

SUPPORT IMMIGRANT RIGHTS

On October 12, the San Joaquin Coalition for Immigrant Rights will sponsor a march to call for a new legalization program for immigrants. It is estimated that over 6 million workers in this country have no legal status. Most of these workers are feeling the economic chaos in their home countries caused by globalization. They migrate to the U.S. taking the low paying jobs to try to survive.

Employers ruthlessly use these immigrant workers lack of legal status to intimidate and exploit them at the work place. Undocumented workers are often threatened with deportation during union

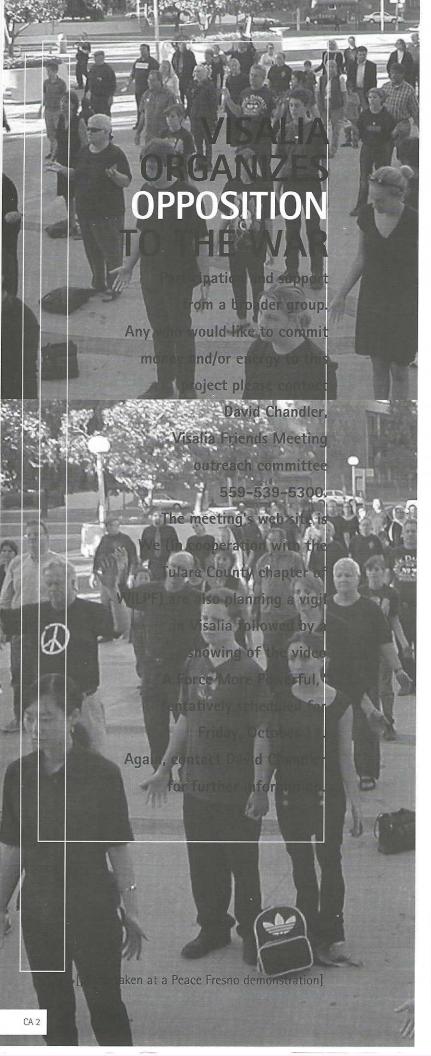


> Pam Whalen

organizing drives.

Nationwide a broad coalition of unions, churches, and community groups are waging a campaign to support legislation to allow current workers who are U.S. taxpayers the opportunity to legalize their status. Organizers plan to submit over one million signed post cards to the Bush Administration on October 7.

The Fresno march to call for legalization will take place on Dia de la Raza (Columbus Day) October 12. The march will start at 12 Noon from the clock tower at the Fulton Mall. Organizations are encouraged to bring their banners and members.





The 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.

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Don't Attack PIRAQ!

> Mike Rhodes

Fresnan's demanded an end to the DRUMBEAT OF WAR during a 10 mile march for peace in Fresno that took place on Saturday, September 14. With signs and banners demanding DON'T ATTACK IRAQ and UNITED AGAINST WAR over 100 protestors took their message to the streets and the offices of Congressional Representatives. Protest organizer Vince Lavery presented a letter to Rep. George Radonovich's aides at the beginning of the march. The protestors demanded an end to the current attacks on Iraq and for our representatives to pursue a policy of peace in the Middle East.

The march from Van Ness and Shaw Ave proceeded down Blackstone and ended at Congressman Cal Dooley's office on the Fulton Mall. Along the route marchers were greeted by many cars honking their horns in support. When they arrived at the mall they attempted to deliver a letter to Dooley's aides. Dooley's representatives, who had agreed to accept the letter, were nowhere to be found when marchers arrived.

Further protests are planned. For more information about Peace Fresno call 559–23PEACE (559–237–3223) or visit their web site at: www.fresnoalliance.com/peacefresno







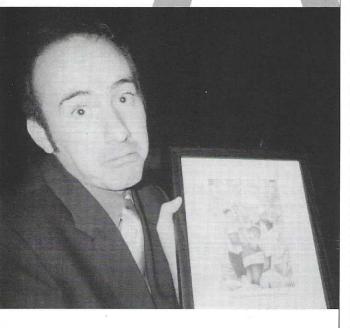
KFCF Hosts Reception and Talk Featuring Investigative Journalist Dennis Bernstein

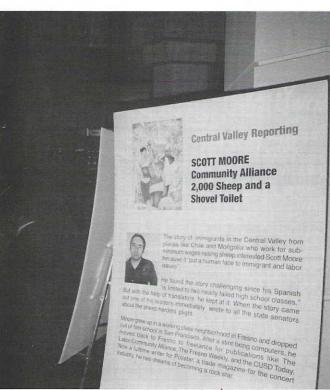


Dennis Bernstein, producer of the Flashpoints program heard on KFCF 88.1 FM, will be the special guest speaker in an afternoon reception sponsored by the station AT 2 pm on October 19 in the Sarah McCardle Room of the Fresno Public Library main branch at Mariposa and N Streets in downtown Fresno. Bernstein is a longtime investigative journalist and program producer at Pacifica stations WBAI and KPFA. He created Flashpoints during the [first] Gulf War to couterpoint the limited, chauvanistic war reporting in the mainstream media. The daily magazine show delves well beyond the surface of current events with deep analysis and critical thinking. Bernstein will offer a behind the scenes look at the craft of investigative reporting in a nation at war. Admission is free. For more detailed information call KFCF at (559) 233–2221 or visit the website at www.kfcf.org.

We Win The New CALIFORNIA MEDIA AWARD FOR Central Valley Reporting

> Scott Moore





The great part about writing for the Community Alliance, specifically the feature-length stories that I was once able to really dive into (before getting an 8:00 to 6:00 job as a working stiff), is that it gave me a chance to develop, investigate and piece together pieces about topics that I truly care about. The process is all the reward I could ask for.

Of course, winning awards is totally sweet, as evidenced by the big goofy grin I wore the whole night of Tuesday September 17, the night I won the New California Media Award for Central Valley Reporting for "2,000 Sheep and a Shovel Toilet," the article I wrote for the July 2001 issue of this magazine. Ironically (no, not like rain on your wedding day), the full name of the award is the McClatchy Award for Central Valley Reporting, which is notable because I first met Community Alliance editor Mike Rhodes while working on a piece for The Fresno Weekly about alleged union-busting activities at the Fresno Bee, a McClatchy newspaper.

The ceremony was held at the stylish Beverly Hilton, with the awards banquet being only a part of an expo/conference that drew representatives from alternative and "ethnic" news outlets across the state. There were several categories of awards handed out (including The Immigrant Experience, Healthcare, Editorial and Photography, just to name a few) and the entries were judged by a panel of notable professionals in the field of journalism.

Preceding the handing out of the awards to the winners, honors were given to three "Exceptional Communicators" for their work in advancing the cause of "ethnic" media: Phil Bronstein, executive editor of the San Francisco Chronicle:

Nadia Rahman, senior producer for the Washington bureau of Al-Jazeera; and Omar Wasow, executive director of BlackPlanet.com. Of the three, I personally anticipated Bronstein's speech the most, as I was curious as to what a representative of the corporate (or mainstream, or "traditional") media would have to contribute to the discussion.

He stated that "the role of mainstream press is to appreciate the role that ethnic media plays" instead of trying to ape smaller, independent operations because, really, (and this is paraphrasing), who would take them seriously? "We don't start the ethnic papers or pretend to know the culture, but to work together. The ethnic media is our future."

Bronstein noted that support from corporate media can come in many forms, like sponsorships, or by just showing up to recognize an event like the NCM Awards. Sure, it stinks of cop-out, but hey, at least he showed. And he did say some nice words. (And I talked to him afterwards. He let me babble about how much I like one of the columns in his paper and didn't even start slowly slinking backward, like I would have expected.)

Unfortunately, dinner started hitting the tables just as the awards were being presented. So, for the ensuing hour, the thoughtful speeches of the honorees were nearly drowned out by murmurs and the unintentional, yet thoroughly disrupting, clanging of silverware. All of the speakers got through it, though, and those who really wanted to hear what was said managed to pick out most of it.

