

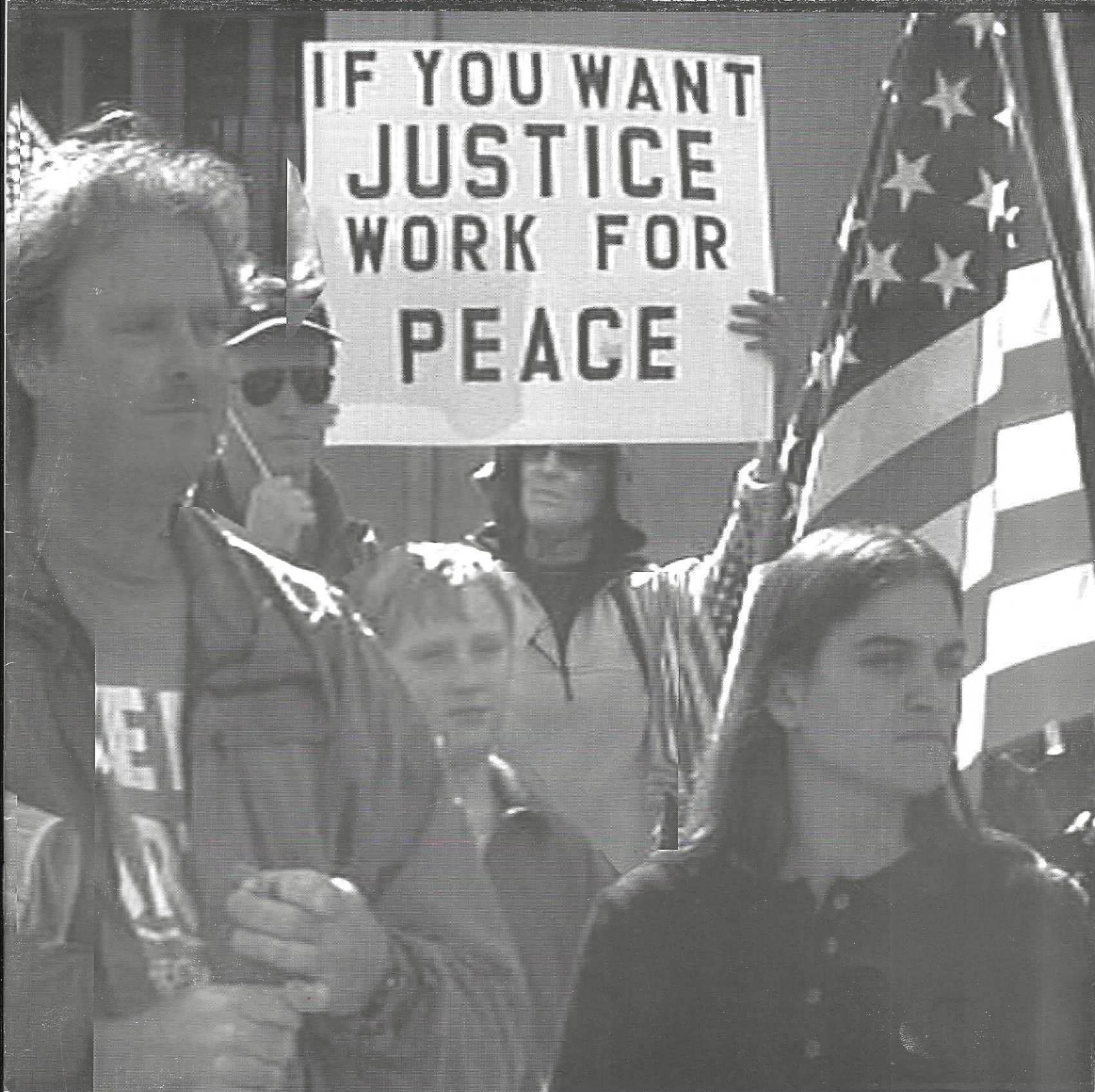
Labor/Community

ALLIANCE

Rally in Valley for Peace & Justice page 2
V-Day Vagina Monologues page 17

March 2002

© SunMt all rights reserved photo: George Elise Ballis



Rally in the valley for Peace & Justice

3-16
peace voices
to quiet
9-11
war drums



The civil rights of all people of conscience are threatened, not just Muslim Americans.

— Ghassan Abul Ghanam,
Arab-American Anti Discrimination Committee



"NOW supports all the freedom principles of this rally."

— Carolyn Mathers,
National Organization of Women



"It's important to come together, to talk with people and break away from the status quo."

— Joshua Pollock,
Modesto Peace Center

by Stephen D. Malm, Vince Lavery, Ken Hudson and George Elfe Ballis

People from all over the San Joaquin Valley will rally in Fresno's Courthouse Park, 1 pm, March 16, to unite us all in a movement for peace and social justice. To share our many concerns. To celebrate with music (Waddama and Lupe Gutierrez), food and spoken word — poetry and prose.

RALLY IN THE VALLEY will draw people from Modesto to Delano, from Parlier to Livingston, from Exeter to Cantua Creek, each individual, every organization, and community expressing in its own way its grievances and issues of concern.

Join us to help plan this event.

Peace Fresno meets at 985 North Van Ness, Fresno, 7 pm, every Tuesday. We invite you to bring your concerns, ideas, and organizations to this planning meeting for RALLY IN THE VALLEY. For more information, call Vince Lavery at 439-0821 or Jim Bartrum at 233-3751. Bicycle activists may contact Dale at 559-348-0415

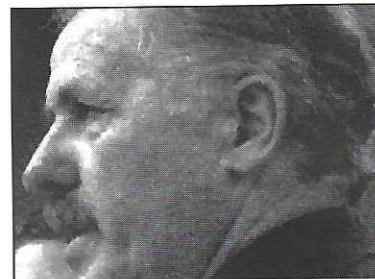
RALLY IN THE VALLEY is a convergence of many progressive actions in our valley. Over 40 organizations have already signed on as sponsors. This list grows every day, a reflection of our growing people movement.

A quick tally of Alliance progressive websites boasts thirty-three organizations and many more links to other progressive groups. In February alone, the Alliance calendar lists well over thirty separate events.

Last month over 1000 of us walked in the Martin Luther King Day parade. As we band together and make our presence known, few would deny the potential and power for change.

With that vision in mind, RALLY IN THE VALLEY for PEACE and SOCIAL JUSTICE was created as a forum for diverse expression of social justice issues and to demonstrate a united call for peace and social progress. "This rally is not just for those who have participated in liberal/progressive causes over the decades.

(continued on next page)



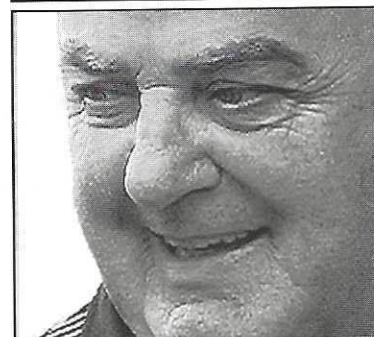
"Today, we are once again called to stand united against a rush to judgment in the deafening beat of war drums."

— Julius Rasmussen,
Team Effort against
Media Madness



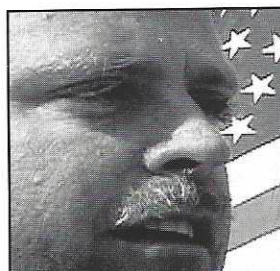
"Global issues, global valley, global people. We are all connected. I think the rally will connect us even more."

— Gloria Hernandez,
Comité No Nos Vamos



"THIS RALLY is a forum for those amongst us who have felt alienated and alone."

—Vince Lavery,
Center for Nonviolence



Our government should be feeding people, not the Pentagon.

— Dallas Blanchard,
Food Not Bombs

Jails, poverty, water, air, respect, bike paths

(continued from previous page)

It is geared to offer a forum for those amongst us who have felt alienated and alone," says Vince Lavery of The Fresno Center for Nonviolence. "It is the voice of the people in the small towns that eventually helped bring an end to the Viet Nam War. Let these same small towns stand up for peace and social justice throughout our land."

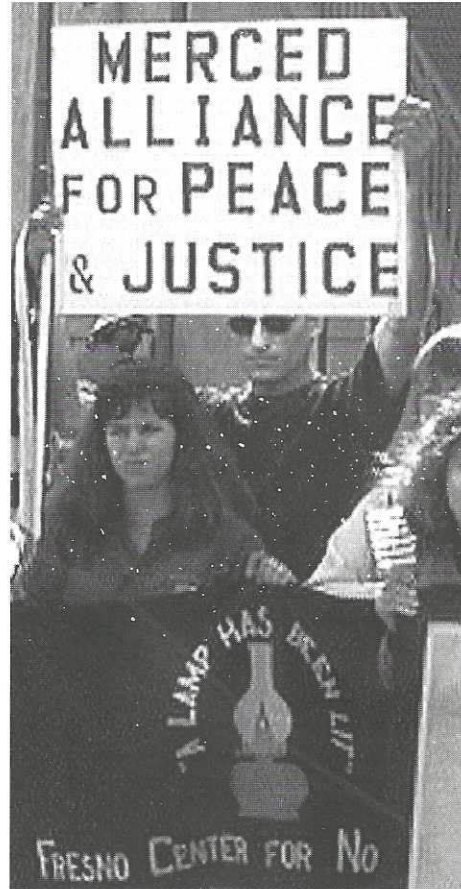
According to plan, each community will draw attention to their individual issues by demonstrating in front of their local high school or appropriate venue for the issue of concern.

Locals might register the opposition to the war on terrorism by demonstrating outside Lemoore Air Base or show their concern about the rate of construction of new prisons outside of Delano jail. Concerns about the drinking water in McFarland might be addressed at the local treatment plant.

Local bicycle activists, for example, are planning to rally at the East gate of Fresno High School at 11 am on the corner of Van Ness and Weldon Avenues.

Participants will then caravan, timing their departure to arrive at Fresno County Courthouse Park, the main rally, at 1:00 pm, which will host speakers on a wide range of topics and the music of local favorites.

Organizations are encouraged to make ready use of signs and banners on automobiles or whatever strategy is appro-



priate to their cause to get their message out.

Jaime Ortega, from the Merced Alliance for Peace and Social Justice says, "Many of us observe that there seems to be only a conservative voice being heard here in

the Central Valley around environmental, health, and social justice issues that are affecting all of us.

"This is our chance, on one day, for a couple of hours, to make our voice heard in concert."

Ann Stanaway, of Exeter, says, "It's easy to go along without questioning popular viewpoints. My daughter and I think it's important that the people in our small town get a chance to see us as neighbors who feel strongly about peaceful solutions."

"RALLY IN THE VALLEY is particularly important to show the growing strength of the opposition to US foreign policy actions around the world. It is time for people in Central Valley to come together to call for justice for the oppressed peoples of the world, such as the people of Palestine who are being attacked with weapons supplied by the United States, and defend those people here who are under government attack because of their ethnicity," according to Michael Napp, of the Modesto Peace/Life Center.

Above all, RALLY IN THE VALLEY seeks to unify divergent voices in a chorus of numbers that will be heard.

We will send clear messages to our elected officials at all levels of government that valley residents share concerns ranging from fundamental economic and civil rights for farm workers to the war on terrorism. We recognize that criminal acts such as 9-11 must be met by justice for the guilty not war on innocents.



"Patriots for peace," we chanted the other day as VP-select Dick Cheney deboarded his plane to smooze with "ag leaders" at Fresno airport.



HOWARD'S HOPEFULS

(Editor's Note: This voting recommendation list is by Howard K. Watkins, a local attorney and active community member, who paid for this insert. He notes some of his choices are clear, others are close calls. Whether you agree with all of them or not, he urges you to vote in the March 5th primary election.)

