

Olympia FOR's ANNUAL GATHERING AND ELECTION
TUESDAY MAY 17 FROM 6:30 TO 8:30 p.m.

Each year the Olympia FOR's Annual Meeting is a delightful celebration! This year we'll enjoy ourselves again, and **YOU are invited!** Please join us on Tuesday May 17 from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at Traditions Café, 5th & Water downtown.

We'll celebrate with social time and light refreshments; review our rich and varied accomplishments since last May; and elect Steering Committee members and officers.

This year's special feature will be an introduction to restorative justice by Beth Rodman, who is an expert on the subject and serves on our Steering Committee.

The Olympia FOR's Guidelines provide for a maximum of 16 persons on the Steering Committee. Thanks to Steering Committee incumbents Berd Whitlock, Dennis Mills, Doug Mackey, Glen Anderson, Kerri Griffis, Kristen Dahle, Muhammad Ayub, Rozanne Rants, and Vale Core, who are completing two-year terms. Some incumbents are willing to run for new two-year terms through May 31, 2013.

Thanks also to incumbents who have served half of their current two-year terms: Beth Rodman, Chris Carson, Jody Mackey, and Kim Dobson.

Our Nominating Committee (Berd Whitlock 259-4291 or Glen Anderson 491-9093) are seeking Steering Committee members and officers who are grounded in the Olympia FOR's values and activities and would like to devote time and effort to strengthening our local group and activities. We'll accept more nominations from the floor.

For more information about our Annual Gathering contact planning committee member Berd Whitlock 259-4291 robertfwhitlock@gmail.com or Jody Mackey 915-6757 hungryforpeace@gmail.com or Chris Carson 943-2375.



RHODODENDRONS
will bloom soon!



BRING OUR BILLIONS HOME

ON SUNDAY MAY 22 WE'RE GONNA
"TURN THE BUDGET AROUND"
FROM 1:00 TO 3:30 AT HERITAGE PARK

On November, 1989, the Berlin Wall came down, and people celebrated! Nearly half a century of Cold War was ending, and the American People wanted a "Peace Dividend" – a massive budget shift from militarism to meeting domestic needs. Olympia's Pat Holm and others organized a festive event in Olympia, called "Dancing on the Wall." The military-industrial complex is like our Berlin Wall, so when we can dance on top of it we will finally be free! Olympia's "Dancing on the Wall" event – using cardboard boxes to represent the wall – was held on April 15, 1990. We educated ourselves and vowed to continue working towards ending the military-industrial complex.

More than 20 years later the Olympia FOR is sponsoring another festive event using the "wall" symbol to invite people to "**Turn the Budget Around**" and urge changing the federal budget from war to peace. We'll hold this on **Sunday May 22 from 1:00 to 3:30 pm at Heritage Park (5th & Water, downtown)**. See the flyer enclosed with this newsletter and posted at www.olympiafor.org

We invite people to bring cardboard boxes. We'll provide art supplies and additional boxes. **Kids and adults will decorate one side of each box** showing war and militarism – and **the box's other side** showing the peaceful alternatives we want (including humane priorities for the federal budget, such as jobs, schools, housing, clean energy, health, environmental care, and local food).

This article continues on page 14

THE BUDGET PREDICAMENT – AND OLYMPIA FOR’S EFFORTS TO “BRING OUR BILLION\$ HOME”

by Chuck Schultz

The budget deficit has citizens scrambling. Many thought that electing Obama would give us relief from the cost of war. But since he has taken office, military spending and the budget deficit have risen steadily. Congress has helped push the deficit to the highest level since World War II. A few people in Congress, such as Senator Bernie Sanders and Representative Dennis Kucinich, try to help. Several bills and amendments have been introduced but they have been soundly rejected. Adam Smith, from Washington’s 9th district, has slightly softened his rhetoric against reviewing the Pentagon’s budget. However, he still feels we must not tamper with our “robust military.”

Obvious answers to the budget deficit are to raise taxes, cut military spending, or cut social programs. So what gets cut? Head Start, child care, education, Pell grants and other programs that support kids, seniors, and single parents. People hurting for services want their safety nets to be saved. Citizens rallying at Capitols across the country focus on closing loopholes and raising taxes, especially on rich individuals and big businesses. Tax breaks for the wealthy are supposed to help the create jobs and help the economy. Have you noticed any hard cash trickling down lately?

Peace activists want to curb war funding. In other countries, people demand new governments. Most Americans somehow still believe our representatives will represent us. So we try to persuade them to do that.

