiree Vargas

Desiree Vargas working on A.J. Muste grant

Desiree Vargas, a student at the University of Maine, will be working at the Peace and Justice Center this year on the A.J. Muste Grant incorporating racial justice into all facets of our work. Desiree is majoring in Anthropology with a minor in Native American studies. She became an activist in her early twenties, and spoke at the 2018 Women's March in Bangor. Desiree's de-colonized and anarcho-communist views and holistic healing skills help her navigate the activist realm in unique way. She is Vice President of the Black Student Union at UMaine, and is involved in the American Indian Student Organization. She works in

the Multicultural Office doing public relations and event organizing. She has experience working with children as a nanny and a behavior health professional. Fitness, outdoor activities, practicing archery, reading, writing, and cooking is how she spends her free time. Desiree aspires to be the change she wishes to see in the world, and to master existing skills while learning new ones.



In honor, in memory

Many thanks for the following donations in honor of Silas Brogunier, from Michele Brogunier

notices

** SAVE THE DATE **

Saturday, November 10, 2018 P&JC

General Assembly 3 p.m.

Harvest Supper and Hands of Peace Awards 6 p.m.

Unitarian Universalist Church, 120 Park St., Bangor

Mark your calendars for the Annual Meeting and Harvest Supper. Break bread and celebrate with friends, learn what's going on in the activist community, and add your voice in determining the P&J Center's future. Check the October newsletter for details. FMI: info@peacectr.org.

15th Annual GROW Weekend

GrassRoots Organizing Workshops

"Skills for Social Change", October 5-7, 2018

Camp Mechuwana, Winthrop, ME

In beautiful surroundings, rising and experienced activists will sharpen their organizing skills and gain confidence to agitate and educate more in their local communities. Workshops will focus on building a variety of skill sets. Registration info to come. FMI: Sass at 207-607-2571 or sass.rosco@gmail.com.

24th Annual Changing Maine

"Exploring Diversity of Tactics in Maine Movements"

September 8, 8:30 am – 5 pm, Viles Arboretum,

Augusta

Join us for a day of exploring what it means to use a diversity of tactics in grassroots organizing and campaigns, how power and privilege play out in which tactics people use, and how our choices impact coalition building. Changing Maine is an annual meet-up of roughly 80-100 organizers, activists, and nonprofit workers who come together to explore different topics that affect social change. It is sponsored by Resources for Organizing and Social Change. Stay tuned for updates and ways to register! FMI, visit our Facebook page, or call Sass at 207-607-2571, or go to www.resourcesforsocialchange.org.

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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.

To support the work of the P&J Center of Eastern Maine, my check for \$ _____ is enclosed.

The Center is a non-profit membership organization registered in the state of Maine, but donations are not tax-exempt. To make a tax-exempt donation, make your check payable to ROSC and write "P&J" in the memo line. You can make a donation online at www.peacectr.org. Donations made online are automatically paid through ROSC and are tax deductible.

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*Newsletter
September
2018*



**PEACE & JUSTICE CENTER FILM &
DISCUSSION SERIES**

**THE MANITOBA STORY: A BASIC
INCOME FILM**

Sunday, September 16, 6:00 pm

[<https://www.bigexperience.org>]

The **Manitoba Story** is about the residents of a rural town that was the site of a Canadian basic income pilot project in the 1970s. Everyone in Dauphin, Manitoba, was eligible for an unconditional minimum income. Over the course of four years they experienced the impact of changes to their economy and social fabric that would forever change the course of their lives. Understanding their experiences gives insight into ideas that can help us understand and solve society's most important issues. Mike Howard will lead a discussion following the film.

c a l e n d a r

Sept 3: 15th Annual Labor Day Celebration! 4:30 to 7 p.m., 20 Ivers St, Brewer. FMI: fam@foodandmedicine.org.

Sept 8: "Exploring Diversity of Tactics in Maine Movements," 24th Annual Changing Maine Gathering, 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., Viles Arboretum, Augusta. FMI: sass.rosco@gmail.com.

Sept 8: RISE for Climate, Jobs, & Justice, New Orleans style funeral procession, 12 to 2 p.m., Lincoln Park at Congress & Pearl St, Portland. FMI: info@350maine.org.

Sept 14: Maine Harm Reduction Conference, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Jeff's Catering, Bangor. FMI: info@mainehealthequity.org.

Sept 15: "End Violence Together March & Rally," 1 to 4 p.m., West Market Square, Bangor. FMI: info@peacectr.org.

Sept 15: "WERU Bangor Boogie" anniversary event, 7:30 to 10 p.m., Bangor Arts Exchange. FMI: info@weru.org.

Sept 16: "Mincome: A Story of Basic Income", short film followed by discussion, 6 p.m., P&J Center.

Sept 28: "BOLD Ignited!" Commemoration of anniversary of the Hyde Amendment, 5 to 8 p.m., downtown Bangor location TBD. FMI: nichole.sparlin@mabelwadsworth.org.

Sept 29: Water Security Summit: A Forum for Grassroots Action on Water Rights and Security in Maine, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Buchanan Alumni House, University of Maine, Orono. FMI: www.sierraclub.org/maine.

October 5-7: "Skills for Social Change," 15th annual Grassroots Organizing Workshops (GROW), Camp Mechuwana, Winthrop. FMI: sass.rosco@gmail.com.

October 8: Indigenous People's Day Celebration, with Bangor premiere of the film "Dawnland," 6:00 p.m., Penobscot Theater, 131 Main St, Bangor. FMI: info@peacectr.org

November 10: Peace & Justice Center General Assembly, 3 p.m., UU Church, 120 Park St, Bangor, followed by annual Harvest Supper & Hands of Peace Awards at 6 p.m. FMI: info@peacectr.org.

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