STATE/FEDERAL RACES

Governor DAVIS
Lt. Governor BUSTAMANTE
Secretary of State ALIOTO
Treasurer ANGELIDES
Controller KLEHS
Attorney General LOCKYER
Supt. of Pub. Instr. O'CONNELL
Ins. Commissioner GARAMENDI
St. Bd. Equal. #2 NO REC.
St. Senate 16th FLOREZ
St. Assembly 29th MARTINEZ
St. Assembly 30th PARRA
St. Assembly 31st REYES
U. S. Rep. 20th DOOLEY
U.S. Rep. 21st LAPERE

STATE PROPOSITIONS

40 YES
41 YES
42 YES
43 YES
44 YES
45 YES

FRESNO COUNTY RACES

Supervisor 1st RONQUILLO
Supervisor 4th CASE
Superior Court #1 OPPLIGER
Superior Court #13 MCGRAW
Superior Court #16 BARRETT
Other Superior Court ALL INCUMBENTS
District Attorney HAMILTON
Sheriff PIERCE
Supt. County Sch'ls MEHAS
County Clerk SALAZAR
Auditor-Controller CASAREZ
Assessor WERNER
Pub. Admin./Coroner TOSTE

MEASURES

E YES
H YES
K YES

FRESNO CITY RACES

City Council #1 BOYAJIAN
City Council #3 CATALANO
City Council #5 SALCIDO
City Council #7 PEREA

MEASURE A YES

(If helpful, you can take this when you vote.)

Police review needs heat

by Ellie Bluestein

We need to convince Fresno mayor and city council that our community wants at civilian police review board.

The Central California Criminal Justice Committee recently met with Mayor Autry, Police Chief Dyer and Council President Perea. Our request for the city of Fresno to hire an Independent Police Auditor and appoint a Civilian Police Review Board received a mixed response.

Chief Dyer is in favor of the Police Auditor, but not the Police Review Board. Mayor Autry says he is open to considering the proposal, wants to think about it and study it. Council member Perea said not a word. The Criminal Justice Committee felt this was, in general, a positive response, but we realize that we still have much work to do.

Help us schedule appearances at community gatherings or groups. We need you to help lobby your council members, especially the new ones. We need letters to the Bee. For information contact Greg Fletcher (455-9235), Ellie Bluestein (229-9807), Gloria Hernandez (268-2261).



FRESNOFILMWORKS

"Together" in March

By Jim Piper

Fresno Filmworks is a nonprofit organization dedicated to bringing alternative cinema to Fresno. For the next few years we will be exhibiting in the Bonner Auditorium of the Fresno Arts Museum. We will be showing a film a month,

on the second Friday of the month, through December.

The March film is "Together," a Swedish comedy about the perils of commune living in the 70s; the April film is "Faat-Cine," a Senegalese film about African women, and the May film is "The Day I Became a Woman," from Iran. All films start at 8 pm. To receive "Clips," the Filmworks newsletter, e-mail your address to Jim Piper at jkp21@csufresno.edu.

Sari H. Dworkin Ph. D

Psychologist Lic. #13852

Marriage and Family Therapist Lic. #23370

Feminist Therapy

Sexual Orientation Issues

1642 E. Herndon, Suite 106 - Fresno, CA 93720 (559) 447-1400

LAW OFFICES

COLE, FISHER, BOSQUEZ-FLORES AND COLE
A PROFESSIONAL CORPORATION

CURTIS A. COLE

ATTORNEY AT LAW

WORKERS' COMPENSATION SPECIALIST SINCE 1959

2445 CAPITOL, SUITE 115
CIVIC CENTER SQUARE
POST OFFICE BOX 391
FRESNO, CALIFORNIA 93708

TELEPHONE
(559) 485-0700
FAX (559) 485-3804

Doing Democracy

ONE PERSON / ONE VOTE - YOURS COUNTS!

By Mike Rhodes

Doing democracy - It doesn't get any more basic than voting. Progressives in this community are now helping to elect representatives that support social, environmental, and economic justice. Candidates must have credible answers to questions about the issues affecting this community. They are being asked:

**Do you support a Living Wage for all workers? **

*What is your position on the Death Penalty? **

Will you support health benefits for domestic partners?

The broad progressive movement in this community is starting to have a voice and some influence in the political process. Candidates have been elected because of the support of organized labor. Susan Anderson, for example, was significantly helped by Service Employees International Union (SEIU) in her race for Supervisor. As an elected official Susan has been very supportive of home health care workers efforts to improve their working conditions. Her voice and vote have been essential in ending the conservative policies of the Board. The vote at the Board of Supervisors is no longer always four to Juan (Arambula).

It is not enough to just elect good candidates to office. We must also be able to hold them accountable so that they continue to work on behalf of the poor and working people that got them elected. Voting is only the start and most basic element of the democratic process and must be backed up by a grassroots movement capable of keeping the pressure on elected officials.

Letting the People Speak

The Labor/Community Alliance magazine is not endorsing any candidates in the Tuesday, March 5 elections. The magazine has chosen, instead, to let the people speak. We have asked activists in the progressive community to express their views about the elections and who they are supporting.

The local elections that have created the most interest this year are the Board of Supervisors, City Council, and the District Attorney race.

Hot Seats

The primary interest in the Board of Supervisors race is in District 1. This is the seat held by Daren Kolligian until his death late last year. Voters will vote twice in this election. Once to deter-

mine who will finish the current term of the office and another time to determine who will hold the seat next term. In this race you have several candidates with reasonably progressive politics running against one *right wing politician* - **Phil Larson**, who has close ties with the pesticide industry. The probability here is that neither **Ronquillo**, **Rodriguez**, or **Hodge** will win a majority and will end up in a run off with Larson.

Pam Whalen, lead organizer with SEIU 250, is working hard to elect **Ronquillo**. Whalen says "*Ronquillo has proven himself as a strong proponent of the interests of the poor and working class in this district. Our union members know that he will represent their interests if elected.*"

In the other Board of Supervisor race you have **Dennis Lujan** running against **Judy Case**. **Judy Case** is the incumbent and has been a true blue conservative. **Rush Limbaugh** would be proud. **Lujan**, the democrat, has far better politics but probably no realistic chance of defeating **Case**.

In the City Council race, District 3 there are seven candidates. There will almost certainly be a run off election in November in this race. **Cary Catalano** has a lot of support in the progressive community for his stand on supporting a living wage. He is also the only openly gay candidate in the race. On the other hand you have a number of well qualified African American candidates in the election. Given the demographics of the district and noting the fact that there are no African Americans on the City Council, it would be hard to argue against electing **Cynthia Steerling** or **Bill Riddlesprigger**. **Gloria Morales** is supported by many in the Latino community. An argument could be made, solely on the basis of the need for gender balance on City Council, to elect either **Gloria** or **Cynthia**. *Just don't get confused and vote for the conservative Republican Bret Rush in this race.*

Grace Sollis Alvarado, a long time community activist in Fresno, makes a case for electing a woman in the City Council District 5 race. She "*would vote for Sylvia Astorga Salcido in District 5. In District 3 it's a toss-up, but I definitely feel we need some women on the City Council. Sylvia is a trained reporter and can look at things objectively. She knows there are always two sides to every story. I think that makes her very valuable. She has not been involved in*

close alliances with developers, or other private interest. She has devoted most of her adult life to work in the interest of the community."

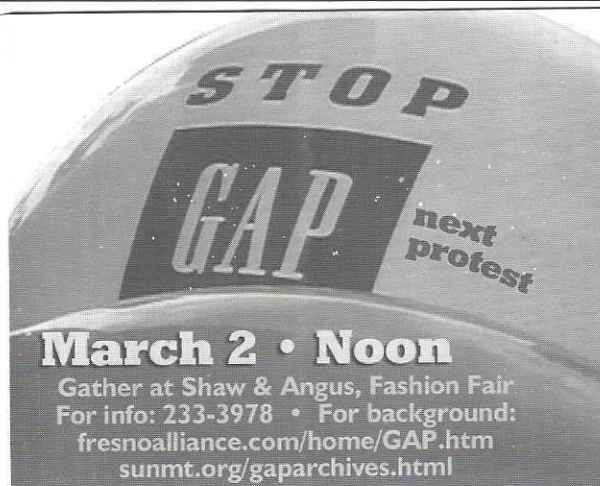
In the City Council District 7 race L/CA editorial board member **Diane Scott** is voting for "*the young Perea for District 7. He's young, he's eager, he agrees with me on at least some of my concerns: Poverty is the biggest problem in the community now. The environment has to be saved.*"

Jeffrey Eisinger, local Green Party activist, reminds us to vote Green. He says what's important in this election is "*The Fresno County Green Party's County Council race. Not really because of who might win, as all the candidates are excellent, but because the race is on the ballot at all, which is a historic first in this county.*"

This magazine has followed the race of the District Attorney very closely. While no candidate has emerged that has a progressive position on criminal justice issues, there is one person that most people we trust are supporting. Most people who understand the criminal justice system in this community, have progressive politics, and know the individuals involved in this race are supporting **Jeff Hamilton** for District Attorney.

There are many other interesting races taking place this March including one in which the past editor of this publication, **John Veen**, is running for Congress against the incumbent **George Radonovich**. The poster boy for the Free Trade Agreement of the Americas Congressman **Cal Dooley** is running unopposed in the democratic primary of a different Congressional race and there is a white supremacist running for Congress who has been making death threats against local Death Penalty Focus organizer **Maria Telesco**. Politics in the Valley can be a bit quirky so it is important to pay attention. We will have more coverage leading up to the general election in November to help readers traverse the maze and sometimes murky waters of local electoral politics.

Your vote is one important way to participate in the democratic process. The Labor/Community Alliance encourages you to REMEMBER TO VOTE TUESDAY, MARCH 5!



March 2 • Noon

Gather at Shaw & Angus, Fashion Fair
For info: 233-3978 • For background:
fresnoalliance.com/home/GAP.htm
sunmt.org/gaparchives.html

By Bob Fischer

CSUF softball fouled us out of our free speech space

in Fashion Fair (FF) on the first Saturday of February, but more than 30 of us picketed along Shaw Avenue in front of Fashion Fair (FF) against the Gap's use of sweatshop labor.

Our application for a literature table inside the mall was denied on questionable grounds, but we did have an excellent demonstration outside. The weather was beautiful, several new people joined our ranks, and lots of friendly motorists responded to our "HONK TO STOP SWEATSHOP LABOR" signs. (See sunmt.org/feb4chron02.html)

We got fouled out of free speech in FF by the CSUF softball team giving autographs in our usual spot and 2 other groups, one of which didn't show.

We did everything we were supposed to do to get a table inside, except give FF a copy of every piece of literature we intended to hand out. We didn't, because we didn't have some things on hand at the time. We could have given FF copies of everything on Saturday. But, oh no. We insisted that we would not hand out anything that we had not attached to our application. But, oh no. Others got the tables, including one individual who applied seven working days after we did, and another person who didn't even show up to use the table! Both were signature solicitors working on commission.

Fashion Fair's arbitrary denial of our application is the kind of content based censorship we are fighting to stop with our civil suit against Macerich Company, the owner of FF. So, why does FF insist on that peculiar requirement if it is not for the purpose of prior restraint of protected free speech?

Our struggle is hardly in vain. The reluctant giant, the Gap, Inc., is suffering a rapid demise due to its refusal to end its dependence upon the oppression and exploitation of desperate young women who have been tricked and trapped into working endless days and nights in sweatshops in China, Saipan, and other third world countries.

GAP SALES DROPPING

The Gap's January sales were down from the previous January by a whopping 16%. Its sales have declined every month for the last 22 months. In the 39 weeks ended November 3rd, the Gap's income fell 96% to a record low of just \$26.4 million.