Congress insures that we will have a military that can save the country. To have a country worth saving, Congress should fund social programs and infrastructure. While our military demolishes other countries, our country crumbles around us? The American Society of Civil Engineers remarked in their 2009 Report Card for America’s Infrastructure: “Years of delayed maintenance and lack of modernization have left Americans with an outdated and failing infrastructure [T]he crisis is endangering our nation’s future prosperity.” But then, highway bridges seldom collapse? Unless there is an earthquake.

Organizations like the Center for Research on Globalization have been saying for years that military procurement is on the wrong track. Current military design is ill suited to conduct protracted, large-scale wars of occupation and counter-insurgency. Weapons are not planned to fit a rational policy for defending the country. Nuclear weapons and long range bombers and submarines to deliver

them are really offense, not defense. Our policies of coercion and control alienate us from friendly nations. Countries that lack armies to match ours look for different ways to destroy our capacity for harm.

Defense Secretary Robert Gates admits there are obsolete weapons programs and waste. However, he would shift money from them to increase other military budget items. Economists of the Commonwealth Institute came up with several plans for a more efficient military budget. The President’s bipartisan Fiscal Commission also showed how military spending could be trimmed. These, however, have had little effect on the proposed budget.

Clearly, the federal government will not lead the way to a sane and humane budget.

Increasingly, peace groups are focusing on war spending. The Western Washington Fellowship of Reconciliation (WWFOR) created the **Bring Our Billion\$ Home** campaign (**BOBH**). The campaign aims to persuade Congress to shift just a fraction of the money spent on the military to social needs. The Olympia FOR has undertaken this campaign in earnest. Olympia FOR’s activists meet once every three weeks in a large group and more often in smaller project committees. We are accomplishing a lot, and we invite you to join us!

See both sides of the newsletter enclosure and the page 1 article on the Sunday May 22 event to **Turn Our Budget Around.**

The Olympia FOR has already accomplished several projects, others are under way. We, with Olympia’s Veterans for Peace chapter 109, brought Congressman Dennis Kucinich to the Capitol Theater to speak on “The True Cost of War.” (See page 3.) A **BOBH** task group created calendars with compelling photos on our topic, and passed them out to the crowd as they entered the theater.

These calendars advertised a May 22nd event, **Turn the Budget Around.** (See page 1 and one enclosure in our current newsletter.) People will gather at Heritage Park in Olympia from 1:00 to 3:30 pm on Sunday May 22 to **Turn the Budget Around.** A wall of boxes will contrast military budget items with the needs of our community. Members will match war costs with the cost of social programs. For example, \$569,000 spent for each Tomahawk missile matches hiring 15 school teachers. Using paint or markers participants will represent war vs. peace alternatives on opposite sides of cardboard boxes. All ages will find activ-

ities to do while being entertained by the Artesian Rumble Arkestra and other performers. For more information contact Pat Holm at 357-4151 frogprin@cco.net

Another BOBH project is *Postcards, One by One*. Please send a postcard each month on the date of your birth to your Congressional Representative (and, optionally, also



to your US Senators). (See addresses in the box to the right.) The message asks the representative to cut funding for wars or specific military budget items – and use the savings to fund social programs instead.

We'll post some more specific information about this at www.olympiafor.org/bring_the_billions_home.htm, Olympia FOR website's Bring Our Billion\$ Home page.

Postcarding tips:

- Mark each month on a calendar with your birth date to remind you.
- Send postcards to your Congress Member's local office.
- Use your full address, preferably including your Zip+4 code so your Congress member will know you're a constituent in the district.
- Be concise and sincere.
- Write legibly.
- Buy plenty of 28-cent stamps so you'll always be ready.
- For information talk with Gus Fromuth at 867-1731 or Rozanne Rants at rozannerants@yahoo.com

The greater Olympia area includes parts of two congressional districts (3rd represented by Jaime Herrera Beutler and 9th represented by Adam Smith). Participants are currently writing letters and postcards to them. We are also forming committees to plan more ways to communicate with representatives in both districts 3 and 9, including visiting their local offices with delegations including persons representing local peace, religious, social service, governmental, nonprofit and other sectors.