The following day was filled with conferences on a wide range of issues, including healthcare, covering the post-9/11 story, and searching for a new term to replace "ethnic." Sadly, as the event was in the middle of the week, I had to rush back to Fresno to get back to work.

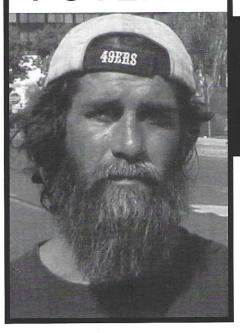
The City of Fresno has a "campaign" to make the poor and homeless go away. This campaign includes increased harassment of the poor and homeless downtown, a TV advertising campaign asking people not to give money to the poor, the relocation of services for homeless people to a location South of downtown, and an ordinance that will make panhandling illegal.

The campaign went into high gear last month when the Mayor and Chief of Police promoted and the City Council introduced an ordinance prohibiting the poor and homeless from asking for money. The ordinance is not intended to stop middle class groups from asking the public for money, standing in the middle of street medians, or yelling at passing cars. It will just affect the poor.

The harrassment in downtown Fresno has gotten so bad that the homeless are being threatened with death if they don't move on. Dave Ritter, who I have written about before in this magazine, had another run in with the authorities. He told me that he was dumpster diving at the Radisson at about midnight when several security quards told him to leave. He told the guards that he would like to take the food he found and they said no. As he was leaving, Dave cursed at them. The security guards chased and pepper sprayed him. Dave ran to the other side of the street where they caught and hand cuffed him. Dave says that one of the guards went to the end of the street as a lookout while the other one beat him. Dave told me that the guard told him that if he ever caught him there again he would take him out to his farm in Mendota, tie him with a rope to his truck, and drive him all over his property. The security guards then called the Fresno Police and had Dave arrested. Dave says that the FPD wanted a picture of Dave on Radisson property. Dave refused to walk over to the Radisson so he was dragged onto the property where pictures were taken.

Is this an isolated case? I don't think so. If you talk to the homeless around downtown Fresno you will hear a consistent story of abuse, harrassment, and disrespect. Not only from security guards like in

CITY OF FRESNO CRIMINALIZES POVERTY



the story above, but by the Fresno City Police themselves. I witnessed an incident in which a police officer badgered and taunted Mr. Ritter. Bicycle Officer Mike Smith was circling Dave on his bicycle. The officer was saying (numerous times) "Get a job Dave!" Mr. Ritter tried to ignore him and attempted to explain to the officer that he "is not causing any problems." The Officer became more aggressive calling Mr. Ritter a "worthless piece of shit" and "good for nothing."

I was standing less than 10 feet away from the officer and Ritter. Mr. Ritter appeared to be trying to get away but he could not evade the officer on a bike. The officer called him a "human cockroach", got off of his bike and got right into Mr. Ritter's face. It appeared the officer was trying to provoke Mr. Ritter.

I reported this incident to the Fresno Police Internal Affairs department using their procedure for making a citizens complaint three months ago. The Police > Mike Rhodes

Department did not acknowledge receipt of this complaint and to this day has not responded to the complaint. When I called Sargent Marty True in Internal Affairs about a month after the complaint was filed he admitted that they had the complaint and were investigating. I have not been contacted since and as far as I know the culture and procedures within the FPD that led to that incident have not changed.

So what is this all about? Why are the police and City of Fresno now criminalizing and attacking the poor and homeless, particularly in downtown Fresno? To get the answer, you need to follow the money.

Who will benefit if the poor and homeless are threatened, harassed, and made to leave downtown Fresno? The people who stand to make money in this sordid affair are those engaged in the revitalization project in downtown Fresno. They are the owners of the buildings who are looking to double or triple their money in the speculative market. These are also the folks who make generous contributions to local politicians! If this plan succeeds many local small businesses will be displaced. These businesses will be replaced by Starbucks, The Gap, and other trendy shops setting up a "theme park" environment in the downtown core. Homeless people, the poor, and many small businesses will be forced out of the area and will not participate in the advantages of the revitalization in downtown Fresno. All of the citizens of Fresno will pay for this development, the police will enforce the draconian laws against the poor and homeless to make the plot work for the wealthy investors, and all of the citizens of Fresno will lose a little of their soul and compassion if we allow this to happen.

Will we allow the rich and powerful to trample on the rights of the poor so a few investors and multinational corporations can make millions? Stay tuned... Better yet, join one of the groups who are fighting for dignity and respect/social and economic justice. You will find their names and contact information in the pages of this magazine.

SOOK & VIDEO

CD SALE

The Fresno Center for Nonviolence will hold its 2nd BOOK VIDEO & CD SALE on Sat. Oct. 26th. This year's location is the parking lot next to the Chicken Pie Shop, 861 E.Olive, in the Tower District. Help is needed! You can begin by sorting out your book collection to see what you can part with; and since CD's and videos went very well last year, any of these you can donate would be great. Then COME AND BUY, getting great values and helping the Center continue to be an important part of the community. Items can be dropped off at the Center during the preceding week (10/22-10/25), and it would be appreciated if you can sort books into these categories: mysteries & action; romance & light reading; other fiction; religion/ spiritual; cookbooks and health; non-fiction; children's; new and/or of special value. If you can help with sorting and packing books on Oct. 25, or with setting up and selling on the 26th, please call Diane Marks at 642-3793.

A SIGN OF THE TIMES:

EASTERN FRESNO COUNTY FOOTHILLS > Rod Gaudin

A tree stump once stood alongside Piedra Road. In time, some people said, the stump came to resemble the Virgin Mary and/or the "Madonna." For many of our citizens of Mexican origin, the Virgin Mary holds a special place. Slowly, thanks to the Fresno Bee, the word spread and the stump assumed the position of a sacred symbol. The people came to honor the Virgin, adorning it with visual messages, prayers, and requests. Then one day, an evil and mean force chain-sawed the stump in half. The two halves were transported off the property and a NO TRESPASSING SIGN was posted. As you turn off from Kings Canyon Highway 180 onto Piedra Road, you see a huge mountain on your right, named "Jesse Morrow Mountain." RMC-Pacific Building Materials has purchased the mountain and intends to destroy it over a 30 year to 100 year program of excavation. The impact of this project on our public health is unimaginable. See www.jessemorrowmountain.com.

METRO MINISTRY FORUM PRESSES CANDIDATES ON NUTRITION ISSUE

> Diane Scott

There are eleven candidates running for four seats on the Fresno Unified School Board in the upcoming November election, Although each candidate must live in the district of the vacancy he/she is running for, School Board members are elected on a district wide basis. This means the voter may vote for candidates in all four districts .rather than just the district he/she lives in. The districts are: Area 1 - Edison, where Luisa Medina and Bret Rush are each running against the incumbent, Bill Riddlesprigger; Area 3 - Sunnyside, Valerie Davis, Richard Johanson, and Norman Pimentel are running for the one vacancy, Area 4 -Fresno, Tony Vang is running against the incumbent, Robert Baker, and area 7 - Bullard where Patricia Barr, Joseph Penbera, and Glenn DeVoogd are vying for the seat being vacated by Ron Dangaren.

This forum was hosted by the Metro Ministry Hunger and Nutrition Project, so a number of the questions focused on proper nutrition in the schools for children, how problems should be addressed and how

the schools could replace the income from soda and fast food machines. Every one of the candidates stated that they would support banning these things from school campuses. However, Mr. Penbera noted that "we're in a war for the hearts and minds of our children (I believe he was referring mainly to high school age children) because they have an apetite for the sodas and fast food and will not willingly give it up. Mr. Riddlesprigger said he makes sure his students eat breakfast by calling them the night before class and reminding them to be sure they eat their "Raisin Bran" first thing in the morning so they will be well nourished for class.