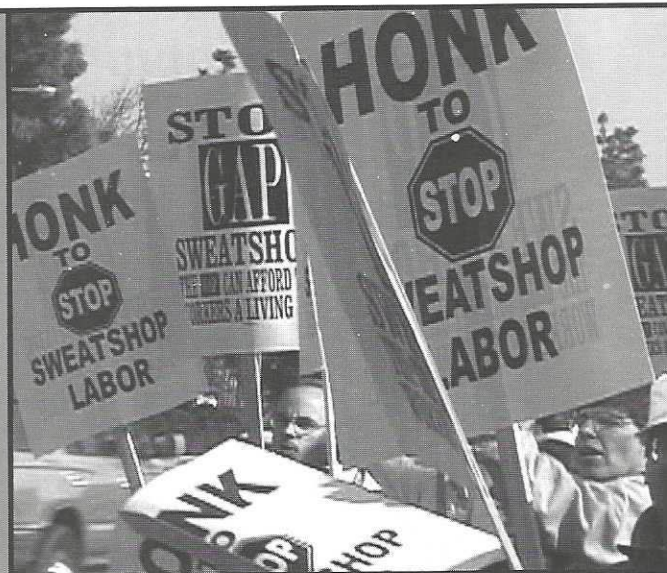
GAP

"teetering angel"

Sales down every month for last 22
January sales 16% lower than
January 2001

Income: -96%
Debt: \$1.2B

Wall Street:
GAP stock "junk"



In the next few months, it will be forced to close hundreds of its 4,171 stores in an attempt to cut its losses. The Gap admits to having only \$800 million in cash, and debts totaling \$2 billion.

This huge liquidity problem is the kiss of death, because credit rating agencies that screwed up badly by not downgrading Enron when it first admitted having a liquidity problem are now downgrading with a vengeance. "The emphasis on liquidity has now been heightened," said Nick Riccio, Standard & Poor's managing director. S&P and Moody's have dropped Gap's debt rating to "junk."

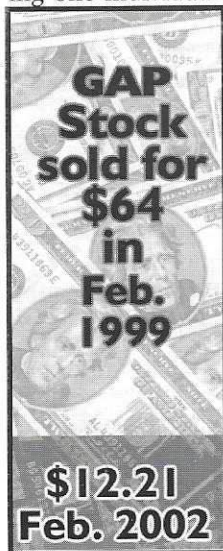
GAP FACES BANKRUPTCY

Gimme Credits is warning investors that the Gap is number 5 among Wall Street's 10 "teetering angels." But, the moment of truth for the Gap will come on June 26th, when it has to renegotiate \$1.3 billion in credit facilities that come due on that date. If the Gap cannot show steadily increasing sales and earnings before June, it is certain to go the way of Enron, Kmart, and the Dodo bird.

All of us are hoping that the Gap will quickly come to its senses, and change its odious labor practices before it's too late to save itself from its own stupidity and greed. All it has to do is guarantee safe and decent working conditions, pay its workers a living wage, and allow them to join unions of their own choosing. Then people of conscience will start shopping at the Gap, again.

HELP BUILD MOMENTUM

The March "First Saturday Anti-Sweatshop Demonstration" will be hosted by the Green Party of Fresno County. It will be on the corner of Shaw and Angus, right in front of Fashion Fair, from 12 Noon to 2 PM on Saturday, March 2. Please come and join us, and bring a friend or two.



**PATIENCE
MILROD**

LAWYER/LICENCIADA EN LEYES

844

North Van Ness

Fresno, California

93728

559/442-3111

pm097@csufresno.edu

600

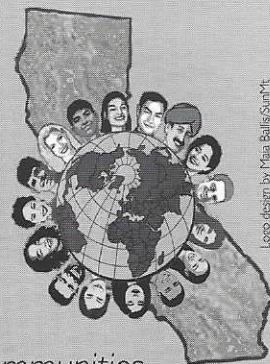
The Central Valley Partnership's Civic Action Network is proud to present . . .

The First Annual

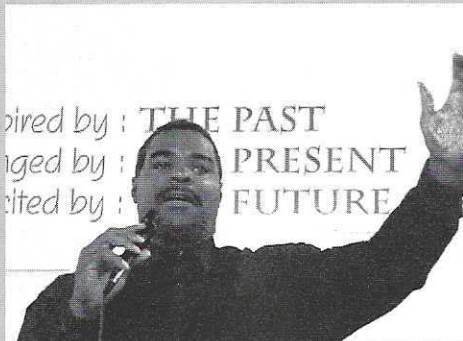
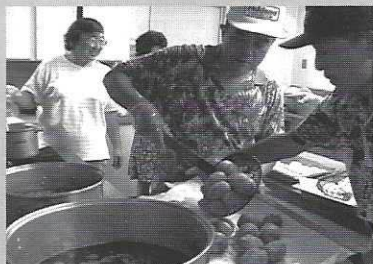
Tamejavi Festival

Building Community Through Cultural Exchange

April 26-28, 2002 • Tower Theater, Fresno, CA



Join us in celebrating the life, struggles and contributions of all immigrant communities in California's great Central Valley.



Welcome to the Learning Festival and the Outdoor Tamejavi Marketplace

We invite you to participate in a **LEARNING FESTIVAL** featuring:

- An outdoor Tamejavi marketplace for the whole family.

Tamejavi is derived from the Hmong, Spanish, and Mixteco words for a cultural harvest market: Taj Lajl Tshav Puam, Mercado, and Nunjavi merge together and become TAMEJAVI! A place where cultures meet, share stories, food, art, songs and dance and gain a deeper understanding of one another.

Come join the Tamejavi and build new relationships while celebrating the wealth of cultural contributions to the great Central Valley.

- Networking opportunities for local and regional civic participation projects.
- Music, theater, multi-media, poetry and art showcases that build the public voice, pride and recognition of a diversity of valley cultures.
- Interactive "Learning Labs" that provide opportunities to learn from one another and experiment with new approaches to building community.

WHEN: April 26-28, 2002 • WHERE: Tower Theater & Second Space in Fresno's Tower District • WHO: All are welcome!

HOW CAN I GET INVOLVED?

Contact Lordes Sevilla at the Pan Valley Institute (559-222-7678) or
Event Coordinator, Terry Maestas at 559-438-6745 or at bizclub@earthlink.net

This event is made possible by a grant from The James Irvine Foundation

Ill poor flee from police state public services

Bush pushes goose step public "health"

By Catherine Campbell

President Bush wants to give public health workers police power to quarantine infected people — and a whole raft of other powers, without judicial oversight or review.

This dark shadow recalls my journey with the limited functions and gross deficiencies of our public health services.

In 1999 and 2000 Bob Navarro and I represented a Lao refugee mother of six, Hongkham Souvannarath. She had been illegally jailed for a year because our Fresno public health officials had decided she was obdurate in her refusal to be treated for multiple-drug-resistant tuberculosis (MDR TB).

California law, like the laws of most states, allows public health officers to quarantine or incarcerate non-compliant patients who pose a public health threat, but patients have basic due process rights to counsel and an opportunity to be heard.

Our client was jailed without these niceties, and for 11 months fended as best she could in the Fresno County Jail before her plight was noticed and she was summarily released.

As it turned out, Hongkham's non-compliance was a matter of cultural misunderstanding because the public health tuberculosis clinic had no translation services for a Lao-speaking refugee.

The County of Fresno eventually paid more than a million dollars to Hongkham and her children, but six other persons, all African American, who were jailed for the same "offense" were not compensated for their losses.

One gave birth in the jail and was forever severed from her child. Another, who was 76 years old, died a week after she was jailed.

The nurses who tended Southeast Asians, Mexicans and other poor people did not know the difference between a Hmong and a Lao, or between a refugee and an immigrant.

The physician in charge of our client's care was on the bottom rung of his medical career ladder after years of drug addiction, criminal activity and gross

malpractice. While our client and her children eventually triumphed in the court and were allowed a spirit recapturing ceremony in the jail, my concern about the state of our national public health system was hardly ameliorated by their singular victory.

Because I'm familiar with the wide-ranging and powerful laws protecting the public health, and was witness to their abuse, I was baffled when the Bush administration decided these controls were insufficient to cope with a bioterrorist attack.

Bush has proposed an expansion of existing law to allow public health workers to take over hospitals, seize drug supplies, quarantine infected people, draft doctors, force vaccinations, and compel police departments to rope off whole communities like a scene out of Camus' *The Plague*, all without judicial oversight or review.

When my client was picked up at her home by armed police officers and taken from her six children in a police van, the 6,000 member Lao community of Fresno noticed. When old women and pregnant mothers were taken to jail from the black community, it was noticed.

The reaction was predictable: public health officials were seen as collaborators with the police and police abuse; people became fearful of reporting respiratory distress and delayed doing so; many Lao people moved out of Fresno to other communities where they felt less vulnerable; the ability of public health workers to work effectively in the community was grossly undermined.

It became obvious to me that the use of public health laws without observance of

civil rights did not protect my health, or anyone else's. The newly proposed legislation to increase the powers of public health agencies is but another example of the irrelevance of wartime security measures to actual security.

In the late 1970s and 1980s, the influx of 900,000 Second Indochina War refugees and immigrants, and immigration generally,

brought new public health threats into a nation complacently preoccupied with personal health.

As the wealth gap widened, and mobility transported infectious diseases all over the world, the resistance of communicable diseases to conventional therapies grew.

Increasingly we were confronted with drug-resistant strains of deadly diseases. The threat is particularly acute in towns like Fresno with a large immigrant and refugee population.

Hard hit by Reagan tax cuts was refugee tuberculosis screening, a public health loss that undoubtedly contributed to the rise of MDR TB which is tuberculosis that has been inadequately treated and then recurs, sometimes years later, in a drug-resistant form.

Thus Hongkham Souvannarath, who swam the Mekong River to seek safety in America, and who endured two years in Thai refugee camps to get here, was twice a victim of American public health indifference, first when she was inadequately screened, and then when she was jailed.

(And of course this is to exclude discussion of the "public policy" that prompted her to swim the Mekong in the first place.)

In the 1980s and 1990s, we all witnessed the decline of public hospitals, growing unavailability of medical insurance, and

(continued on next page)

Public health evaps

(continued from previous page)

increasing emphasis on personal responsibility for one's health that ignores our collective obligations.

Moralistic approaches to health issues also undermined public health: there was resistance to sex education, distribution of condoms, needle exchanges, and abortion.

Drug treatment was ignored in favor of criminalization. Millions of Americans suffered from addiction and incarceration, neither conducive to public or personal health. *As of 1992, less than 1% of our national health budget was spent on public health.*

By the time Clinton's health care reform agenda was debated in 1994 public health programs were in awful straits: grossly understaffed, stuck with antiquated equipment and facilities, unable to perform even their traditional functions.

The Clinton proposal, which addressed some of these problems, particularly the emergence of drug-resistant strains, was flawed but a huge improvement nonetheless. As is known, it went down in a blaze of anti-Clinton fury from the left and the right, and no meaningful reform of American medical care systems has been proposed since.

Public health agencies, such as the one in Fresno, reacted by attempting to privatize many of their functions such as routine pre-natal care for the poor.

Valley Medical Center in Fresno was closed and Fresno Community Hospital took over. While this collaboration has had limited successes, no private hospital can service the collective needs of a community: it cannot conduct public health surveillance, nor can it keep drinking water safe, encourage condom use, or encourage compliance with medical regimens for the treatment of HIV and tuberculosis. *These tasks were left to the understaffed, demoralized and poorly funded Fresno public health system which brutalized Hongkham Souvannarath and six others in the guise of protecting them, and us.*

In this decline, public health agencies have never contemplated the shouldering of any responsibility for emerging health issues caused by modernity.

The narrow definition of public health which focuses on communicable disease ignores other, increasingly pressing public health issues such as automobile safety, pollution, toxic waste, pesticide contamination, malnutrition, and woefully inadequate health care in our prisons and jails.

I swam
Mekong
River to
freedom,
then...



The Bush administration is calling for draconian, anti-democratic and unconstitutional public health powers because it is all too aware of America's failure to maintain and support an adequate public health system.

It also knows that our nation has contributed mightily, and profitably, to the trade in bioweapons technology and toxins.

Most important, it knows the actual potential of a bioweapons attack on American citizens is very real, and that drastic measures are necessary to prevent a wholesale health catastrophe.

If the story of Hongkham Souvannarath's fate at the hands of American public health systems has a moral, it is that the Bush administration's remedy for this grave threat is all wrong.