Positive change is unlikely unless citizens show overwhelmingly what they want from government. **It really is up to us to Bring Our Billion\$ Home!**

**"Since the beginning of time, empires have been brought down by the cost of standing armies."
-- Noam Chomsky**

3rd Congressional District:

Rep. Jaime Herrera Beutler
750 Anderson Street, Suite B
Vancouver, WA 98661

9th Congressional District:

Rep. Adam Smith
2209 Pacific Ave Suite B
Tacoma WA 98402

Sen. Maria Cantwell

915 Second Avenue, Suite 3206
Seattle, WA 98174

Sen. Patty Murray

915 2nd Avenue, Suite 2988
Seattle, Washington 98174

WATCH CONGRESSMAN DENNIS KUCINICH'S Olympia PRESENTATION ON THE Olympia FOR'S WEBSITE

800 persons filled downtown Olympia's Capitol Theater on Monday February 21 to hear Congressman Dennis Kucinich speak powerfully and insightfully about **"The True Cost of War"** and answer questions from the audience.

The Olympia Fellowship of Reconciliation and Olympia's Veterans for Peace (chapter 109) presented this. Our skilled videographer Dennis Mills taped it and arranged for TCTV to air it in Thurston County eight times during March. He also posted it to the two sponsoring groups' websites, (www.olympiafor.org and www.vfp109rcc.org). The video includes opening music by the Artesian Rumble Arkestra, who performed outside before the event and Olympia's Peace Choir, who performed on stage at the start.

Whether you attended and want to see it again – and/or tell your friends about this – we want you to know that this resource continues to be available at www.olympiafor.org.

The Olympia FOR presented this as part of our campaign to **"Bring Our Billion\$ Home"** – cut military spending and use the savings to fund vital human needs. We warmly invite you to join the campaign, organized by the Western Washington Fellowship of Reconciliation [www.wvfor.org (206) 789-5565] and the Olympia Fellowship of Reconciliation [www.olympiafor.org (360) 491-9093]. For more information see pages 2 and 3 of this newsletter, and visit our website's **"Bring Our Billion\$ Home"** page.

TELEVISION PROGRAMS

FOR MORE THAN 24 YEARS THE Olympia Fellowship of Reconciliation HAS PRODUCED ONE-HOUR TV PROGRAMS ON ISSUES RELATED TO PEACE, SOCIAL JUSTICE, ECONOMICS, THE ENVIRONMENT, AND NONVIOLENCE. THE Olympia FOR'S PROGRAM AIRS ON THURSTON COMMUNITY TELEVISION (TCTV), CHANNEL 22 FOR THURSTON COUNTY'S CABLE TV SUBSCRIBERS. EACH PROGRAM AIRS **EVERY MONDAY AT 1:30 P.M. AND EVERY THURSDAY AT 9:00 P.M. FOR A FULL MONTH.** THIS CREATES MANY OPPORTUNITIES TO WATCH EACH PROGRAM.

YOU CAN ALSO WATCH THE INTERVIEW PROGRAMS DESCRIBED BELOW (AND MORE THAN 70 OF OUR PREVIOUS PROGRAMS) AT www.olympiafor.org

NEW OPPORTUNITY: WHEN OUR THURSDAY NIGHT INTERVIEW PROGRAM ENDS AT 10:00 P.M., STAY TUNED TO WATCH THIS MONTH'S "BIG PICTURE" DOCUMENTARY, WHICH FOLLOWS IMMEDIATELY. SEE PAGE 8 FOR INFORMATION ABOUT OUR "BIG PICTURE" DOCUMENTARY SERIES.

APRIL: "SOLDIERS' WOUNDS: ONE COST OF WAR THAT NEVER ENDS"

One of the recurring themes in this TV series is that we **are all interconnected**. No matter what issue we address on one program or another, we find ourselves affirming **our common humanity** – across nations, across social and economic groups, and so forth.

April's TV program takes a fresh look at people who are in the military on active duty – and veterans who have served in the military.

While the peace movement opposes wars and our violent foreign policy, we recognize that the **individuals** who serve or have served in the military are human beings just like ourselves. They are literally our brothers and sisters. Also, some members of the peace movement – like our two guests – have served in the military.

The peace movement recognizes our common humanity with all people who are victims of war. Indeed, many people who serve in the military have also been victimized by war. Just as we want civilians to be healed and restored to peace, so also we want health and peace for all who have served in the military.

It is only fair that GIs and veterans be able to fully exercise their rights related to the benefits for which they are eligible.



Olympia, Washington, and also very active also with the Olympia Fellowship of Reconciliation.

This month's TV guests are Dennis Mills and Mark Fleming. Both Dennis and Mark served in the U.S. Army during the Vietnam era. Both are very active now in the peace movement. Both of our guests are very active with Veterans for Peace Chapter 109, the Rachel Corrie Chapter, in

Both Dennis and Mark volunteer significant time and effort at the Coffee Strong coffee house south of Tacoma, Washington, where they help active duty GIs and veterans know about their rights and claim their rightful benefits. Mark has qualified as an "Independent VA Accredited Claims Agent."