There was quite a bit of discussion about this issue and the larger issue of providing ample nutritious food for all children. Several people advocated consulting a qualified nutritionist, some suggested finding ways to better access federal and state government programs, and there was talk of reinstating home economics to teach the students about this important aspect of their lives. Everyone

agreed that unhealthy foods such as candy, chips, sodas have no place on school campuses and that fruit juices and fruit snacks should replace them in the vending machines. It appeared that all the candidates have given this issue a lot of thought and will do what they can to implement the banning of unhealthy foods from campuses.

Each of the candidates, in giving some personal history, indicated he/she spoke at least two languages and a few speak even more. There was only monolingual candidate and she identified herself as an Hawaiian, Filipino, Mexican who speaks only English. This brought a chuckle from the audience.

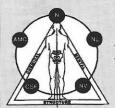
All candidates spoke about cultural diversity and the importance of addressing the many issues in this area such as food, history, language, the importance of listening to parents, bringing them into the system so they can learn how to help their children and how to help the schools and an equally important issue of providing equal rights for students in all areas, including

sexual orientation. Surprisingly the subject of violence in the schools was not brought up.

I was impressed by the knowledge all the candidates showed on a number of quite varied issues and I felt that their willingness to bring up these issues such as sexual orientation and make suggestions on how to address them showed an awareness of national as well as local issues.

Most are natives of the area; most are well educated; the majority have been involved in the schools, either as teachers, or in some sort of administrative work, paid or volunteer. Some have a background in business and some in health care management positions.

There will be other forums before the election which all voters interested in a good education for all children should attend and question the candidates on issues of importance to them so an informed vote can be cast. I think that, for this election, the voters will have the unusual opportunity of choosing the best rather than the least bad.



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ENIER FOR MONVIOLE

NONVIOLENCE SPEAKER COMES TO FRESNO

Dr. Michael Nagler is coming to Fresno on Oct. 18 & 19 to address issues of peace and security in both our personal lives and the social/political sphere. On Friday Oct. 18, Dr. Nagler will speak on "Studying Peace In a Troubled Age". The talk, with discussion, will take place in the Board of Directors Conference Room at the Smittcamp Alumni House on the campus of CSUF. On Saturday, Oct. 19, Dr. Nagler will lead a workshop, "The Search for Security" from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at McDonald Hall, Room 148 on the campus of Fresno Pacific University 1717 S. Chestnut, just south of Butler). For the workshop only, a \$5 donation will be requested of those able to pay. Dr. Nagler's presentations are grounded in the material of his latest book Is There No Other Way: the Search for a Nonviolent Future. Dr. Nagler calls on such disparate disciplines as philosophy, history, meditation, public service, spirituality and political action to substantiate a belief in an innate drive for peace, "human consciousness groping toward the unity of nonviolence." Copies of Dr. Nagler's book will be available at both venues. Dr. Nagler is founder and past chair of the Peace & Conflict Studies Program at UC Berkeley, and the author of four books as well as numerous essays and articles. He has spoken and written widely on the subject of peace and nonviolence for 30 years. He has consulted for the U.S. Institute of Peace and many other organizations. For information about Dr. Nagler's activities in Fresno, call Richard Stone at 266-2559

THE WELCH REPORT

Sept. 10, 2002 >Jack H. Welch, M.D

The lead front-page story in the September 9 Fresno Bee was headlined "Drumbeat on Iraq Intensifies": "Led by Vice President Dick Cheney... President Bush's top national security officials said nearly in unison Sunday that Saddam Hussein's efforts to build an arsenal of immensely destructive weapons left the US little choice but to act against Iraq...

"He said Iraq was sparing no effort to revive its nuclear weapons program and that in light of September 11 its history with nuclear, biological and chemical weapons programs directly threatened the US."

It is interesting, as an aside, that Bush and none of his hawkish advisors have served in the military, or certainly have not had combat experience, except for Colin Powell, who has been the voice of caution!

SADDAM AND WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION.

Saddam's possession of weapons of mass destruction (WMD) is of legitimate concern, given Saddam's history, including his past use of chemical weapons against his Kurdish population. It is largely accepted that Iraq has chemical and biological

Why We're Here, Fal 2002 Edition:

1) To support new ideas and movements (Joan Poss's trip to J-burg; the newly-forming chapter of FACTS, Bridges to Peace)

2) To provide meeting space (welcome CAN, welcome back WILPF) 3) To keep the theory and practice of noviolence alive in people's minds in as many fresh ways as we can devise (the Chautaqua; Michael Nagler's upcoming visit)

4) To act as fiscal agent enabling grant funding for unincorporated groups (The Lighthouse AIDS program in Merced; the Community Alliance) 5) To build a peace community (in 1992, 6 people marched from CSUF to downtown to protest the incipient Gulf War; in 2002 over 100 people marched/gathered to protest the incipient invasion of Iraq)

PEACE CHALLENGE IV: We will begin soliciting applications for the new edition of our Peace Challenge. This is an opportunity for groups of youth to receive up to \$200 seed money for a project to "make it better" in their community. If you know of eligible groups (school, church, clubs, etc.) have them contact us to receive an

application form. We would also welcome a couple of additional committee members—only a few meetings, and great fun meeting the kids. If interested, call Richard at

kids. If interested, call Richard at 266-2559.
WELCOME: Aniesha Saklikar has joined us as Assistant Center Director, taking over from Steve Malm (now in law school). Aniesha will focus on outreach and public relations, and will coordinate volunteers (for us, and other affiliated organizations.) The position has been funded for one year by an anonymous donor—thank you you—know—who.

you-know-who.
THANKS: to the householders of
Thorne Commons for use of their
wonderful space, and to Bryan Medina
who produced our first Chautaqua. Wo
had a memorable evening, and raised
a couple of hundred dollars for the
Center and Peace Fresno. Next year,
same time, same place?

DATES: Fri . & Sat. Oct. 18/19--Nonviolence theorist Michael Nagler, at CSUF (Friday, 1:30 p.m.) & Fresno Pacific (Saturday, 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m.)

Sat. Oct 26: BOOK & CD SALE, parking lot of Chicken Pie Shop in Tower Mon. Nov. 11—Alternative Veterans Day Observance: 7 p.m. Place TBA

weapons, and has been pursuing the development of nuclear weapons.

Although Saddam's possession of nuclear weapons would be of great concern, I have to think that Saddam is sufficiently rational to know that, if he were to attack with such weapons any US ally, his neighbors (who reportedly do not fear him), or certainly us (through terrorists), he could expect a devastating retaliation from the US that would destroy him and his nation.

DIPLOMACY.

I believe strongly that diplomacy should now be employed. As a first step Iraq must allow without restrictions the entrance of UN weapons inspectors into the country to search for WMD and evidence of their nuclear program. If diplomacy fails and President Bush decides upon use of force, any military action should require the participation of our European allies in addition to the approval of the US Congress, the American people and the UN Security Council. Unilateralism is insufficient basis for this use of military force.

Further, if Saddam were to be attacked pre-emptively (in contrast with usual past military practice) with the purpose of removing him from power, he probably would resort to use of his WMD for his own

protection -- the kind of action we strongly want to prevent.

CONCERNS OF PSYCHOLOGISTS FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY.

Experts testified during the Congressional debates of August 2002 "that we have no evidence that Iraq has increased its WMD, nor were any links to Al Qaeda demonstrated". Any US attack would invigorate extremist groups both regionally and globally; the US would be seen as expansionist and belligerent.