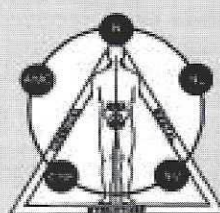
The criminalization of sick people, mass quarantine, increased police powers for public health workers, and the mutilation of an independent judiciary will all serve to incite fear, panic and flight.

What we need is the truth, and to arm the American public with knowledge of the potential lethal diseases and their symptoms; richly endowed and immediately available public health services; knowledgeable and sensitive public health workers, and a renewed dedication of the entire populace to the health of the collective. In the end, we will have to protect each other.

I wouldn't want this to appear without acknowledging Laurie Garrett's fine work, Betrayal of Trust: The Collapse of Global Public Health, Hyperion, New York (2000).

Speak
Your Truth
to
Community Power
Advertise here: 559 233-3978

Labor/Community
ALLIANCE



Member ICAK-USA

Phone/Fax (559) 248-9527

E-mail: lbassman@pacbell.net

Larry F. Bassman, D.C.

- Natural Health Care
- Applied Kinesiology
- Nutrition
- Chiropractic

4905 N. West Avenue, Suite 108
Fresno, California 93705



"We are suffering. We have suffered. And we are not afraid to suffer in order to win our cause."
— Cesar E. Chavez

Honoring the man, Chavez Sowing seeds of justice in our daughters and our sons

Join us with the spirits of Cesar Chavez, his huelgistas and the heirs of la lucha. Celebrate his legacy. Rededicate our energies.

March 18 - 21 Chavez Adult School Celebrations at the downtown Fresno campus. The four day celebration honoring the founder of the UFW will include teach-ins, films, essay recipients, a gardening ceremony, job fair and major speakers. Call 439-8140.

Friday, March 29 5 PM Vigil honoring Cesar Chavez at the Peace Garden at CSUF. Call Gloria Hernandez at 268-2261.

Saturday, March 30 10 AM Annual march to honor Chavez. Fresno Convention Center Exhibit Hall. A program after march. Join community groups, unions, immigrant rights groups to demand workers rights, free speech, and a general amnesty for undocumented workers. Sponsored by CO CE CHE committee. Call Gloria Hernandez at 268-2261.

Cesa
pow
But
justi

YO NO



March 9 in Fresno

QUIERO TACO BELL

SUPPORT TOMATO PICKERS, **BOYCOTT** TACO BELL

By Fabiola Valdez and Gabrielle Kirkland

www.ciw-online.org

Join 200 Florida tomato strikers in the Taco Bell Boycott March 9 at 1 pm, CSUF campus, Maple and Shaw. A short rally will kick off a march to the nearby Taco Bell. Let us come together to fight worker exploitation and corporate power!

For 20 years, workers in Immokalee, Florida have received outrageous low wages to pick tomatoes in our Taco Bell Chalupas and Burritos. Per every 32lb. bucket of tomatoes picked, a farmworker earns 40 cents, so to make a minimum wage figure, farmworkers need to pick about 135 buckets in an 8 hour day! Farmworkers joined the Coalition of Immokalee Workers and began to organize to better their working conditions and to increase their wages up to a livable standard.

The major buyer of tomatoes from Immokalee, Florida is the oh-so-great Taco Bell Giant. When Taco Bell was approached about the farmworker conditions currently endured, Taco Bell responded by saying their business relation was strictly with the growers, not the farmworkers.

On April 1, 2001 the National Taco Bell Boycott was launched. Taco Bell know WE WILL NOT STAY QUIET ANYMORE. We stand side by side with these farmworkers in the fight for Justice in this country.

On March 9 the Taco Bell Truth Tour will touch down in Fresno State University. Community members and students will join together with workers from Florida at 1p.m. and then march to Taco Bell at Cedar and Shaw to protest. Meet at Fresno State on the corner of Shaw and Maple in front of the education building. Come a few hours raising awareness and about things that Taco Bell has left unknown.

This will be Immokalee workers last stop before driving to Taco Bell headquarters in Irvine. The workers have also invited all who are interested to caravan down to Irvine (housing is provided). For more information please call or email Gabrielle Kirkland at 875-0057 or tellgabby@yahoo.com or Fabiola Valdez at tapatia4ever@hotmail.com

cell 249-0753

226-7588



Our movement is spreading like flames across a dry plain. — Cesar Chavez

by Gloria Hernandez

We not only suffered, we learned from our experiences. Many involved actively with the general grape strike in the early 70's suffered great economic hardships joining the strike, not working and no entitlement to unemployment insurance benefits; separation of families because some of us went to jail and others went to the big cities to the Boycott.

We suffered discrimination by patrones and those who didn't beleive that farmworkers had a right to organize a union and negotiate for a contract.

We suffered in jails fighting for our freedom of speech, the right to picket which had been taken away by a court judge. And we lost several lives to violence, which forced Cesar to call off the strike. I was young and passionately involved in la lucha.

Now, many of my old companeros y companeras are dying, I remember them in the prime of their lives sacrificing much, investing in Chavez's vision.

And now in the year 2002 we have the numbers to change the course of this state. Our spirit lives on and we hunger for justice, and we will continue to struggle for change.

When I was eleven years old with my family on that famous Easter Sunday in Sacramento I heard Cesar say, "Our movement is spreading like flames across a dry plain." And sure over 30 years later, the movement has spread. We are not only hard working farmworkers, but also educators, lawyers, doctors, legislators and much more.

nce said "Our struggle is not easy. Those who oppose our cause are rich and I and they have many allies in high places. We are poor. Our allies are few. We have something the rich do not own. We have our bodies and spirits and the f our cause as our weapons."

Immigrants seek return of human rights

by Pam Whalen and Vickie Fouts

Immigrants rights advocates are pushing for drivers' licenses and college education — restoring rights taken away by the nazi-esque anti immigrant legacy of Republican Pete Wilson's administration.

The former governor used immigrants, African-Americans and labor unions as scapegoats and whipping boys for his failed economic and social policies. It worked for his purposes — he won two elections for governor.

Now we are left with the mess. Wilson succeeded in stripping millions of working immigrant families of many basic human rights. Among them, the right to a California drivers licence and the right to attend public colleges and universities as the tax paying residents that the are.

The San Joaquin Valley Coalition for Immigrant Rights is working with a statewide effort to restore these rights - including the support of AB60. This legislation would grant immigrants that are in the process of applying for legal residence status the right to obtain a driver's licence.

The coalition is also working on educating local students and educators about the passage of AB540. This new law gives students without a visa or who have petitioned for legal status the ability to apply to state colleges without paying out

of state tuition. Coalition members will be going into the local high schools to work with the students effected by this change.

If you would like to help in this campaign or would like a speaker to come to you school please contact Leonel Flores at 498-6033.

They are also working on collecting funds for youth who do not qualify for financial aid. A Youth Festival is planned the end of March to help raise these funds.

The coalition is working on a variety of other issues that effect immigrants such as improper police-INS racial profiling of immigrants, support for the civil rights of Arabs, Muslims and South Asian immigrants, and a legalization campaign.

The SJV Coalition will also be participating in several local activities such as the Rally in the Valley, March 16th, a basketball tournament, Copa Benito Juarez in Madera, March 23-24, the Monsignor Romero Anniversary March 24th; and the Cesar Chavez March on March 30th.

The next general meeting of SJV Coalition will be held March 12th in Visalia at the PROTEUS office AT 6:00 PM. You can call 498-6033 for more information.

AIR POLLUTION

Clean Air Act scalpel probes for heart

By Kevin Hall

A small group of local activists has been performing a large-scale medical procedure over the last year. We've sliced open the body politic of our air pollution control board and we're attempting to insert some vital organs: a heart to feel the pain of people's suffering, the guts to do the right thing for all and a backbone to withstand the pressure from narrow self-interests.

Our scalpel is the federal Clean Air Act. Through a fairly technical, legally complex process the Act provides for citizen lawsuits. This is a precision instrument. It has to be applied at the right time in the right place. Wisely, legal costs are covered for citizens when they can demonstrate that the government regulatory agencies in question have violated the Act's requirements. We've had two such victories so far.

We haven't bothered to apply any anesthesia because the Air Board is already comatose. But before we can begin inserting the much-needed organs we have to clean out the body. You see, it's stuffed with cash, reeks of a foul ideology and oozes denial.

Cash in the form of campaign contributions has been rammed down its gullet by the usual suspects: sprawl-mongers, corporate ag, big oil and the like. The air board is especially malleable because its members are so widely dispersed. The valley is 25,000 square miles. Each of its eight counties appoints one county supervisor to the board. The remaining three seats are filled by city council members through a rotation formula based on region and size. As a result, the board members are entirely beholden to local political influence. This makes it very difficult for them to rise to the level of integrity needed for enacting regional laws to reduce air pollution.

Not that any have tried. Given the political dynamic, it should come as no surprise that the board is dominated by ideologues who openly state their unwillingness to pass any regulation not supported by the building, farming and oil industry lobbyists. The board sees its role as a firewall against federal law, particularly environmental standards aimed at protecting human health, rather than as a regulatory body with a vital mandate to clean the air.

And the mantra of denial goes something like this, "It's not our fault, it's the Bay Area. It's not our fault, it's all the trucks on I-5. We don't have to change because we're not to blame. Quit picking on us, we've done all we can do." Two other major regulatory agencies, the California Air Resources Board and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, share much of the blame. Similarly compromised by political influence and undermined by special interests, they have joined in the conspiracy of neglect. Neglect of the law. Neglect of human health. Neglect of basic morality.

As a result, the air pollution-caused epidemic that plagues the San Joaquin Valley threatens to spread for at least five more years, longer if the neglect is allowed to continue.

Fortunately, the solution is known and the tools are readily available. This is the year for action. In 2002 the three agencies are legally bound to develop "attainment demonstration plans" for the two major categories of pollution: ozone and particulate matter (PM-10). These plans must list the "command and control" measures by which the valley air district, state air board and federal EPA will reduce pollution from stationary, mobile and "area" sources of pollution.

Admittedly, the "legally bound" aspect of this equation has never carried much weight until now. The coalition of Medical Alliance for Healthy Air, Center on Race, Poverty & the Environment, Latino Issues Forum and Sierra Club with legal representation from Earthjustice launched its first round of lawsuits against the air district and EPA last summer. The air district capitulated immediately.

The suit against EPA was settled in January. It cited seven major instances where EPA was required to approve or disapprove revisions to the Valley's clean air plan proposed by the local air district. EPA action was long overdue, with missed deadlines ranging from 1994 to 1999. The revisions include the Air District's plan to attain the national PM-10 standard, as well as specific rules limiting emissions of ozone and particulate matter from internal combustion engines, stationary gas turbines, boilers,

generators, and residential wood-burning.

If EPA had acted on schedule for these seven revisions, numerous additional control measures would currently be in effect in the Valley. EPA must now reject the proposed revisions concerning the PM-10 plan and several of the specific rules because they do not meet federal law requirements. With the disapproval of these revisions, the Air District must develop more stringent new measures to submit for EPA approval or face serious sanctions. EPA's failure to act resulted in leaving entire categories of air pollution sources in the Valley unregulated. A third lawsuit was filed in February, again against the EPA. The Medical Alliance for Healthy Air, Sierra Club and Natural Resources Defense Council has taken aim at an EPA proposal to extend an illegal exemption for an entire California industry - agriculture - from clean air regulations.

Legal pressure is now being applied in full force. It must be joined by political pressure at the local level. Fortunately for those of us living in Fresno, we have the air district headquarters right off the Route 30/Blackstone Bus at Gettysburg Ave. We're going to have the chance to influence some key decisions this year and the responsibility to take full advantage of these opportunities.

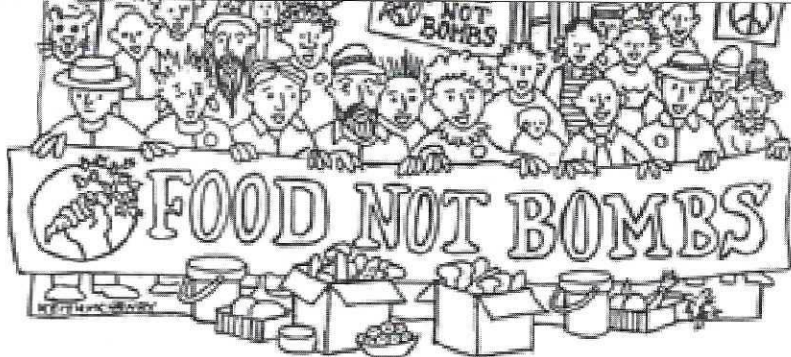
Clean, healthy air must, can and will be achieved in the San Joaquin Valley.