War costs everyone in many ways. The U.S.'s current wars are bankrupting our nation and turning world opinion against us. Wars are costing our nation our principles and our soul.

The Olympia FOR's April TV program focuses specifically on how war hurts the people who fight – and their families. Despite people's glib rhetoric that soldiers are "heroes," the truth is that every combat soldier is wounded in several ways. Our nation must be mature enough to recognize these human costs – and responsible enough to cover the costs. Wars damage the people on **all** sides, and we must take responsibility to heal the people on **all** sides.

Our two guests – Dennis Mills and Mark Fleming – volunteer tremendous amounts of time, skill and effort to help active duty GIs and military veterans protect their rights and get the benefits that they deserve. You can find one or both of them on most Fridays from 10 am to 2 pm at Coffee Strong, 15109 Union Ave SW, Lakewood WA. Take I-5 exit 122, go west, turn right (north) onto Union, and look for Coffee Strong on the right, near a Subway sandwich shop.

You can get more information at:

- **Olympia Veterans for Peace**, Chapter 109: (360) 867-1487 www.vfp109rcc.org
- **Coffee Strong**: 15109 Union Ave SW, Lakewood WA (south of Tacoma) www.coffeestrong.org
- **GI Rights Hotline**: Toll-free 877-447-4487 www.girightshotline.org

MAY: “CAUSING AND EXPLOITING BUDGET CRISES”

What do Wisconsin’s Republican politicians, the political aftermath of 9-11, the Wall Street banking crash, and the federal budget crisis all have in common?

In each case, a crisis (real or contrived) was used as the excuse to impose pre-conceived agendas of radical right-wing policies upon our political and/or economic lives.

The Patriot Act, for example, was not a carefully crafted response to the 9-11 attacks. Rather, it was a massive collection of proposals for stripping away Americans’ constitutional rights to privacy, due process, and so forth. These proposals were too radical to ever be passed by Congress during normal times, so they sat on the shelf until an opportunity arose. After 9-11 the Bush regime lumped them all together into one gigantic bill and – exploiting the post-9-11 fear – rushed it through Congress before anyone in Congress or the media or the public had time to read it.

In 2007 Naomi Klein published a powerful book, *The Shock Doctrine: The Rise of Disaster Capitalism*, to explode the myth that the global free market triumphed democratically. Klein’s book exposes the thinking, the money trail and the puppet strings behind the world-changing crises and wars of the last four decades. The preferred method has been to exploit people and nations that have suffered disasters or other severe crises by imposing radical “free market” policies upon them and stripping away social spending and democratic rights.



When Hurricane Katrina devastated New Orleans, the government demolished public housing (including buildings that had not been damaged at all), public hospitals and public schools. Federal reconstruction efforts focused on privatizing schools, white tourist neighborhoods, and so forth. After a tsunami wiped out Southeast Asia’s coasts, the pristine beaches were auctioned off for tourist resorts.

Fast forward to Wisconsin in January 2011, when a newly elected Republican governor with an agenda concocted by some of the richest individuals and corporations gave about \$140 million in new tax breaks to rich corporations, and then declared that the resulting budget crisis required that he bust the state employees’ union. Even when the union agreed to harsh economic cutbacks, the governor persisted with his effort to unilaterally cancel collective bargaining. In order to avoid a legal tangle, he separated out his union-busting legislation from the budget bill, revealing that ab-

olishing collective bargaining – not balancing the budget – was his real goal.

A crisis allows “disaster capitalism” to impose radical right-wing re-engineering upon societies so quickly as to prevent resistance. Klein’s *Shock Doctrine* book looks back fifty years to the University of Chicago under Milton Friedman, which produced many of the leading neo-conservative and neo-liberal thinkers who still wield tremendous power in Washington DC and elsewhere.

The book details how well-known events in recent decades have been deliberate, active theatres for the shock doctrine, including Pinochet’s 1973 coup in Chile, Margaret Thatcher’s 1982 Falklands War, the 1989 Tiananmen Square Massacre, the Soviet Union’s 1991 collapse, the 1997 Asian Financial crisis, and 1998’s Hurricane Mitch.