"Instead of instigating war, the US should address the complexities of long range peace building by acting multilaterally to sponsor containment and engagement with Iraq. This policy would mean", in addition to a renewed weapons inspection program, "encouraging Russian and European Union investments to expand economic and diplomatic relations with Iraq, and focusing on the long term ability of the Iraqi people to replace Saddam Hussein when they are empowered to do so. Such actions would demonstrate... our commitment to democracy and peace, and lead by example rather than by ultimatum and force." (Source: statement of National Psy.S.R., Washington, D.C. 8/30/2002)

would resort to use of his WMD for his own

learing the Air: Politics, and the Blue LIE

The air around Fresno is about to become a whole lot dirtier. As if our deadly load of smog, soot and toxins wasn't bad enough, we must now brace for the additional weight of the foul political stench of the pro-Measure 'C' forces. True to form, the local power brokers of business, media and government have saddled up, closed ranks and are ready to charge. They're riding high on their favorite oxymorons of transportation planning, air quality and sustainable growth. A Bee 'C'. The Fresno Bee jumped out of the gate early, announcing its support of Measure 'C' in late spring. Its opinion pages will soon be filled with strong endorsements and even stronger rationalizations for the publishers' position. Despite its history of solid editorial support for cleaning our air, the Bee has joined the crowd of local businesses that talk a good game but balk when the time for specific action arrives.

Cue the Mayor. Meanwhile, Fresno Mayor Alan Autry has been waiting patiently in the wings of the political stage. The script will soon be delivered, the lines memorized and the curtain will rise. It's campaign time! Mayor Asthma loves to speechify and he'll willingly oblige when he's told lay it on even thicker than usual. Those opposed to 'C' will be labeled "naysayers" who oppose all things good. Measure 'C', he'll assure us all, will do its share to clean the air while preserving the economic future of our next generation (if not their lungs). But the Mayor of Asthma City has done absolutely nothing about the epidemic of

human suffering which plagues his constituents, and his vociferous support of the pollution-laden 'C' will be a cruel twist indeed. Fractured Fairy Tale. A cruel twist because the mayor and chorus, funded by the developers, roadbuilders and land speculators who stand to profit enormously from this tax measure, will rely on The Big Lie. Voters will be told that this 'C' is a balanced spending plan with funding for transit, trails, access for seniors and the disabled, and so on. Worst of all, they'll say this plan will reduce air pollution. "How?" you may well ask. "Because," they'll answer with straight faces, "all roads improve air quality. All we have to do is add lanes to reduce congestion and air quality is improved." They're serious, and they'll claim that they've committed to "transportation control measures" aimed at reducing pollution. More lies. To be binding, such commitments must be placed into an air district's state implementation plan. Our next round of plans won't be completed until next year, and so far our local transportation agencies have been rejecting all substantive commitments. The Measure 'C' list is a fairy tale.

A League of Their Own. Only one thing makes these folks angrier than dissent, and that's a dissenting lawsuit. The League of Women Voters of Fresno has filed one such righteous suit against the local transportation agencies and the County for misuse of public funds. More than \$150,000 of public funds has been used illegally on campaign consultants,

voter surveys, ballot language testing, a slick brochure and a full-color direct-mail piece to 75,000 registered voters. "This is a public education effort, not a campaign," the oxymorons protest. "That wasn't a voter survey! It was a needs assessment." Oh, please. Kudos to the League for its integrity, and shame on The Bee for its almost instinctive, insect-like attack on the League's character in reaction to the lawsuit. Post It. So it's time to get your lawn poster up, anti-sprawl bumper sticker in place and your NO on C button on. We're also looking for people with property alongside major roads willing to put up with a large campaign sign for a few weeks. Email everyone you know and ask them to vote NO on C. Talk to your family, friends and neighbors. Spread the word. 'C' is for sprawl. This is the wrong Measure 'C'. We can get to the right one, but first we have to vote no this November. We'll have signs available at the next general meeting of the Sierra Club-Tehipite Chapter. You can get one sooner, and other campaign materials, from the NO on C Coalition by calling 268-1501 or email at NoOnC2002@aol.com

NO on C Coalition Position Statement

This is a \$3 BILLION mistake. We urge you to vote NO on Measure C, the transportation sales tax extension on November 5th. We have at least 2 more years to design a tax measure benefiting all taxpayers and taking air pollution,

urban sprawl, road safety, traffic congestion and road repair seriously.

Vote NO because:

- The plan does not commit to reduce air pollution, repair streets and roads, improve neighborhoods, provide transportation to seniors and the disabled, or build a modern rapid transit system.
- We do not have to choose between this bad tax Measure and none at all on November 5th. The present Measure runs until 2007.
- The Measure C Transportation Authority is not directly elected. But it has absolute power over how our tax dollars are spent and can alter the list of projects at will.
- This is not a balanced transportation plan. Its backers seek to confuse voters with token amounts for road repair, access for the disabled, bicycle lanes, trails, and bus service.
- This Measure C subsidizes sprawl despite our extreme air pollution problem in Fresno County.
- Thirty years is too long. Taxpayers are shown only 10 years of projects and will have no say about the last 20 years of spending. *This is the wrong Measure C.* VOTE NO.

NO on C Coalition:

League of Women Voters, Fresno Fresno Americans with Disabilities Act Advisory Council Fresno Area Citizens for an Effective Transportation System Fresno Area Congregations Together Green Party, Fresno Sierra Club-Tehipite Chapter

FRESNO COUNTY GREEN PARTY

Green Gathering

Friday, November 1, 2002 7:00 p.m.

All members of the Fresno County Green Party are invited to come together for an exciting evening just before the election. We intend to get one of the California Green Party candidates for statewide office to attend. Other exciting items are on the agenda as well. Come and get involved!!!! The meeting will be held at the Carter Memorial African Methodist Episcopal Church located at 3049 Mariposa in Fresno. Call 265-3647 for directions.

Goodbye Greg Fletcher

Former County Council member Greg Fletcher has recently moved to Sacramento. His contribution to the Fresno County Green Party is already missed. Additionally, Greg worked closely with the Community Alliance Magazine and those trying to bring a Civilian Police Review Board to Fresno. Please join us in wishing him the best.



Peter Camejo

Do You Know Who

Peter Camejo is? Hopefully, you know by now that he is the California Green Party candidate for Governor. But what do you know about him as a person? Here is an excerpt from the votecamejo.org website:

Peter Miguel Camejo (61), is a first generation Venezuelan-American who has fought for social and

environmental justice since his teens. He marched in Selma, Alabama with Martin Luther King and was active against the war in Vietnam. In College he studied math and history. After winning a student council election at UC Berkeley he was suspended for "using an unauthorized microphone." Peter has worked to defend the rights of Latino workers in the U.S. and to free political prisoners in Latin America. In 1976 he ran for President as a socialist, gaining ballot status in 30 states. Peter is chair and co-founder of Progressive Asset Management Inc. (PAM), which promotes socially responsible investments. He created the Eco-Logical Trust for Merrill Lynch, the first environmentally screened fund of a major firm, and a top-performer. Peter is currently a county-appointed trustee of the Contra Costa County Employees Retirement Association. He has also been appointed by the Lt. Governor of Hawaii to be an advisor to the Hawaii Capital Stewardship Forum. Through his work on the Board of Earth Share, Peter helped form the Environmental Justice Fund, to finance and unify environmentalists of color. Through an organic farming firm, Earth Trade, he helped Nicaragua become the world's largest producer of organic sesame. He is presently working to create a "Solar Mortgage" that will fund solar power installation through home mortgages. Peter is a long-time supporter of the women's movement and gay and lesbian rights. In 1987, he launched a program, called "The IRA that cares" to help fund the S. F. Aids Foundation. Camejo created the Council for Responsible Public Investment (CRPI), funded for anti-tobacco divestment work by the California Health Department. Camejo is a published author, is fluent in Spanish and English, and lives with his wife Morella in Walnut Creek, California.

After reading about Peter's background, you are probably thinking, "Where can I get a Camejo yard sign?" Fortunately, you live in Fresno County, supplier of Camejo yard signs to the entire state. Call 265–3647 to get your sign today!