Valley AIR Alerts

Get on the List!

Put your body in action while you still can. We have to fill the occasional public hearing with concerned citizens. Expertise is not needed. Experience at trying to live and breathe in the San Joaquin Valley is the only requirement.

Sign on to receive Valley Air Alerts from Kevin Hall at Hallmos@aol.com and put Valley Air in the subject line. If you don't have email, find a friend who does and can pass the word on to you. You will receive regular updates on the political and legal machinations of the Air Pollution Control District. Any call for action will specify time commitment and include background information.



Picnics for the Poor feeding the Hungry for 6 years

by Reyna Gillet

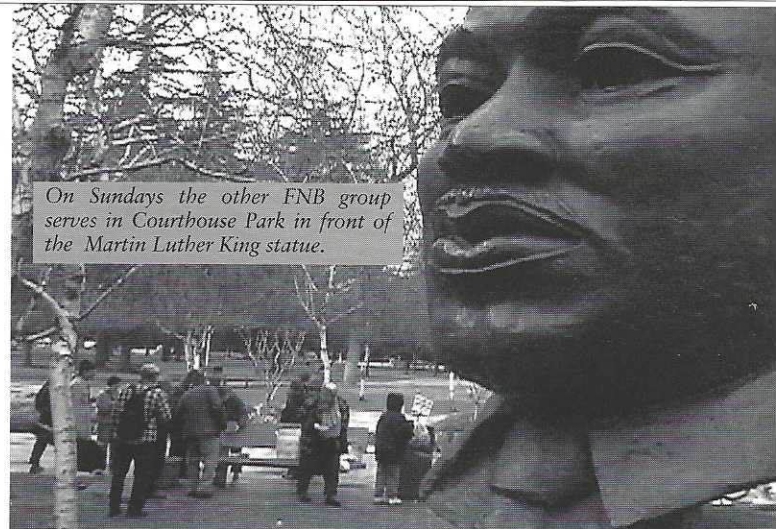
This year Food Not Bombs (FNB) celebrates its 6 year anniversary in Fresno. In recognition of this accomplishment we talked with them and one other grassroots organization that helps solve the problems of hunger. Fresno is fortunate enough to have two Food Not Bombs groups. They work with each other, sharing food and serve in two public places where people can easily access them.

The longest running group is the one that serves on Saturday in Roeding park near the Olive entrance. Saturday, (February 9th) had a huge turnout and also included the Fresno County Health Department giving out free flu shots and the Sleeping Bag Exchange project was present as well. The park was full of people who were in need of a good meal and free medical attention. Those who show up for the meal include homeless, displaced people between houses or jobs, some live in hotels along Motel Drive and small families enjoying the sun. Food Not Bombs could be compared to a large picnic.

On Sundays the other FNB group serves in Courthouse Park. They have been there since last year after trying a couple other locations when they began in 1998. Lauren Ferber of the FNB Sunday group said that the MLK area was where homeless were hanging out. So FNB went to them. Lauren's group attracts a younger crowd of people who wish to spend their time serving others on Sunday. Lauren said that "Before people did not understand what Food Not Bombs meant. This year especially, Food Not Bombs makes sense to people."

FNB serves vegetarian meals for varying reasons. One is that they believe in eliminating suffering on both animal and human levels. Another reason is that it is easy to prepare food without meat as there is less chance of food poisoning.

Another group that deserves attention is the Catholic Worker Project that serves meals outside of the Fresno County Jail Tuesdays and Thursday evenings. Liza Apper is the main organizer for that group. She stated, "We are anarchists," by serving people, lawyers, sheriffs, people visiting the jail, anyone who gets in line. The Catholic Workers did have problems at first. The jail wasn't completely supportive with what they were doing and eventually the group needed a lawyer. The group originally started in front of the main



On Sundays the other FNB group serves in Courthouse Park in front of the Martin Luther King statue.

doors, serving coffee and donuts. Eventually people were hungry and asking for food and the line got longer. This is when they moved out on to the sidewalk. After negotiations, the jailhouse offered support. Liza said that sometimes the SWAT team will even bring out tables. The sheriffs have told her that they are glad the Catholic Workers are there.

Liza recalled a significant point of conversion when one of the lieutenants gave her a huge bag of pinto beans. Lawyers have even told her that they now go home thankful because they see how people are less fortunate.

Although there are positive changes happening in the community, there have still been a few incidents where homeless people have been arrested. One such incident made the cover of the Fresno Bee, Dec. 5, 1999. Sylvia Randall, homeless for five years, was arrested for possession of a shopping cart. She had two priors: One was for loitering, and the other was for trespassing. She had been sleeping in an abandoned building while it was raining. The charges were dropped, and she did twenty hours of community service with the Catholic Worker Project.

The common misconception with the people who go to get fed by these groups is that they are all homeless. Some of the people are just impoverished or in between homes. A vast majority of people who are homeless are mentally ill. Beginning with the Reagan era people who needed medical attention were no longer taken care of by our government. The mentally ill then became homeless. Besides the people who choose to live outside of society, homeless people are those who can't get a job, or simply choose not to stay in a shelter.

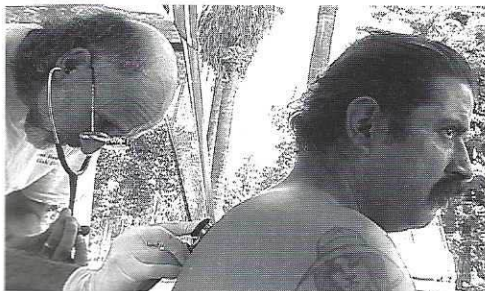
Most of the shelters are run with strict rules and the hungry are subject to preaching. But, whatever the reason for the unfortunate circumstance, FNB and Catholic Worker Movement, feed those who are in need.

To really understand what a big response FNB gets it is best to go to one of their meals and see first hand how a simple gesture can turn into a large political movement. Food Not Bombs has much more information on their website: They talk about each of their underlining principles and when the first Food Not Bombs was formed: www.foodnotbombs.net

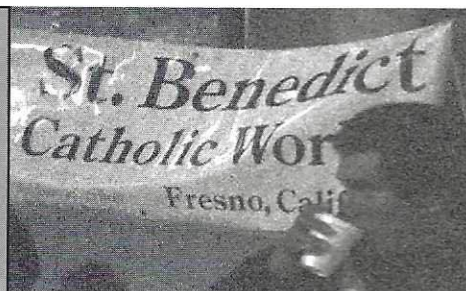
Poverty is
no picnic



with Dr. Marc Lasher



Saturdays at Roeding Park, Food Not Bombs is joined by other free services: a free medical clinic, a free needle exchange, free bike repair, & free clothing & sleeping bags. On Tues. & Thur. the Catholic Worker serves meals in front of the Fresno Jail.



March Events

SEE YOU THERE

Friday, March 1 7 - 9 PM
Dances of Universal Peace at the First Congregational Church social hall at 2131 N Van Ness Ave. The dances of universal peace are joyful and meditative circle dances. They combine simple folk dance movements with singing of sacred phrases drawn from many of the earth's traditions. Call Pat Reeves at 438-4486, web site at <http://www.onelight.info/gpage1.html>.

Friday, March 1 7 - 9 PM
La Pena Café, the Latin American bohemian night, with a featured musician or poet and an open mic at Arte Americas, 1630 Van Ness Ave. Call 266-2623, email info@arteamericas.org, web site at www.arteamericas.org

Friday, March 1 7 - 9 PM
 Live Music: fiddle, banjo, guitar with Evo Bluestein, Terry Barrett, Andy Brown and Larry Cusick. Live Callers will call and teach easy squares, reels, contras. Manchester Gate School Multi-Purpose Room, 2307 E Dakota, \$5 donation will compensate the callers, band and contribute to the **Manchester PTA!**

Friday, March 1 7 PM
Vagina Monologues benefit performances at the CSU Fresno Satellite Student Union. Celebration of Women's Sexuality and Visions. Call 278-4814, website at www.csufresno.edu/StudentOrgs/womensalliance/vday. See page 17.

Saturday, March 2 9 AM
 Breakfast, meet the candidates **Kennedy Club of the San Joaquin Valley** at Big Boy's Restaurant, 5610 Blackstone. Speaker John Ellis, political writer, Fresno Bee. Call 439-8140 or <http://home.att.net/~barbarapyle/kennedy/kennedy.htm>

Saturday, March 2 12 Noon
Protest Gap's use of sweatshops. Gather at Fashion Fair (Shaw and Angus). Protest organized by the Green Party. Call (559) 233-3978. Background information: <http://www.fresnoalliance.com/home/GAP.htm> <http://www.sunmt.org/gaparchives.html>

Monday, March 4 5:30 PM
EARTH DAY STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING, Cafe Mia, 608 E Weldon. Sunday, April 21st over 40 community groups, green businesses, musical groups, schools, and churches will convene on the Courthouse Park in Downtown Fresno. The committee is looking for individuals willing to volunteer to make this day of celebration happen. Contact Sandra Gruman: 243-9338 / zoie7@hotmail.com

Monday, March 4 7:30 PM
 Monthly meeting of the **Fresno Coalition Against the Misuse of Pesticides** (FresCAMP). Email FresCAMP@yahoo.com or call (559) 439-0280 or (559) 227-6134. <http://www.pesticidewatch.org/>

Tuesday, March 5
Election Day. Don't forget to vote. Voting information pages 4-5.

Tuesday, March 5 6 PM
San Joaquin Valley Coalition for Immigrant Rights meets at 328 N. Fresno St. Call (559) 498-6033 or email SJVCoalition@aol.com

Wednesday, March 6 3:30 PM
Stir it Up on KFCF 88.1 FM with Pam Whalen, Labor/Community Alliance.

Wednesday March 6 Noon - 1:30 PM
World Rhythm group Waddama, Fresno City College. Open air Bob Marley tribute for Human Rights W/ **Spoken Word artist Ben Baker**. Co-sponsored by Black Faculty & Staff Association & African American Studies Dept. (559) 270-1023 Free

Wednesday, March 6 7 PM
FREE OPEN MIC POETRY READING at Fresno State's Coffeehouse & Pub — let your words fly (across from the University Student Union)! Relaxed parking in lots D & E off Shaw! Call 278-4435.

Friday, March 8 All Day **International Women's Day**

Friday, March 8 2 - 3:30 PM
 Dr. Afshin Matin-Asgari, History & Islamic Studies, CSULA will speak about **"The Rise of Radical Islamic Movements in the Middle East."** Alice Peters Auditorium at CSUF. Free Relaxed parking will be announced in specified lots. Call 278-7069.

Friday, March 8 5 - 6 PM
Women's International League for Peace and Freedom in solidarity with **Women in Black** & in honor of International Women's Day will gather at Shaw and Blackstone.

Friday, March 8 8 PM
Fresno Film Works' first showing of alternative, independent, and progressive films — the comedy TOGETHER, life in a messy Stockholm commune in the 70s. Bonner Auditorium inside the Fresno Arts Museum, 2233 N First Street. Call 227-8183 or see <http://www.geocities.com/fresnofilmworks/index.swf>

Saturday, March 9 9:30 AM
Fresno Center for Nonviolence monthly meeting at 985 N. Van Ness. For more information about the Fresno Center for Nonviolence, see their web page at: <http://www.fresnoalliance.com/centerfornonviolence/> or call 559-23PEACE (559-237-3223).

Saturday, March 9 1 PM
Support the Taco Bell Boycott. The Taco Bell Truth Tour will touch down in

Fresno at Fresno State University. See story page 10. Call or email Gabrielle Kirkland at 875-0057 or tellgabri@yahoo.com or Fabiola Valdez at tapatia4ever@hotmail.com.