Right now in the U.S. many “deficit hawks” are misrepresenting Social Security’s financial situation to claim – erroneously – that it is in a serious crisis that requires limiting benefits. Actually, the Social Security Trust Fund is distinct from the federal government’s general fund, so the federal deficit is not a factor as some people mistakenly claim. And, actually, the relatively minor problem that does exist could be fixed in a few easy, painless ways.

The recent crash of Wall Street and banking was caused by horrendous greed, recklessness and incompetence among Wall Street’s bankers and wheeler-dealers. The government used taxpayers’ money to bail them out – but without requiring the accountability and strong reforms that were needed. The “too big to fail” banks were made even bigger by letting them absorb small banks. Profits of banks and Wall Street profits are very high again. Big banks are sitting on trillions of dollars that they won’t lend out.



The financial crisis – including fallout at federal, state and local government levels and spillover into declining home prices – has caused

the economic and political elites to impose harsh “austerity programs” – the kinds of “austerity programs” that the World Bank and International Monetary Fund (IMF) have imposed upon Third World countries that could not repay their loans. Instead of solving the real, underlying problems, Congress and state governments are putting nearly the entire burden upon poor, working class, and middle class people through severe cutbacks in education, health, job-creating programs, low-income housing, environmental protection, children’s services, mass transit, and on and on.

THIS ARTICLE CONTINUES ON PAGE 6.

MAY TV ARTICLE CONTINUING FROM PAGE 5

Meanwhile the rich continue to get richer. The gap between the U.S.'s top 1% and the bottom 90% has been getting wider for several decades and is now obscenely wide.

The extremely partisan, right-wing US Supreme Court is making this worse. Its January 2010 *Citizens United* decision opened the floodgates for giant corporations and rich individuals to buy elections. The Court has been overturning laws that attempted to regulate campaign spending and to provide public money to offset "big money" corruption.

Klein points out that the shock doctrine enables "free market" practitioners to impose their ideal free market economies upon blank slates after existing economies have been wiped out. Sometimes they rely upon natural disasters, and

sometimes upon political upheavals or other violent destruction of the existing economic order. She explains how the shock doctrine has been carried out in several countries. She describes the U.S. occupation of Iraq as the most comprehensive and full-scale implementation of the shock doctrine ever attempted – especially in the early years after 2003, when Bush's gang imposed their policies on the devastated nation.

Beyond Klein's research and insights, the Olympia FOR's May TV program will also examine more recent events and offer additional insights related to our May program's title, "Causing and Exploiting Budget Crises."

Our guests will be Molly Gibbs and Larry Kerschner, two well informed, wise, and insightful members of our peace and justice community.



No TV? No problem! Watch Olympia FOR's programs on your computer! You can use your computer to watch any of the Olympia FOR's interview TV programs we've produced since July 2005 – and a few special broadcasts too. Visit www.olympiafor.org, click the **TV Programs** link, and choose any program you want to watch. And tell your friends about this!

SAT. April 16: "FAIR ELECTIONS FOR A FAIR ECONOMY" WWFOR's 2011 Spring Assembly in West Seattle

Most people reading this newsletter – and, indeed, most of the American people – feel frustrated with the sorry state of American politics. A president who campaigned boldly for "change" has given us more of the same. The 2010 election has reversed recent progress in social and economic justice and environmental care. Many people recognize the corrupting influence of big money in election campaigns, which the January 2010 US Supreme Court's *Citizens United* decision made even worse, with extremely rich individuals and business corporations buying elections all over the country and reaping the financial benefits for themselves while everyone else suffers.

The Western Washington FOR, which recognizes linkages among many issues, is focusing our 2011 Spring Assembly on the theme "**Fair Elections for a Fair Economy.**" Many of the issues we care about – peace, environment, economic justice, etc. – are being rolled back by big money that controls election campaigns and intimidates incumbents and candidates. Virtually every issue that we care about is held hostage to big money's corrupting effects on democracy, so one solution to all of our issues would be to create a system for fair and equal public funding of campaigns.

Craig Salins, Executive Director of Washington Public Campaigns (www.washclean.org), will give a brief keynote address and present a workshop. Most of the 2011 Spring Assembly's workshops focus on this exciting theme. We also encourage people to offer additional workshops. (See the back of the flyer enclosed with this newsletter.)

Please bring informational handouts, petitions, and other display materials for our extensive **Literature Tables**. Post flyers and announcements for coming events on our **Announcement Wall**. Our schedule allows time for browsing and friendly face-to-face networking, so please come and connect!

For more information see the flyer/pre-registration form enclosed with this newsletter or download one from the EVENTS box at the left side of www.wwfor.org. Please fill it out and mail it to WWFOR's Seattle by April 8, so we can plan for enough food and resources, but please come even if you don't pre-register.