Vote NO on Measure C

It favors more freeways over mass transit and other alternatives.

VOTE GREEN

GOVERNOR
Peter Camejo
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR
Donna Warren
SECRETARY OF STATE
Larry Shoup
TREASURER
Jeanne Rosenmeier
CONTROLLER
Laura Wells
INSURANCE COMMISIONER
David Sheidlower
ATTORNEY GENERAL
Greg Mower

Communication

It is vital for the Fresno County Green Party to be able to communicate with its members, especially YOU. The best way to do this is via email. Are you on our FresnoGreens listserve? If not, call 265–3647 and leave your name and email address on our voicemail.

- •••Do you need Fresno County Green Party shirts for gift giving? Call 265– 3647. See the shirt at our website:
- ••••The Fresno County Green Party conducts a business / planning meeting on the second Thursday of each month at 7:00 p.m. at the Fresno Center for Nonviolence located at 985 N. Van Ness Ayenue.
- •••Come and get involved! And don't miss our radio show at 3:30 p.m. on the third Wednesday of each month on KFCF 88.1.

How Does Your Income "Stack Up"?

Picture your annual income as a stack of \$100 bills.

Do you make \$25,000? Your stack of \$100 bills is 1 inch high. Do you make \$100,000? Your stack of \$100 bills is 4 inches high. Do you make \$1 million? Your stack of \$100 bills is 1 meter high. Do you make \$1 billion? Your stack of \$100 bills is 1 kilometer high!

The U.S. income distribution is not a "Bell Curve"... it is an "L-Curve"! On the scale of the football field graph shown here the bottom 99% of the population measure their incomes in inches. The top 0.3% measure their incomes as stacks of \$100 bills meters or even kilometers high. The richest 1% has wealth that equals the bottom 95%. Something is seriously wrong.

The *L-Curve* raises many questions. Why does the wealth (which we *all* help produce) go so disproportionately to the few at the top? Why, in a prosperous economy, is there so much poverty? Why has the lion's share of the growth even during an economic boom gone almost exclusively to those in the vertical spike while wages have stagnated?

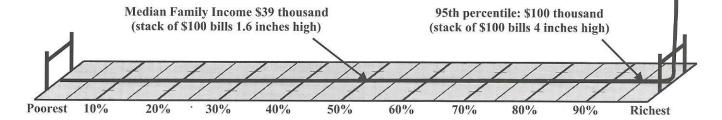
Politically speaking the *L-Curve* raises even more questions. Concentration of wealth produces concentration of power that is *fundamentally incompatible* with democracy. The horizontal spike has the votes, but the vertical spike has the influence! They own the media. Your T.V. set is *their* pipeline into your brain! They set the agenda and the terms of debate. Furthermore, by the time you enter the voting booth all the "serious" candidates have been filtered and pre-selected by their ability to raise funds from those on the vertical spike. Those who can't attract big money are marginalized. The vertical spike owns both the Democratic and Republican parties! Don't give them your vote!

The only way the government will be for the people is if it is of the people and by the people. That means we, the people, must wake up! We must wake up our neighbors. We must learn to talk to each other directly. We must bypass the media culture and rebuild true community. Democracy does not start in the voting booth. It starts by building a movement at the grass roots level that values people over profits. The Green Party is working to make this happen. Join with us!

For more on the L-Curve, see http://www.greens.org/lcurve

The Income Distribution of the United States

(Visualized on the scale of a football field; income measured as stacks of \$100 bills.)



Top of graph: ~50 kilometers (= 30 miles) up, based on Bill Gates greatest 1-year *increase* in net worth.

OCTOBER: peace AND social

Wednesday, October 2

The Fresno Free College Foundation/KFCF 88.1 FM and the Women International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF) are bringing the San Francisco Mime Troupe to Fresno with its latest performance, Mr. Smith Goes to Obscuristan, a political musical satire driven by the events of September 11th and their aftermath. The performance will be at The Tower Theater. Call (559) 233–2221 for more information.

Wednesday, October 2 - October 13

The Democratic Party in Fresno is looking for volunteers to help out at their booth during the Big Fresno Fair. They need volunteers for the fair booth from 11:00, AM until 11: PM every day and evening. Must be Democrats. Call Yvonne Brown 456–2879 for more information.

Thursday, October 3

5 – 8 PM, 6th Annual Awards Reception for Central California Legal Services. Music, Entertainment, Refreshments and more. For more information contact Luisa Medina at (559) 570–1242 or luisa@centralcallegal.org

Friday, October 4

4:30-6:30, Keep Space for Peace will be the theme of a demonstration sponsored by Peace Fresno and the Women's International League for Peace (WILPF) at the intersection of Shaw and Blackstone. Help raise public awareness of the militarization of space. Signs and info provided. This is in conjunction with a national protest. Contact Ken Hudson khudson@msn.com or Vickie Fouts vmfout1@sti.net or Camille Russell 276-2592.

Saturday, October 5

6-10 PM, "Survival Revival" Concert-fundraiser for the Fresno Art Museum at the museum 2233 N. First Street. Silent Auction, wine, hors d'ouvres and strolling musicians 6-7:00pm followed by a concert in the Bonner auditorium featuring the Brazilian choro group, Tocanto, the Kathleen Lane Band, and the Kenny Hall String Band. Tickets \$20. Available at Fig Garden Bookstore, The Movies Video and the Fresno Art Museum. Info:559-497-5033.

Wednesday, October 9

12 Noon, Community Hunger and Nutrition Forum: HUNGER LEGISLATIVE AGENDA FOR 2003 from California Food Policy Advocates; and report on planning for a FRESNO COMMUNITY FOOD ASSESSMENT. This event is sponsored by Fresno Metro Ministry and is a part of the Community Hunger and Nutrition Forum and is being held at the Trinity Lutheran Church 3973 N. Cedar Avenue. For more information call 485–1416.

Wednesday, October 9

7:00 PM, The Fresno Coalition Against the Misuse of Pesticides will present a program on Healthy Schools and Pesticides at the Sierra Club meeting at the Unitarian Universalist Church, 4144 North Millbrook Avenue. This will be a very informative evening on the Healthy Schools Act and the effect of pesticides on children. Two speakers are from Northern California. Nick Guroff of the Healthy Schools Task Force, coming from San Francisco to talk with us about the Healthy Schools Act. Suellen Lowery Director of the California Interfaith Partnership for Children's Health and the Environment, is coming from Arcata to share information on Children and Pesticides. A segment of Bill Moyer's Program "Kids and Chemicals" will be shown. Also we will have a report from Joan Poss the Fresno representative at the World Summit on Sustainable Development. For more information call Rose Rowe 224-2240.

Saturday, October 12

12 Noon, Immigrant Rights march on the Fulton will start on the Fulton Mall. March to the Federal and State Building and continue to the Tula God Statue for Danza Aztec Ceremony. The march will conclude back on the Fulton Mall with a festival. For more information contact the San Joaquin Valley Coalition for Immigrant Rights at (559) 498-6033 or email SJVCoalition@aol.com

Thursday, October 17

7:30 PM, Alasdair Fraser, internationally famed Scottish fiddler. His is the fiddle heard on the soundtrack of The Titanic, Wyatt Earp, and The Last of the Mohicans. Tickets: Advance \$12, \$15 at the door. Available at The Movies Video Store, Patrick's Music, or by phoning 431-3653, Pat Wolk.

October 18-19

Dr. Michael Nagler will be in Fresno to address issues of peace and security in both our personal lives and the social/political sphere. On Friday, October 18th, Dr. Nagler will speak on "Studying Peace in a Troubled Age" in the Board of Directors Conference Room, Smittcamp Alumni House, CSUF campus, at 1:30 PM. On Saturday, October 19th, Dr. Nagler will lead a workshop "The Search for Security" from 10 AM to 12:30 PM at McDonald Hall, Room 148, campus of Fresno Pacific University, 1717 S. Chestnut, just south of Butler. For this workshop only, a \$5 donation will be requested. For info: Richard Stone 266-2559.