Saturday, March 9 7:30 PM
FRESNO FOLKLORE SOCIETY CONCERTS presents the Prune Rooney Band. Web <http://www.pruner Rooney.com> Tickets: \$12 & \$15 at the Fresno Art Museum.

Sunday, March 10
Deadline for submissions to the April 2002 issue of the Labor/Community Alliance Newsletter. Send calendar items and articles to LCAeditor@mediaone.net

Tuesday, March 12 6 PM
San Joaquin Valley Coalition for Immigrant Rights meeting, Proteus office in Visalia. Call (559) 498-6033 or email sjvcoalition@univision.com

Tuesday, March 12 7 PM
Women's International League for Peace and Freedom Board/General Meeting, Carol Bequette's home, 3747 Circle Drive West. Call 229-9661.

Wednesday, March 13 Noon
Community Hunger and Nutrition Forum, sponsored by Fresno Metro Ministry, Trinity Lutheran Church, 3973 N. Cedar. No charge. Call (559) 485-1416, email metromin@qnis.net, web site at: <http://www.fresnometmin.org/>

Wednesday, March 13 3:30 PM
Fresno Center For Nonviolence radio show KFCF, 88.1 FM. Vince Lavery hosts.

Thursday, March 14 6 - 8 PM
Metamorphosis night of Spoken Word, music and theatre performances at Arte Americas, 1630 Van Ness. Call 266-2623 for more information.

Thursday, March 14 7 - 8:30 PM
 Dr. Nancy Gallagher, Middle East History, UC Santa Barbara will speak about **"Afghan Women and Recent International Developments,"** UC 200 at CSUF. Free and open to the public. Relaxed parking will be announced. Call 278-7069.

Thursday, March 14 7:00 PM
Fresno County Green Party Council Meeting,, 985 N Van Ness Ave. Call 265-3647 or go to <http://www.greens.org/cal/fresno>

Friday, March 15 7:00 PM
Labor/Community Alliance Fun\$ Raiser See page 20.

Saturday, March 16 1 PM
Rally in the Valley for Peace and Justice, Fresno Courthouse Park. See page 3.

Saturday, March 16 & Sunday March 17 **Annual Peace Centers Conference** in San Jose. Contact Angela Price at (559) 435-6383 or email angelprice@juno.com

March 17 and 18
"La Copa Benito Juárez" a basketball tournament is organized by the committee of the Frente Indígena Oaxaqueño Binacional in Arvin/Lamont to raise funds. Everyone is invited to form their teams and compete while supporting the organization and its cause. Call Fausto Sánchez at (661) 201-3050.

March 18 - 21
Chavez Adult School Celebrations at the downtown Fresno campus. The four day celebration honoring the founder of the UFW will include teach-ins, films, essay recipients, a garlanding ceremony, job fair and major speakers. Call 439-8140.

Monday, March 18 7 PM
NOW - National Organization for Women monthly meeting, 985 N Van Ness Refreshments Call Nora at 253-0109 or email iraep2@juno.com

Tuesday, March 19 7:00 PM
Stonewall Democrats will hold monthly meeting at the Express Lounge, 3075 N. Maroa. Call Jay Hubbell at (559) 292-4905, e-mail hubbell@online.no or visit website <http://www.mangen.com/stonewall/>

Wednesday, March 20 3:30 PM
STIR IT UP on KFCF 88.1 FM featuring the **'Green Scene'** and hosted by Theresa Rogerson and Jeremy Hofer of the Fresno County Green Party and the Fresno Coalition Against the Misuse of Pesticides (FresCAMP).

Thursday, March 21 7:30 AM
Community Health Care Roundtable sponsored by Metro Ministry, Trinity Lutheran Church 3973 N. Cedar. Call (559) 485-1416, email [<metromin@qnis.net>](mailto:metromin@qnis.net), or check their web site at: <http://www.fresnometmin.org>

Thursday, March 21 6 - 8 PM
Fresno County Bicycle Coalition, monthly meeting. NEW LOCATION: Cafe Mia, 608 E. Weldon. Dinner provided. Call Gene Richards 497-0570 or gene1@cviip.fresno.com

Thursday, March 21 7:30 PM
Death Penalty Focus meeting at 985 N Van Ness. Contact Maria Telesco at: (559) 255-9492 maria.telesco@worldnet.att.net

Friday, March 22 3:30 PM
 Kevin Hall and Jim and Annie Compton-Schmidt will host their monthly radio show, **Clearing the Air:** Transportation, Land Use and Air Quality. KFCF, 88.1 FM.

Friday, March 22 5 PM
Street Heat on KFCF 88.1 FM featuring Labor and Community activists.

March 23-24 **"La Copa Benito Juárez."** See March 16-17 listing. March 23 there will be a health fair with informational booths and health screening for all participants.

(continued on next page)

*Ghost of St. Patrick rides into
 Fresno so we can dance our
 socks off & raise \$
 for this magazine.
 Story: page 20*

(continued from previous page)

Sunday, March 24

Event to commemorate the life of Salvadorean **Archbishop Monsignor Romero**.
Call 222-7091 for more information.

Monday, March 25 6:30 PM

Community Alliance for a Fair Economy, CAFÉ meeting at 985 N Van Ness.
For more information call (559)445-0887 or email vmfou1@sierratel.com

Wednesday, March 27 3:30 PM

"Stir It Up" WILPF-style on KFCF 88.1 FM with your host, Ellie Bluestein.

Thursday, March 28 3 - 5 pm

Measure C Steering Committee, monthly meetings. Discussions concerning putting a new Measure C (half-cent county sales tax for transportation) on the November, 2002, ballot. Call Gene Richards with questions, 497-0570 or gene1@cwp.fresno.com. All meetings at the Greater Fresno Area Chamber of Commerce, 2331 Fresno Street.

Friday, March 29 5 PM

Vigil honoring Cesar Chavez, Peace Garden at CSUF. See page 10.

Saturday, March 30 10 AM

Annual march to honor UFW founder Cesar Chavez. See page 10.

ONGOING ACTIVITIES/PROGRAMS

Every Monday 6:30 PM

CSUF Campus Peace & Civil Liberties Coalition meets in Social Sciences Room 205B. There is another, more social meeting on Tuesdays from 4 pm to 5:30 pm in the Coffee House on campus. They have a table on Wednesdays and Thursdays in the Free Speech area from 12 Noon to 2 pm. E-mail: oscarategilmore@hotmail.com

Every Tuesday 6:30 PM

Peace Fresno Committee holds an anti-war organizing meeting at 985 N Van Ness. If you want to help STOP THE WAR - come to this meeting! For an up to the minute listing of all Peace actions in the Fresno area call 559-23PEACE (559-237-3223).

Every Wednesday 4:30 PM

A demonstration for peace will gather at Shaw and Blackstone every Wednesday until the crisis is over. For an up to the minute listing of all Peace actions in the Fresno area call the Fresno Center for Nonviolence at 559-23PEACE (559-237-3223) and press *3.

Every Wednesday 6 - 8 PM

Peace Teach-In Northfork, "The Studio" community center next to the library.

Every Wednesday 7:00 PM

"Nuevo Foro" on KFCF 88.1 FM. A public affairs program in Spanish providing news and information to the Valley's Latino population.

Every Friday 4:30 PM

A demonstration for peace will gather at Shaw and Blackstone every Friday until the crisis is over. Fresno Center for Nonviolence at 559-23PEACE (559-237-3223)

VIDEOS on LOAN

The Fresno Center for Nonviolence has a great collection of videos that they would like to share with the community. The videos cover important social justice issues such as the death penalty and prison issues, civil and human rights, racism and intolerance, ecology and environmental justice issues, the military industry

complex and war, peace and nonviolence, the effects of globalization, restorative justice and much more.

These videos follow the intention of the Center, which is to stimulate change at all levels -- personal, local, national, and international. The Center -- which opened June 27, 1992 -- is directed to foster a community spirit among people who share a desire for peace in their lives, neighborhoods, and regions. To check out videos there is a \$5.00 yearly membership fee. They can be checked out Tuesday through Thursday, 10 A.M. to 2 P.M. or by calling 23Peace for an appointment or more information. A complete listing of video titles is available at: <http://www.fresnoalliance.com/centerfornonviolence/>

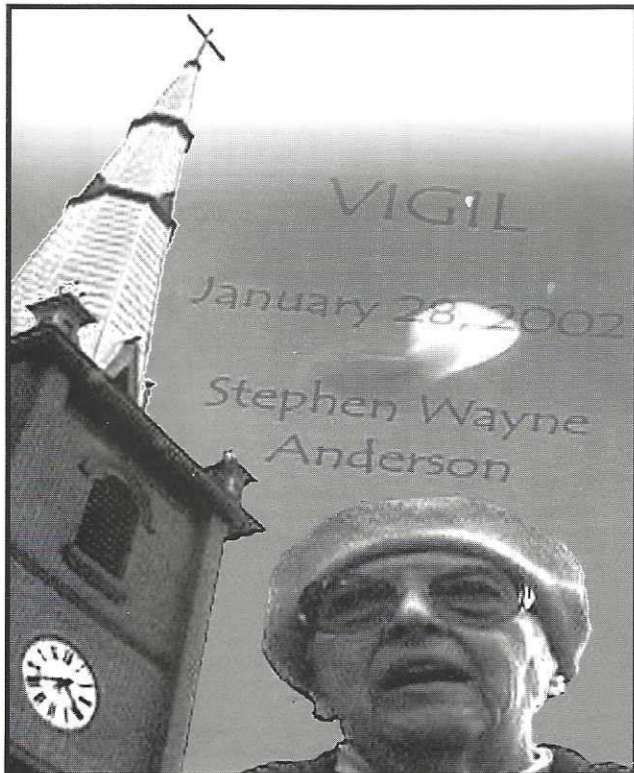
Latino Health Director Wanted



The Latino Environmental Health Project will increase public awareness of environmental health policy issues through education, community organizing, and media coverage in the Latino community of the Central Valley area. Program Director will work with three community-based organizational partners located throughout the San Joaquin Valley. Program Director will manage local staff, which includes office assistant, student interns, and youth program coordinator. Although project office will be located in the Central Valley, the director will work with and report to Latino Issues Forum (LIF) Executive Director and Health Senior Program Manager. LIF is a statewide non-profit public policy and advocacy institute dedicated to advancing new and innovative public policy solutions for a better, more equitable and prosperous society in California.

- Visit website for full description: www.lif.org.
- Send resumes to: Latino Issues Forum, Central Valley Search Committee, 785 Market Street, Suite 300, San Francisco, CA 94103, fax: (415) 284-7210, email: lifcentral@lif.org

MARIA TELESKO of DEATH PENALTY FOCUS at a vigil for the murdered Stephen Wayne Anderson.



The Unitarian Universalist Church of Fresno

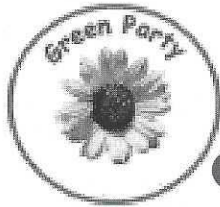


Rev. Bryan D. Jessup

*Welcomes you, whoever you are
and whomever you call family, our doors are open.*

- Mar. 3 Supporting Our Youth In Times of Turmoil
- Mar 10 Nancy Cisneros will speak on Drug Issues
- Mar. 17 Diverse Theologies - Common Values
- Mar 24 Freeing Ourselves from Slavery
- Mar 31 Things That Give Us Hope -
An Intergenerational Easter Service

Sunday Services & Church School 9:15 and 11:00
4144 N. Millbrook Fresno, CA 93726
(559) 227-6146



by Jeff Eisinger

Candidates on March ballot

This is an exciting time for the Fresno County Green Party. For the first time ever, voters in the March primary election will have an opportunity to cast ballots for those running for a position on our Green Party County Council.

Those garnering the most votes will assume responsibility for helping the Green Party to continue its recent dramatic growth in Fresno County. We urge all registered Greens to get out to vote on election day. As witnessed in the last presidential (s)election, every vote is important.