For more information about the event, contact the Western Washington FOR at (206) 789-5565 wwfor@wwfor.org For information and carpooling from the Olympia area call Glen at (360) 491-9093 glen@olympiafor.org.



Spring Equinox Global Day of Listening (MARCH 19-20) GATHERED PEOPLE IN AFGHANISTAN, OLYMPIA, AND WORLDWIDE

Every three months the Olympia FOR, Afghan Youth Peace Volunteers (AYPV, based in Bamiyan Province Afghanistan), and organizations and individuals around the world have been using computer audio-visual links and telephones to help people communicate with a few brave young people in Afghanistan who recognize everyone's common humanity and the futility of war. They call upon people on all sides to stop fighting and explore the potential of love to solve conflicts. The Olympia FOR's Douglas Mackey has been a prime organizer of this global series.

Quarterly "Days of Listening" near winter and summer solstices and spring and fall equinoxes have become opportunities for people of good will to join together and listen to the Afghan Youth Peace Volunteers and other peacemakers.

Olympia has been participating from Heritage Park (5th & Water downtown) and Traditions Café (across the street). Our Spring 2011 Day of Listening (Saturday-Sunday March 19-20) began with a silent peace walk around Capitol Lake and included many other activities, including nearly 24 hours (noon Saturday to noon Sunday) of audio-visual links by computer and telephone. Look for our June Day of Listening near the Summer Solstice (perhaps the weekend of June 18).

DOUGLAS MACKEY'S REPORT:

The Spring Equinox Global Day of Listening (GDoL) was difficult to administer because of technical difficulties, but still very rewarding. On March 17, a few days before the GDoL, the AYPV were joined by youths from Open Society to form a group of more than 30 who walked through Kabul to the United Nations office on March banners proclaiming their wish to "Live Without Wars." The walkers were met by a squad of Riot Police who initially positioned for forceful crowd control, but soon changed their posture to one of protecting and nearly joining into the peacefully walking group.

Twenty-five international delegates from the US and Australia made their way to Kabul to be with the Afghan Youth Peace Volunteers for the "Live Without Wars" week. In addition to the peace walk the event included the 25-hour Global Day of Listening "skype-athon" (using Skype computer technology for live audio-visual communication), a tree planting and a

candle-lighting ceremony in Kabul to honor all who have lost their lives in war.

The conversations included a long discussion with Sami Rasouli, a leader of the Iraqi and American Reconciliation Project. Mr. Rasouli answered many questions about Iraq's situation. Everyone participating in the call saw the similarities between the occupations of Iraq and Afghanistan. More than 50 callers participated including Elisa, a 16-year-old from Rhode Island who had written Abdulai (a 15-year-old leader of the AYPV) and spoke with him for the first time.

On March 19 the Afghan Youth Peace Volunteers, with an international team of 24 peace activists, planted 55 trees at a school in Kabul, Afghanistan. They did this to usher in the Afghan New Year, in hope for a new way of living, a non-violent way of rebuilding the country.

Please watch a short video of the tree planting at www.youtube.com/watch?v=Xzcw9rA1mrc

The AYPV made this short video on Friday March 18: www.youtube.com/watch?v=uedQzWck7xc More information and short videos are at www.ourjourneytosmile.com and www.livewithoutwars.org and www.globaldayoflistening.org

GEORGE HILL'S REPORT:

Watch www.youtube.com/watch?v=kmCTPYj6CXw – a video with lovely pictures of Afghan valleys and mountains, a few of the children there, and the young people who are working to achieve peace in their country, the same group who participated in the Global Day of Listening.

I was reading two accounts today of the severe civil war that followed the defeat of the Russian occupation of Afghanistan. The peace message from these young people is directed not only toward the western countries, but also in relation to the factions within Afghanistan.

Forces of militarism are powerful, and so are these expressions of love and understanding. Cynicism versus hope. Please forward this photo essay if you agree it is a beautiful statement.

Olympia FOR's "Big Picture" Documentary Series on TCTV

In addition to the Olympia FOR's TV series of locally produced interview programs (see page 4) we also air thought-provoking documentaries that you're not likely to see elsewhere on TV. Under the series title "The Big Picture," Carol Burns finds interesting documentaries and arranges to show them on Thurston Community Television (TCTV channel 22) for cable subscribers in Thurston County. Thanks to Carol for continuing to inform the people! You can watch these programs at 10:00 p.m. every Thursday evening immediately after our interview program (note this new time) as well as 10:00 p.m. every Sunday evening for a full month. Info: Carol 866-7645 carolburns98@comcast.net

OUR APRIL AND MAY "BIG PICTURE" DOCUMENTARIES FEATURE LESSONS FROM HISTORY.