Friday, October 18

4:30-8:30 PM, Fresno Filmworks presents The Fast Runner, the Inuit Canadian film everyone has been raving about. This film will be shown at the Tower Theater (Wishon and Olive Avenue). Tickets are \$8.50; \$6.50 for students and seniors. For more information call 221-0755 or email jkp21@csufresno.edu

Saturday, October 19

2 PM, Dennis Bernstein, producer of the Flashpoints program heard on KFCF 88.1 FM, will be the special guest speaker in an afternoon reception sponsored by the station in the Sarah McCardle Room of the Fresno Public Library main branch at Mariposa and N Streets in downtown Fresno. Admission is free, refreshments will be served. For more detailed information call KFCF at (559) 233–2221 or visit the website at www.kfcf.org.

Saturday, October 19

2:30 PM, RALLY AND DEMONSTRATION. On this year Prisoner Unity Day, you are invited to demonstrate in front of one of Californias' most brutal prisons. Join activists, family members, supporters and former prisoners at the gates of the California State Prison – Corcoran. Gates of Old Corcoran Prison, 4001 King Avenue, Corcoran. For more information call California Prison Focus at (510) 665–1935.

Saturday, October 19

6 PM, The Fresno Free College Foundation 2002 Annual Banquet. A special on-the-scene report on Iraq and the Middle East by activist and reporter Barbara Lubin will the featured presentation of the Fresno Free College Foundation's 2002 Annual Banquet. Ms. Lubin is a founder of the Middle East Children's Alliance, a prominent Bay Area activist, and frequently reports for KPFA news programs. For more information about the FFCF 2002 Annual Banquet call (559) 233–2221.

October 25-26

9th Annual Restorative Justice Conference in Fresno. Building the Restorative Community. For more information go to: www.fresno.edu/pacs/rjp/

Saturday, October 26

The second annual book/cd/video sale will benefit the Center for Nonviolence. Start looking through your collections to see what you can donate. Location to be announced.

Wednesday, October 30

6 PM, TAKE BACK THE NIGHT! will be held in the Peace Garden at Fresno State. The purpose of the event is to bring the campus and community together to stand in solidarity and rally against violence against women. October is national Sexual Assualt Awareness Month along with Breast Cancer Awareness Month and the Women Alliance always holds this event to bring this very important month to a close. They will have speakers, music, a march, and an open-mike at the end where people can talk about their reactions to the event. They encourage not only the campus, but the community to come and join us. For more information contact the Women's Resource Center on campus 278–4435.

ONGOING WEEKLY ACTIVITIES/PROGRAMS

Every Sunday

Food Not Bombs serves free food to anyone who is hungry. They meet (every Sunday, rain or shine) at the First Congregational Church Of Fresno, 2131 North Van Ness Blvd at 1:30 PM. They have a great kitchen with stainless steel counters and everything. At about 2:45 they drive the meal downtown to the Courthouse on Van Ness Avenue. The meal is served in recycled plastic bowls on the right side of the main entrance to the Courthouse, at the Statue of Martin Luther King Jr. Our meal lasts from 3:00 to 4:00pm. For more information see their web site at: www.angelfire.com/ca6/fnb/

Every Tuesday

7 PM, Peace Fresno meets at the Fresno Center for Nonviolence at 985 N Van Ness. If you want to help stop Bush endless war against the world - come to this meeting! 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). For more information about Peace Fresno visit their web site at: www.fresnoalliance.com/peacefresno

Every Tuesday and Thursday

7–9 PM, The St. Benedict Catholic Worker serves a meal to the homeless, working poor, and visitors and released inmates in front of Fresno County Jail (corner of Fresno and M streets) each Tuesday and Thursday night from 6:45 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Volunteers are needed to help prepare and serve the meals. Call Liza Apper at 559–229–6410 for additional information.

Every Wednesday

12 Noon, WOMEN IN BLACK – Silent Vigil at the Fresno County Courthouse-Entrance. Show your support for PEACE and for negotiated settlements of US current military actions! Meet downtown at the Fresno courthouse, from 12-1:00 PM and stand silently, advocating PEACE. For more info: 278-7140 or 225-2850.

justice calendar

Every Thursday

5:30 PM , STUDENT ACTION FRONT (the peace activist coalition of youth and students in Fresno, CA) meets at the Center for Nonviolence, 985 N Van Ness. For more information call 215-1423 or visit their web site at www.geocities.com/nocellat/studentactionfront.html

Every Friday

4:30 PM, Weekly Vigils to Stop the War are held at Shaw and Blackstone every Friday. 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. For more information about Peace Fresno email them at peacefresno@neuhouse.com or visit their web site at: www.fresnoalliance.com/peacefresno

Every Friday

4:30 – 5:30 PM, A demonstration for peace gathers at the NW corner of Walnut and Mooney in Visalia every Friday. Bring signs for peace and smiles. For more information contact Denise at 636-0514.

Every Saturday

1–2 PM, Food Not Bombs feeds the hungry near the Olive Avenue entrance to Roeding Park. The location for cooking on Saturday is at the Wesley United Methodist Church, 1343 East Barstow Ave., between First and Cedar starting at 9AM. They are always in need of servers at the park. For more information call 266-5305 or 452-0277 (ask for Dallas). Bicycle repair clinic same time and place as Food not Bombs, sponsored by the Fresno Bicycle Coalition. Need volunteer mechanics and apprentices every Saturday. Visit the Food Not Bombs web site at: www.fresnoalliance.com/FNB/

ONGOING MONTHLY ACTIVITIES/PROGRAMS

1st Monday of every month

7:30 PM, Monthly meeting of the Fresno Coalition Against the Misuse of Pesticides (FresCAMP). For more information email <FresCAMP@yahoo.com or call (559) 439-0280 or (559) 227-6134.

3rd Monday of every month

7 – 9 PM, The National Organization for Women will have their Monthly Meeting at the Center for Non-Violence, 985 N Van Ness (just south of Olive -Tower District). Both women and men are welcome! For more info call 559–252–7569.

The last Monday of every month

6:30 PM, Community Alliance for a Fair Economy (C.A.F.E.) meeting at 985 N Van Ness. For more information call (559) 445–0876 or email vmfout1@sti.net

1st Tuesday of every month

6 PM, The San Joaquin Valley Coalition for Immigrant Rights at 328 N. Fresno Street. For more information call (559) 498-6033 or email SJVCoalition@aol.com

3rd Tuesday of every month

7:00 PM, Stonewall Democrats will hold their regular monthly meeting at the Express Lounge, 3075 N. Maroa (just south of Shields). Contact Jay Hubbell at (559) 292-4905 e-mail hubbell@online.no or visit the website www.mangen.com/stonewall/

1st Wednesday of every month

7 PM, The Fresno County Democratic Central Committee meeting's are held in the Sate Building Assembly Room. Call Sam Pack Chair phone 495-0606 for more information or agenda item. Yvonne Brown Co-Chair 456-2879.

2nd Thursday of every month

7:00 PM, Fresno County Green Party Council Meeting at the Fresno Center for Nonviolence, 985 N Van Ness Ave (S. of Olive). The Fresno County Green Party invites you to its regular monthly County Council meeting. The four pillars of the international Green movement are Social Justice, Grassroots Democracy, Nonviolence, and Ecological Wisdom. Call 265-3647 for details or go to www.greens.org/cal/fresno

3rd Thursday of every month

6 – 8 PM Fresno County Bicycle Coalition – monthly meetings to provide a forum for bicyclists to organize, discuss common concerns, and influence public policy. They have committees on Political Action, Promotion & Education, and Facilities Planning. If you are interested in helping Fresno County become more bike friendly, you are invited to join this group. Cafe Mia, corner Weldon and Van Ness, across from Fresno High School.