Secondly, Fresno will be the site of the next statewide meeting of the California Green Party on the weekend of May 4th and 5th. This is an exciting opportunity to show off the many accomplishments of the progressive community in Fresno. In addition, there will be interesting workshops on many aspects of political organizing.

Further, we expect the Green candidate for governor, Peter Camejo, to be in attendance (<http://votecamejo.org>). Hopefully, many in our community will be able to hear his campaign message and see how it compares to the outdated policies of the candidates backed by the corporate elite.

To make this event a success, we will be asking for help in a variety of areas such as food, registration, entertainment, and overnight housing. If you are able to help in any of these areas, please let us know by emailing me at Greeninfresno@aol.com or leaving a message at 265-3647.

We invite anyone interested in the Green Party to view our website at www.greens.org/cal/fresno (where you can even register online) and to attend our monthly meeting on March 14 at 7:00 p.m. at the Center for Nonviolence.

CAFÉ flies workers' flag

by Vickie Fouts

Community Alliance for a Fair Economy (CAFÉ) is an off-shoot of the Labor/Community Alliance. We were the activist arm of the L/CA. We are the same people, doing the same thing, at the same time and place.

We have just changed our name to distinguish ourselves from the magazine. The group is now co-chaired by myself, Vickie Fouts, and Larry Trullinger. Our secretary, Frances Sivak, and our treasurer, Nancy Marsh, have remained the same. Those attending our meetings remain much the same.

Community Alliance for a Fair Economy will function as an affiliate of the national Jobs with Justice. Our mission is to improve working people's standard of living,

fight for job security, and protect workers' rights. In order to be successful workers' rights struggles have to be part of a larger campaign for economic and social justice. To that end Community Alliance for a Fair Economy will work with a network of local coalitions that connect labor, faith-based, community and student organizations to work together on workplace and community social/economic justice campaigns.

"... in the final sense a theft from..."

"Every gun that is made, every warship launched, every rocket fired, signifies in the final sense a theft from those who hunger and are not fed, those who are cold and are not clothed."

— Dwight D. Eisenhower, U.S. President, April 16, 1953

One of our ongoing projects is the Immigrant and Worker's Rights Center, part of the San Joaquin Valley Immigrant Rights Coalition. The Labor/Community Alliance was instrumental in getting the Center on its feet. We have protested against GAP at Fashion Fair and its use of sweatshop labor and the health conditions at Chowchilla's Women's Prison. We have supported the efforts of the nearly 9,000 home health care workers in Fresno County to organize.

The Community Alliance for a Fair Economy participated in the Martin Luther King Jr. march in January. Members of CAFÉ marched with other workers and union members. I heard this was the largest local MLK march ever.

I believe that we the workers, calling for economic justice, had something to do with its success. At this time we are studying options to help improve the economic status of local workers. There are a lot of workers who are earning a wage, but still need or qualify for public assistance in order to have a decent quality of life.

If you are interested in helping the cause we invite you to attend our monthly meetings and share your ideas. The meetings are held the last Monday of each month at 6:30PM. They take place at the Fresno Center for Nonviolence - 928 N. Van Ness Ave. We hope to see you there.



The Labor/Community Alliance is an independent voice for workers and progressive groups in the Central San Joaquin Valley. The goal of this monthly magazine is to build a powerful progressive movement that will support social, environmental, & economic justice, immigrant rights and a living wage for all working people. We seek to expose social and political injustices, and to link the diverse network of activists working in our community.

Editor: Mike Rhodes

Editorial Board:

Carol Bequette, Greg Fletcher, Leonal Flores, Jeffrey Paris, Ed Perez, Diane Scott, Richard Stone, Leoncio Vasquez, Pam Whalen

Designers and assistant editors:

SunMt, Maia and George Elfie Ballis
All photos © by George Elfie Ballis except otherwise noted

Proofing by: Carol Bequette and Leslie Davis

Labor/Community Alliance

Box 5077, Fresno, CA 93755

(559 233-3978 • fax 559 226-3962

e-mail: LCAeditor@mediaone.net
fresnoalliance.com/home/

For advertising rates:

fresnoalliance.com/home/ad%20rates/htm



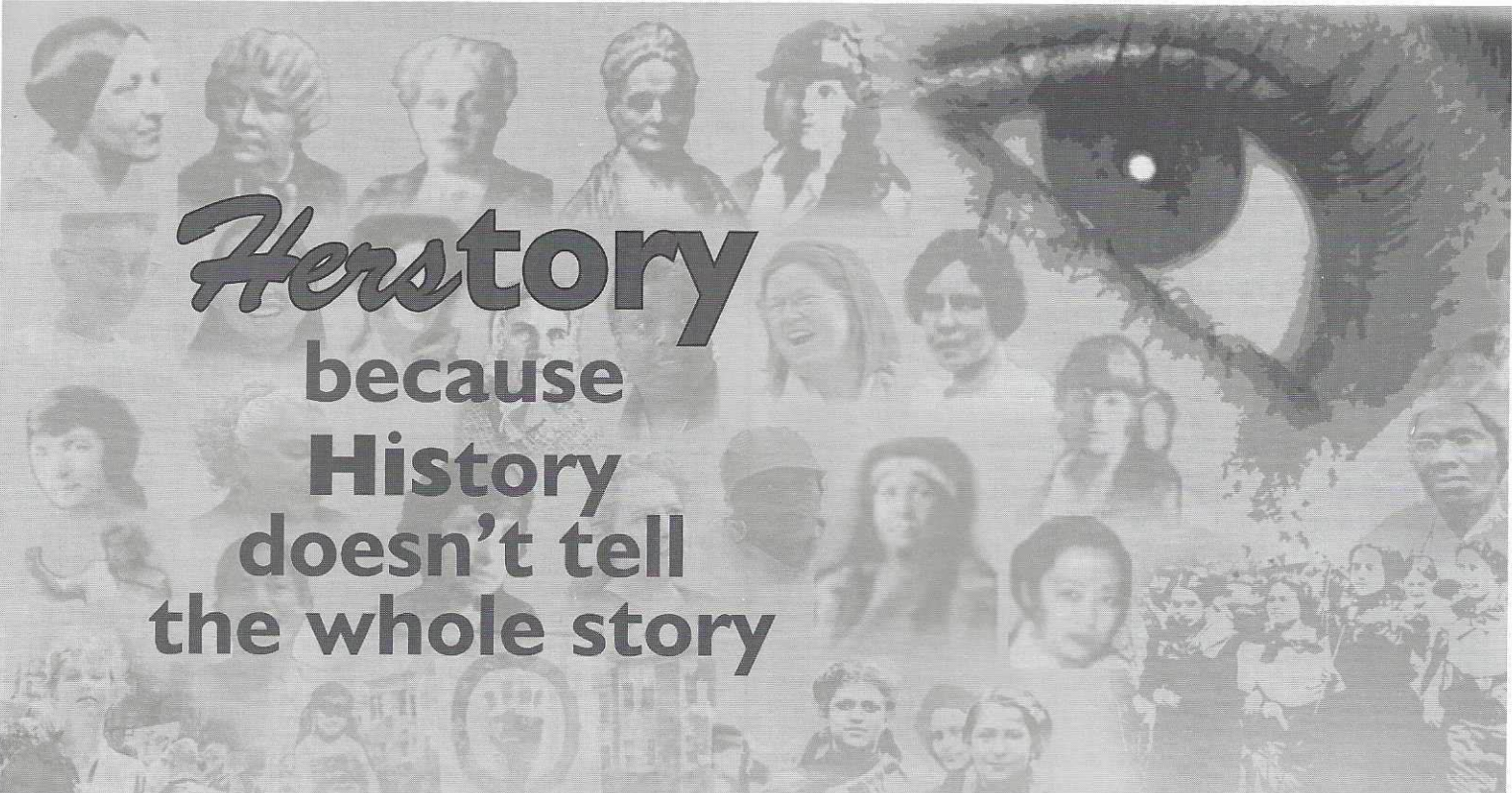
A COMPLETE
OFFSET AND
LETTERPRESS
FACILITY

MIKE RHODES

SALES REPRESENTATIVE & INTERNET PROJECT COORDINATOR

2115 MONO • FRESNO, CA 93721
: 559-233-6174 • FAX: 559-233-61

EMAIL: HUMEPNL@PACBELL.NET



Herstory because History doesn't tell the whole story

MARCH HERSTORY MONTH EVENTS at CSU Fresno

web site: csufresno.edu/studentorgs/womensalliance/vday

For more information: CSUF Women's Center, Desi or Aniesha at 278-4435

by Diane Scott

March is Women's Herstory Month and there have been women's issues in the news recently. One important one is the denial of equal rights to woman in many cultures. The right of being educated, the right of having a job, decisions over one's income, appearing in public alone, having to be totally covered in public, and many other rights. These are blatant acts of sexual discrimination. In the U. S., however, the sexual discrimination is more subtle but equally offensive. Women suffer acts of sexual discrimination on the job, in church, in film, song, and video, and, overwhelmingly in attempts to deny a woman the right to make her own decisions over her own body.

The latest outrage is the proposed reclassification of a foetus as an unborn child, the government claims, to make government paid health care for the foetus primary to health care for the woman who carries this foetus within her own body.

Equality has still not arrived. In celebration of Women's Herstory, many important, interesting, and informative events are planned to take place on the CSUF campus. Take advantage of as many of these as you can. They are for the general public as well as students. Here's the list of them:

• **Vagina Monologues:** Feb. 28 and March 1, Satellite Student Union, 7:00 p.m. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. A colorful interpretation of Eve Ensler's novel of women's experiences regarding their vaginas. Tickets are available from USU information desk. \$15.00 general, \$7.50 students and seniors.

• **"Power & Vision for Women" the Women's Leadership Conference** Sat. Mar 2, 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

• **Women of Influence for the Future-** March 2, 8:00 a.m.-4:00p.m. Special guest speaker Carole Leland. \$20:00 general, \$10:00 Students and staff. To register, contact Deborah Napoleon at the Women's Resource Center or 278-8882.

• **Women and Taxes: Tips on Filing:** Tues. Mar. 5, 12:10-12:50 p.m., in the Women's Resource Center.

• **Free Poetry Jam:** Wed. Mar. 6, 7:00-9:00 p.m. Always a fun, entertaining, and cultural treat, Amateurs and first-time readers encouraged to come and read.

• **Women With Disabilities Tell Their "Herstories."** Thurs, Mar 7, 12:00-1:30 p.m., in USU 312-314. The room is wheelchair accessible and an American Sign Language interpreter will be in attendance.

• **The Rise of Radical Movements in the**

Middle East Fri. March 8, Alice Peters Auditorium, 2:00-3:30 p.m. Dr. Afshin Marin-Asgari of CSULA will be the special guest speaker.

• **AIDS Awareness Awards for Local Female Activists.** Sat. March 9, time and place to be announced.

• **Prejudice Reduction Workshop** Mar 9 UC202 Please call Francine Oputa at the WRC 278- 4435 for more information.

• **Professional Women Speak Series:** Tues. Mar. 12, 12:10-12:50 p.m. USU 309. Special guest speaker Helen Smades.

• **Afghan Women and Recent International Developments:** Thurs. March 14 UC 200, 7:00-8:30 p.m. Special guest speaker Dr. Nancy Gallagher of UC Santa Barbara.

• **Discussion: The University Experiences of Women:** Fri. Mar. 15, 1:30-3:00 p.m. USU 308

• **Self-Defense Demonstration:** Tues. Mar. 19, 12:10-12:50 p.m. Women's Resource Center. Special Guest Demonstrator Yadira Amial will show women how to defend themselves against attackers.

• **Gathering of Talented and Outrageous Women:** Thurs. Mar. 21, UC202 6:00-9:00 p.m.

CENTER REPORT

NEVER TOO LATE: Our annual appeal has now received about \$5500. Thank you, wonderful supporters. And we will still accept late donations with open arms.