WE FAILED TO LEARN THESE LESSONS THE FIRST TIME, SO NOW WE SEEM CONDEMNED TO REPEAT THE TRAGEDIES.

APRIL: "RADIATION: A SLOW DEATH, A NEW GENERATION OF HIBAKUSHA"

Originally, the Japanese word "hibakusha" was used to refer to the survivors of the atomic bomb. Here, the filmmakers go back to its literal meaning, "victims of radiation," to include new generations of survivors who have emerged globally. The film begins with stories of severely ill Iraqi children irradiated by the use of the U.S.'s depleted uranium (DU) weapons during the first Gulf War.

Then the filmmakers – along with a Hiroshima survivor – visit American farmers living near the Hanford plutonium factory in Washington State. There, an extraordinary bond is formed with some of the "Downwinders" whose family members suffered and died from cancer, or gave birth to children with birth defects. Both Japanese and Americans react to lies and denials from their own governments about the long term effects of radiation. The final part of the film shows strong statistical correlation between releases of radiation described officially as "insignificant" with a pattern of rising cancer

rates and birth defects extending ten years and more in locations around the world.

A team of independent Japanese filmmakers produced this film during the interval between the first war against Iraq (1991) and the second one (2003 to the present).

Carol Burns, our "Big Picture" series producer, is very enthusiastic about this film. She says: "The Japanese documentary is amazing! You will love it not only for the important information, but more important the warm connection formed between people in the place where the bomb was made and from the place the bomb was used. The film has a gentle style revealing some horrible facts without blame or guilt. One of the downwinders says, 'All governments are the same.' This film should have a public showing. Do you know an organization which might want to sponsor one?"

2003. 91 minutes.

MAY: "COINTELPRO: THE F.B.I.'S WAR ON BLACK AMERICA"

COINTELPRO (an acronym for Counter Intelligence Program) was a series of covert, and often illegal, projects conducted by the United States Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) aimed at surveilling, infiltrating, discrediting, and disrupting domestic political organizations. Covert operations under COINTELPRO took place between 1956 and 1971. The FBI's stated motivation at the time was "protecting national security, preventing violence, and maintaining the existing social and political order. FBI records show that 85% of COINTELPRO resources targeted groups and individuals that the FBI deemed communist and socialist; organizations and individuals associated with the civil rights movement, including Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and others associated with the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, and the Congress of Racial Equality and other civil rights organizations; the American Indian Movement; a broad range of organizations labeled "New Left", including Students for a Democratic Society, almost all groups protesting the Vietnam War, as well as individual student demonstrators with no group affiliation; the National Lawyers Guild; organizations

and individuals associated with the women's rights movement; nationalist groups and additional notable Americans, such as Albert Einstein.

Apparently collaborations between the US Army and local government agencies led to wiretaps and break ins of groups and individuals. Groups and individuals have been harassed. Investigations have been based upon vague standards whose vicious tactics included anonymous attempts to break up marriages, disrupt meetings, ostracize persons from their professions, and provoke target groups into rivalries that might result in deaths.

People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA) and Greenpeace USA were improperly put on a terrorist watch list, along with individuals and organizations here in Washington State and Oregon. Many individuals here uncovered their own evidence to reveal that they had been targeted.

1989. 50 minutes. Also available as a free download from www.freedocumentaries.org

NEWS – RESOURCES – OPPORTUNITIES

NUCLEAR WEAPONS

A Nuclear Weapon Free Zone for Puget Sound? Puget Sound's Naval Base Kitsap-Bangor hosts the largest concentration of operational nuclear weapons. To abolish nuclear weapons worldwide, let's start in our own back yard! People have developed a Nuclear Weapon Free Zone Declaration, launched a new Washington Mayors for Peace Campaign, and started organizing to prevent the Navy from building a Second Explosives Handling Wharf at Bangor and a new \$80 billion fleet of ballistic missile submarines. Organizers will formally announce the Puget Sound Nuclear Weapon Free Zone on April 26, 2011, the anniversary of the Chernobyl nuclear disaster, with a news conference and other events. Before and after that, they encourage individuals and organizations throughout Puget Sound and beyond to endorse the Puget Sound Nuclear Weapons Free Zone. See information at the blog <http://psnukfree.blogspot.com/> and at the website for the Ground Zero Center for Non-violent Action, www.gzcenter.org. To endorse The Zone, send an email to Leonard Eiger at subversive-peace-making@gmail.com. For individual endorsement please include your name, city and state. For organizational endorsers please include the name of the organization, city and state, and the person representing the organization and that person's title. The organizers invite comments and ideas as well.