3rd Thursday of every month

7:30 PM, Death Penalty Focus regular meeting at the Fresno Center for Nonviolence, 985 N Van Ness. For more information contact Maria Telesco at: (559) 255-9492 maria.telesco@worldnet.att.net

4th Thursday of every month

7:00 PM, The Alliance for Community Media in Fresno will hold a meeting to attain Public, Education, and Government access to cable TV. The franchise agreement between the City of Fresno and AT&T is now being negotiated and community groups are organizing for access. Join them by attending this meeting which will be held at the Fresno Center for Nonviolence, 985 N Van Ness. For more information contact AllianceEditor@attbi.com or call (559) 226-0477. To join the Alliance for Community Media in Fresno listsery send a message to: Alliance-for-Community-Media-in-Fresno-

subscribe@yahoogroups.com

3rd Friday of every month

7:30 PM Baha'i lecture series, 'Essential Prerequisites For Peace: Promoting Justice, Unity, Equality Of Women & Men, And Preventing Racism'. LOCATION: the Baha'i Center, 2240 N. Angus Street, Fresno, (1st. block south of Clinton, between Fresno and First streets). FOR MORE INFORMATION, call John Cook at (559) 434–6500 or 824–2030, or call the Baha'i Center at 237–4862. www.fresnobaha'i.org

1st Saturday of every month

9:30 AM, Kennedy Club of the San Joaquin Valley are held each 1st Saturday of the month at Denny's Restaurant at Abby and Divisidero Call 439-8140 for more information. home.att.net/~barbarapyle/kennedy/kennedy.htm

1st Saturday of every month

2 - 4 PM, Women of Spirt - a gathering of women rediscovering their own spirituality and enabling others to do the same. You are invited to join the circle of women the first Saturday of each month, at 7319 N. Fourth St., Fresno. Beginning and closing meditation, discussion and activity, light refreshments after closing. The event is free. Both men and women are welcome. Questions, call Veena Kapoor (559) 435-2212.

2nd Saturday of every month

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: www.fresnoalliance.com/centerfornonviolence/ or call 559-23PEACE (559-237-3223).

ONGOING MEDIA PROGRAMS

Monday to Friday

9 AM, "Democracy Now!" on KFCF 88.1 FM. Award-winning veteran journalist, Amy Goodman, appropriately subtitles this show "The Exception to the Rulers" as the program covers news of the nation and world from a progressive viewpoint, with focus on the history and economics of workers, women and people of color around the world. Check out www.democracynow.org

Every Monday

3:30 PM , "Valley Politics and Labor News" on KFCF 88.1 FM. A program of discussions and interviews on local political issues with listener call–ins. Hosted by Mark Scalzo, the former mayor of Madera, CA.

Every Wednesday

7:30 AM, David Bacon's Labor Journal on KFCF 88.1 FM. David Bacon's experience as a union organizer and his world-wide contacts in the Labor community makes him uniquely qualified as a journalist specializing in issues and concerns of working people. He covers a broad range of labor news and issues locally, nationally and globally. See David's web site at www.igc.org/dbacon

Every Wednesday

3:30 PM, "Stir it Up!" on KFCF 88.1 FM. This program is hosted by different progressive community group each week of the month. Listen for the community calendar, interviews with community activists and more.

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 first and third Thursday 3:30 PM, "Art Attack!" on KFCF 88.1 FM. A program focusing on visual and performing arts with interviews and a calendar of events, hosted by Janet Flores.

Every Friday

1 – 3 PM, Radio Grito is on the air (in Spanish) bringing you Community Radio at its finest. Listen on KBIF 900 AM as Proyecto Campesino brings you news and information about our valley. Call ins are welcome. Have something you want people to know about? Call them up and be a guest. For more information call (559) 733-4844.

4th Friday of every month

3:30 PM,Clearing the Air: Transportation, Land Use and Air Quality in the Central San Joaquin Valley on KFCF 88.1 FM with your host Kevin Hall from the Sierra Club.

3rd Friday of every month

5:00 PM , "It's a Queer Thang" on KFCF 88.1 FM. Hosted by Jeff Robinson, this program discusses Gay and Lesbian issues.

4th Friday of every month

5 PM, Street Heat on KFCF 88.1 FM with your hosts Pam Whalen and Mike Rhodes featuring Labor and Community activists.

For up to the minute information about what is happening in Fresno's progressive community, join the Community Alliance email alert network. We send out an updated calendar of events once a week and alert you when there is an emergency rally or demonstration. This is a free service. You can join by sending your email address to AllianceEditor@attbi.com saying you would like to subscribe to this service.

C.A.F.E. PRESENTS A NEW OPPORTUNITY FOR FRESNO'S PROGRESSIVE COMMUNITY

ON October 31, 2002 the 7th summit of the Free Trade Area of the Americas (the FTAA, or ALCA in Spanish) will meet In Quito, Ecuador. The Community Alliance for a Fair Economy is participating in the Continental Days of Resistance Against the FTAA. C.A.F.E. will be providing some of the desperately needed financial resources for the mobilization for protest of the FTAA at the Quito Summit and will be establishing a long-term link with a "Sister Group" in Ecuador to continue communications about the effects of the FTAA throughout the Americas.

Our own, Justin Ruben, who worked with Pesticide Watch in Fresno, is now in Ecuador working with ALCA.NUNCA, the continental FTAA resistance movement that is building connections between grass roots groups in North America and Canada and grass roots groups in Ecuador and other South American countries to promote solidarity opposing the FTAA.

WHY OPPOSE THE FTAA? The FTAA would expand NAFTA (the North American Free Trade Agreement) a proven disaster, especially with Mexico, by expanding the corporate trade agreement through the rest of the Americas. That is where the FTAA fits in. It's a new name for an old game. The huge corporations are guiding this agreement, which for a long time was kept secret from the public.

FTAA will speed the "race to the bottom" as it pits the exploited workers of Mexico against even more desperate workers in countries in South America and the Caribbean.

FTAA will speed the destruction of fragile ecosystems in South America.

FTAA will undermine the effort in Brazil to put life ahead of profit in the making of AID's drugs at an affordable cost for the world's poor.

FTAA will speed the processes of privatization of essential services like water, education and health

FTAA will promote and support "investor rights" which empower corporations to sue governments in closed-door tribunals over domestic policies that may undermine their future expected

profits, thereby endangering health and safety everywhere.

The FTAA, which is dictated by corporate interests, has alternatives! Excellent alternatives to FTAA, concerning socially responsible and environmentally sustainable commerce, are available. Of course, the "official" western corporate controllers of the FTAA have rejected the efforts





FRESNO FREE COLLEGE FOUNDATION 2002 ANNUAL BANQUET

A special on-the-scene report on Iraq and the Middle East by activist and reporter Barbara Lubin will the featured presentation of the Fresno Free College Foundation's 2002 Annual Banquet, which will be held on Saturday, October 19th at the Downtown Club in Fresno beginning at 6 pm. Ms. Lubin is a founder of the Middle East Children's Alliance, a prominent Bay Area activist, and frequently reports for KPFA news programs, and will have just returned from that region. Barbara Lubin will be introduced by Dennis Bernstein, producer "Flashpoints", KPFA's investigative news magazine.

The Middle East Children's Alliance is a Berkeley-based NGO working for peace and justice in the Middle East focusing on Israel, Palestine, Lebanon and Iraq. Their programs emphasize the need to educate the US population about the region, and support projects that aid and empower communities. The Foundation will also present it's annual Free Speech Award to Reverend Bryan Jessup, pastor of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Fresno. The award is for his courageous public stand for free speech and free inquiry in hostile circumstances, and doing it with grace.

Foundation members and KFCF subscribers will receive invitations in the mail. For more information about the FFCF 2002 Annual Banquet call (559) 233-2221.