ONE THING YOUR MONEY BUYS: The value of having "our space" has been amply demonstrated recently. Beside providing Peace Fresno with a home, we have recently hosted a meeting for Japanese exchange students (arranged by Elfie Ballis); an exploration of cable TV possibilities with John Morearty of Stockton, who produces a progressive cable show there; and a statewide conference about nuclear waste. We have also been offering refuge to a music group fleeing the dispute at Arte America.

PEACE CENTERS CONFERENCE: The annual Peace Centers Conference will be held March 16-17 in San Jose. These gatherings are informative, encouraging, useful and convivial. If you'd like to join our contingent, let us know ASAP.

BEYOND LIP SERVICE: In January, Diane Marx initiated a group discussion of nonviolent resistance, Gandhian philosophy, and what it means for us to live nonviolently (as well as espouse it). A week later, Vicki Fouts gave our Board a presentation about Restorative Justice, including a (nonviolent) challenge to look at how closely we operate by its precepts. Also, in a letter to us after attending our annual retreat, James Fletcher suggested we look critically at the impulse to be confrontational, even when sorely pressed by the disdain and arrogance of power (e.g. KMJ, which refuses even to talk with us.) In the next weeks, we will be taking up these issues not as abstractions but by examining to what extent the specific individuals that comprise our group are willing and able to adopt these ideals...and where, in this imperfect world, we feel called on to use other models of action. *For more information, call Richard at 266-2559.*

FREEDOM OF SPEECH?: We received on our message machine a call from "Osama bin Laden" congratulating us on our anti-American activities. We conclude this call was a product of Richard T. Morgan's website identifying us as "a Communist front group" that "trains terrorists to kill Americans". Mr. Morgan is running to be the Republican candidate for the 21st Congressional district. We have asked the Fresno Republican Party to publicly dissociate themselves from Mr. Morgan's libelous allegations. At press time, they are considering (at our urging) sending him a letter asking him to stop linking them with his views. Beyond that, they feel compelled to honor his first amendment rights...just like John Ashcroft does???

HAVE SPEAKERS BUREAU - WILL TRAVEL

The Education Committee of Peace Fresno held a day-long speakers training in January, attended by 14 people. We now have a Speakers Bureau ready and eager to address classes and groups of any kind. Our speakers do not pretend to be experts, but will present themselves as individuals with a conviction that this "war against terrorism" is a humanitarian disaster and a wrong response to 9/11 both legally and morally. *Are you associated with a group that would be open to frank discussion of the issues related to this war? Or would you be interested in inviting a few people to your home to meet with a pair of our speakers? If so, please contact Richard Stone at 266-2559.*

THE WELCH REPORT

Feb. 11, 2002

Jack H. Welch, M.D.

The following is taken from Space Alert, Winter 2002, Newsletter of the Global Network Against Weapons and Nuclear Power in Space. This organization is coordinated by Bruce Gagnon, who spoke recently in Fresno.

KEY ISSUE IN 2002

Following the September 11 terrorist attacks on the US, George W. Bush's request for \$8.3b in 2002 for Star Wars research and development (R & D) easily passed the Congress. Even Democrats folded under pressure and handed Bush and his aerospace corporation allies a 40% increase over the previous year.

The Bush team wants to expand greatly the number and kind of tests for Star Wars. It is now moving to upgrade testing facilities in Alaska and Hawaii. Secretary of War, Donald Rumsfeld, wants to build a combination of "missile defense" systems, which would be based on land, at sea, in space and aboard aircraft, and which will require massive annual appropriations of R & D funds. The majority of Democrats are supporting a "robust" R & D program for Star Wars, and unless this position changes, we will not be able to prevent a new arms race from moving into space.

The Pentagon will get more than \$343b in fiscal year 2002, and over the next 10 years Bush plans to spend over \$3.5t on the military. Other government departments, therefore, will see their funding cut.

ABM AND ARMS CONTROL

In December 2001 Bush announced that the US will withdraw from the ABM Treaty, the widely-recognized cornerstone of arms control agreements, within six months. "A world without arms control treaties will enable Bush to exercise maximum control as the US continues to move from diplomacy to global domination... Hardliners have captured control over US military and foreign policy decision-making. Secretary of State Powell has been left to playing the "good cop" as the "bad cops" have taken over!" Richard Perle, who now chairs the Bush Defense Policy Board, says "Iraq should be 'the principal next target' the military goes after."

GLOBAL WAR

"Fighting terrorism will become the broad sales pitch to convince the American people and the world that this 'global war' is about freedom." However, a real freedom involved is freedom "for oil and weapons corporations' interests to operate at full throttle with taxpayer subsidy".

In Mr. Gagnon's travels in the US and abroad throughout 2001 he encountered a level of anger and despair among progressive people he had not seen before. To turn things around, he said, there is not one single thing other than hard work. But we must acknowledge the reality that "our country has been taken over by the corporations, the 'fat-cats', the military. Our Congress is under the control of the rich and powerful... If there is to be peace in the world the American people must throw off our addiction to power and violence..."

Rep. Dennis Kucinich (D-OH) in October 2001 introduced HR 2977, "The Space Preservation Act of 2001", a bill calling upon the US to ban all R & D, testing, and deployment of space-based weapons, and to help create a global ban on weapons in space. People can contact their Congressional delegations, urging their co-sponsorship of this bill.

MARCH WILPF EVENTS CALENDAR

- Friday, March 8 5-6 p.m. Wear black and show up at the corner of Shaw & Blackstone to show solidarity with the Women in Black in honor of International Women's Day.
- Tuesday, March 12 7:00 p.m. WILPF Board Meeting open to all at 3747 Circle Drive. Call 229-9661 for directions or more information.
- Saturday, March 16 Rally in the Valley (See details elsewhere in the Alliance.)
- Wednesday, March 27 3:30 p.m. "Stir It Up" WILPF-style on KFCF 88.1 FM

WILPF February Board Meeting Report

• The Corporation Study Group is tentatively scheduled for April 17-19. Watch the April Alliance for more details. WILPF will be presenting a set of Jane Addams books to the Central Library and also distributing 108 additional books dealing with race.

• Ingrid Carmean is drafting a letter to the American people that will go into a full page ad in the Fresno Bee. Since the ad costs \$3000, signers will be asked to contribute \$10. Contact Ingrid at icarmean@AOL.COM for more information.

• The Board urges all members to attend the Women in Black event at Shaw and Blackstone March 8 from 5-6 p.m.

• The date for the Membership Luncheon has been set for May 4 at the home of Julie Young Andrews.

• Regular WILPF Board and membership meetings are held the second Tuesday of each month. Come on out and help us with our important work.

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE REPORT

Members of our letter writing committee (Cindy Calvert, Connie Peterson, Joyce Huggins, Ellie Bluestein) have written the following letters on behalf of the Fresno Branch of WILPF:

• To Secretary of Energy Abraham, cc Dooley, Radanovich, Feinstein, Boxer, urging against the use of Yucca Mountain in Nevada as a permanent site for highly radioactive nuclear waste;

• To Dooley and Radanovich urging them to sign on to Representative Kucinich's bill to ban weapons in space (Space Preservation Act of 2001, H.R. 2977);

• To Dooley, Radanovich, Feinstein, Boxer calling for shutting down the School of the Americas;

• To President, Congressmen and Senators opposing the incredibly increased military budget proposed by President Bush.

We urge our members to also contact appropriate officials regarding these issues.

Submitted by Ellie Bluestein, Legislative Chair

President Bush, The White House, 1600 Pennsylvania Ave. NW, Washington DC, 20500
E-mail President Bush at: president@whitehouse.gov

You may find the mailing and e-mail addresses of your Congressional Representatives by visiting the U.S. House of Representatives website at www.house.gov or by visiting the U.S. Senate website: www.senate.gov

HELP KEEP SPACE SAFE

Sorry for those who missed the excellent presentation by Bruce Gagnon in January. If you would like up-to-date news

on what's happening in the nuclear space program you can log onto this e-mail list or website:

<http://www.space4peace.org>
globalnet@mindspring.com

Global Network Against Weapons and Nuclear Power in Space PO Box 90083 Gainesville, FL 32607 (352) 337-9274

Submitted by Ellie Bluestein, Legislative Chair

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBER

• Barbara Price PO Box 447 Bass Lake, CA 93604 (559) 658-2699 barbaraprice@sierratel.com

FAVORITE MEDIA SOURCES

by Carol Bequette

For those of you who are not readers of The Nation (and you all should be), here's a partial list of their and my favorite progressive sources of news and sustenance:

- The Nation magazine
- ACORN (www.acorn.org)
- Democrats.com (www.Democrats.com)
- Free Radio Santa Cruz (96.3 FM or www.members.cruzio.com/~frsc)
- Jim Hightower's Lowdown newsletter
- The Onion (www.theonion.com)
- The American Prospect magazine

BITS & PEACES

by Carol Bequette

Did you know that the U.S. ranks 49th in the world for representation of women in elected office? That's almost "Talibany"!

The magazine "Adbusters", whose mission is to talk back to consumer culture, has placed an unusual billboard above a theater near Times Square. It's an American flag but 30 corporate logos take the place of the stars. To the right of the flag a large sign states "Declare Independence from Corporate Rule". (Enron, anyone?) Go to their website www.culturejammers.org.

I don't think we're officially in World War III yet but Alfred Einstein said, "I know not with what weapons World War III will be fought, but World War IV will be fought with sticks and stones."

by Lincoln Cushing

I am a rabid recycler so I've been taking some of my magazines to the library but it occurs to me that WILPF members might like to read them first and then do their own recycling. If you would like "The Nation" or "The New Yorker" let me know. Also I have two issues of "Teaching Tolerance" that is published by the Southern Poverty Law Center. It has many marvelous materials for teachers at all levels.

I'm not much into comic strips (except Doonesbury and Tom Tomorrow's strip in "American Prospect") but I'm currently addicted to The Boondocks by Aaron McGruder appearing in the L.A. Times. Check it out!

If you're a WILPF member, we encourage you to submit any information you have and want to share with other members. Call or e-mail Carol at 229-9661/cbequette@aol.com. Thanks to this month's contributor, Ellie Bluestein, for the important information she has brought to our attention.

SPECIAL GUEST: Jemmy Bluestein, stringer and singer of people music.

A St. Patrick's Day
fun\$\$ raiser for this magazine.
Make this publication more lively by dancing lively to this authentic Irish band and their high stepping dancers.



McTeggart is an
Irish kitchen ceili (KAY-lee) band.

In the tradition of countless generations, they lead a family-style party -- a ceili -- featuring lively music, easy group dances for all, sing-alongs and Irish step-dancing performances.

Band leader Kevin Hall is a third-generation Irish dance instructor and caller. Kevin learned his skill at home from his mother Maureen McTeggart Hall. She was the director of the McTeggart Irish



Dancers, the oldest and among the largest Irish dance schools in North America, with classes in Arizona, California, Colorado, Kentucky, Louisiana, Texas and Utah. Kevin says his family's music and dancing tradition -- rooted in the flagstone-floor kitchen parties of rural Ireland -- is "younger than the mountains, older than the trees."

Community groups invited to have information tables. To reserve space, call Mike: 233-3978.

ADMIT ONE FRONT ROW

The MOVIES

VIDEO FOR THE FILM CONNOISSEUR

(559)233-8346
Jeff & Jayne, Proprietors
1435 N. Van Ness, Fresno, CA 93728

OFF LINE

Offline Independent Energy Systems
PHOTOVOLTAIC DESIGN, INSTALLATION & SALES
18 years of inspired service

Don Lowebug
Cynthia Lowebug
ofln@aol.com
559 877-7080

Box 231
North Fork, CA 93643
<http://www.psnw.com/~ofln>
License #661052

**Partnerships in
Understanding**

Consultations with Richard Stone, M.A.
concerning life values and mental health

First meeting at no cost
(559) 266-2559

Chanah Cossman, CNM
Nurse-Midwife
Prenatal and Newborn Care
Enfermera Partera
Cuidado Prenatal y de Bebé



CHINATOWN
Family
Medicine
and
Midwifery
Medical Office

Hospital & Home Birth Services

829 F Street
Fresno, CA 93706

Tel (559) 266-0444
Fax (559) 266-7745