The Unitarian Universalist Church of Fresno



Rev. Bryan D. Jessup Welcomes you, whoever you are and whomever you call family, our doors are open.

Sermon Topics:

October 6 "No to Hate. Yes to Understanding and Collaboration" Bryan Jessup

October 13 Our Annual Canvass

Bryan Jessup Service and others

October 20 "Out in the Woods with Emerson" Bryan Jessup

October 27 Sunday Services

Kevin Hall Committee

Sunday Summer Service 9:15 a.m. 4144 N. Millbrook Fresno, CA 93726 559.227.6164

Womens International League for Peace and Freedom

P.O. Box 5114, Fresno CA 93755

WILPF FRESNO OCTOBER - NOVEMBER 14 EVENTS

Wednesday, Oct. 2, 7:30 pm: Mr. Smith Goes to Obscuristan, San Francisco Mime Troupe . WILPF Fresno, Fresno Free College Foundation and KFCF Radio bring you a night of outright enjoyment. Join us at the Tower Theater. Advance tickets: \$20.00-general admission, \$17.50-children, students, and seniors. Door: \$22.50 and \$20.00 respectively. Contact: Carol Bequette at 229-9661 or email cbequette@aol.com regarding tickets, volunteering and housing.

Friday, Oct. 4, 4:30–5:30 pm: Keep Space for Peace Demonstration with Peace Fresno at the intersection of Shaw and Blackstone. Contact: Camille Russell at 559-237-3223 then *3 or email camillerussell@softcom.net.

Monday, Oct, 14, 7-9 pm: WILPF Fresno Board Meeting at the Fresno Center for Nonviolence (FCNV), 985 N. Van Ness. All are invited to attend these meetings.

Contact: Vickie at 658-8260 or email vmfout1@sti.net.

Wednesday, Oct, 27, 3:30-4:00 pm: Stir It Up! WILPF's Gabrielle Kirkland hosts Joan Poss to discussion the World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) in Johannesburg, South Africa.

Every Wednesday, Noon-1 pm: Women-In-Black. Stand in silence for peace in the Fresno County Courthouse archway. Bring a poster saying how you support peace and not war.

Contact: Jan at 278-7140 or email janet_slagter@csufresno.edu.

WILPF Fresno Board Meeting every $2^{\mbox{nd}}$ Monday at FCNV, 985 N. Van Ness.

CONTACT DESI CORTEZ at desicortez@cvip.net, 4618 N. First, #166, Fresno, 93726 or 559.907.2200 to submit items for this page. Please submit by 10/10/02.

From the WEB

Eye On Congress – The National Priorities Project (NPP) has some excellent information regarding military versus social spending.

- 1. Tables showing what different areas of military spending cost your state and what that money could buy to better meet local needs instead. Breakdowns include the cost of nuclear weapons; missile defense; the proposed increase in military spending for FY2003 and the cost of jet fighter programs. Each area of spending is contrasted with how many children could receive health care coverage or attend Head Start programs; how many affordable houses could be built or how many elementary teachers could be hired. To find out the tradeoffs in your state go to: www.nationalpriorities.org/issues/military/tradeoffs.html
- 2. A new monthly Budget Update, which offers brief updates on an aspect of the federal budget process. The August update provides an update on the defense authorization bill. To read this update go to: www.nationalpriorities.org/BudgetUpdates/BudgetUpdate61502.html
- 3. More data on the NPP Database, which offers state-level data on socio-economic needs and federal expenditures and allows you to create customized tables, graphs and reports. A new issue area includes data on education spending programs. Additionly, new data has been added to all issues on the Database. For instance, you can now find out the funding cuts for Section 8 housing programs between 2002 and 2001 for each state, and the 2002 participation data for food programs and TANF, which shows the recession's impact on people from state to state. For this and other information go to: www.nationalpriorities.org/database. Be sure to go the "Help" section first to acquaint yourself with all the database features.

WILPF Business

Contact Vickie Fouts at 658-8260, vmfout1@sti.net or our branch address for additional info.

- 1. We still have three vacant offices, Program chair, Historian, and Website Designer.
- 2. A college intern will be working with our branch in the spring.
- 3. Four volunteers need to be a single point of contact for WILPF's four campaigns.
- 4. Voted to send a letter of support for the workers in their struggle with Champion Manufacturing, a mobile home manufacturer in Lindsay. Members are encouraged to send individual letters of support through Carpenters Local 1109 at 319 N. Church, Visalia, California 93279, (559) 732-5817 or (559) 738-8513 (fax).
- 5. Voted to define formal guidelines for Education Fund expenditures and fundraising. We will be specifically looking at criteria for sending members to events and donations to other groups and individuals. Vickie Fouts, Zay Guffy-Bill and Desi Cortez volunteered to begin this work. All members are invited to join.
- 6. Voted to adopt an Israeli Refuser. Refusniks are being jailed for not participating in the violence against Palestinians. Adopting includes corresponding with the refuseniks and some monetary support. The exact amount of support was not determined at this meeting. More complete information will be provided next month.
- 7. Cookbook: Submittal of recipes has been slow. As of September Zay had received only 2 recipes. We know that there are an over abundance of great cooks out there so please get those recipe cards to her. Send them to zaygb@earthlink.net or our branch address.
- 8. The Membership Directory is being compiled at this time. Please send Julie Young your contact information if you haven't updated it since the last directory was printed two years ago. Don't forget to give us your email address. Contact Julie at 323-4359, jandj84@aol.com or our branch address.
- 9. Our annual Peace Community Crafts Faire (our major fundraiser) is set for Saturday, December 7 from 10-10. The current priority is to obtain vendors for the event. We need help with coordinating vendors, food coordination and service, raffle ticket selling, WILPF tabling, White Elephant Collection, Silent Auction event set up and cleanup coordination. If you can help with any of these tasks, please, contact Desi as soon as possible at the addresses listed at the end of this page. 10. The board agreed that coalition building should be the primary concern and mission of our branch.

Peacebuilding Class Update:

Vickie Fouts, local WILPF president, is taking the Peace Building class at CSUF. She is working towards a Special Certificate in Peacebuilding and Mediation. Vickie will be reporting to us what she is learning. This month she learned about using non-violent language as a way to build a more peaceful community. She will work on removing from her vocabulary such things as: computer bullets, target audience, brownies to die for, killer fudge, I could have just killed her, etc. By doing this she hopes to undo some of the desensitization to violence our media and society

have caused. We recommend you give this a try, especially with children. Let us build a more peaceful Fresno and world.

As part of our "Challenging Corporate Power, Asserting the People's Rights" campaign we are working on a directory of locally owned businesses we can support with our dollars instead of giving them away to large corporations and some CEO's pocket. Please send the name and address of any local businesses that you use so they can be included to: Vickie Fouts at vmfout1@sti.net or call 658-8260.



Inmates Pay, and pay, and pay, and pay.

OCTOBER 19 TELL GOVERNOR DAVIS, THE DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS AND THE SUPREME COURT:

Overturn The Three Strikes Law/Release the Lifers/Parole Now/ Health Care Now for All Prisoners/Shut Down Security Housing Units/No More Prison Construction/Abolish the Death Penalty.

On this year's **Prisoner Unity Day**, we invite you to demonstrate in front of one of California's most brutal prisons. Join activists, family members, supporters and former prisoners at the gates of the California State Prison – Corcoran.

RALLY AND DEMONSTRATION Saturday, October 19, 2:30 p.m.

Gates of Old Corcoran Prison 4001 King Avenue Corcoran

This demonstration is part of the Prison Reform Unity Project's (PRUP) day of protest. To endorse (and for more information) call California Prison Focus at (510) 665–1935.

Please Help Spread the Word!

Partial List of Endorsers: California Prison Focus; California Coalition for Women Prisoners; International Action Center



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