GROUND ZERO'S JANUARY 17, 2011 ACTION – PHOTO BY LEONARD EIGER

2011 campaign to reduce US nuclear weapons and the money we spend on them: The Campaign for a Nuclear Weapons Free World urges four policy priorities for 2011 to build on late 2010's ratification of the New START and make more progress toward disarmament. The campaign's priorities are: (1) Make the case for the Senate to ratify the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTBT). (2) Push the Obama Administration to achieve dramatic reductions in US nuclear weapons to 1,000 or fewer. This could include steps for a safer nuclear policy, such as de-alerting nuclear weapons. (3) Shift priorities in the nuclear weapons budget, including stopping funding for new nuclear bomb plants, and preserving funding for dismantling warheads and securing nuclear material. (4) Build support within the administration and Congress for a world free of nuclear weapons. The **2011 Campaign Plan** includes a **Campaign Calendar** with conference calls and grassroots activities planned for each month – and many additional practical things that people can do. See their website at www.nuclearweaponsfree.org or phone Katie Heald at (510) 830-3600 x122.

US Dept of Energy plans to build a new nuclear weapons plant for \$6.5 billion to make 80 warheads per year: The National Nuclear Security Administration announced the plan to build the Capability-Sized Uranium Processing Facility at Oak Ridge, Tennessee. The Oak Ridge Environmental Peace Alliance (OREPA – www.orepa.org) has been waging nonviolent campaigns to stop nuclear weapons activities in the Oak Ridge TN area. If the U.S. is downsizing the nuclear weapons stockpile under the START Treaty, why would we expand weapon production capacity? If the government faces a fiscal crisis, why would we spend \$6.5 billion for a new facility, especially when the current facilities are being modernized for 1/10 the cost right now? Why would we invest in a bomb plant to extend the lives of our current warheads when all of them will already have had their lives extended by the time the new bomb plant comes on line in 2024? OREPA is determined to stop the madness through a legal challenge, nonviolent resistance, and pressure on Congress to stop the funding. Information and action ideas are at www.orepa.org

Congressman Dennis Kucinich said this about "Star Wars" anti-missile defense systems' failure to pass honest tests of effectiveness: "We have \$10 billion for a missile system that can't pass a test, and yet we tell our school districts that if the children don't pass tests, they're not going to get funded Figure it out -- no missile system left behind."

PEACE AND GLOBAL ISSUES

Bringing home 151 troops from Afghanistan would fix Wisconsin's budget "crisis" – On Feb. 19 Journalist Robert Greenwald reported that not only did Wisconsin Gov. Scott Walker use phony numbers to create the illusion of a Wisconsin "fiscal emergency," but that even the size of Walker's "fake 'emergency' pales in comparison to the cost of the Afghanistan War to his state." Citing the figure that several reliable sources have calculated (each US soldier in Afghanistan costs \$1 million per year), Greenwald said that if the US brought home 151 troops from Afghanistan, that would save "more money than Walker's ridiculous union-busting plan. Better yet, ending the Afghanistan War altogether would save taxpayers in Wisconsin \$1.7 billion this year alone, *more than ten times the amount "saved" in Walker's attack on state employee rights.*" Greenwald points out – as does the Olympia Fellowship of Reconciliation's campaign to "Bring Our Billion\$ Home" – that state budgets are closely related to the federal budget. Wars in Iraq and Afghanistan and other extravagant military spending causes direct harm to state and local governments. See www.huffingtonpost.com/robertgreenwald/bringing-home-150-troops_b_825522.html

U.S. House voted to eliminate all funding for the U.S. Institute of Peace: This small federal agency did some good things and fell short in some ways, but it deserved to continue in existence. In mid-February the U.S. House of representatives voted 268-163 to eliminate all funding (\$42.7 million) for the U.S. Institute of Peace (USIP). Congressman Dennis Kucinich, who spoke recently in Olympia, lamented: "It is a sad day when the House votes to eliminate one of the few programs in the budget which is dedicated to conflict prevention and non-violence, while at the same time, enabling another \$158 billion in the same budget for wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. We have spent \$1.1 trillion for war in the past decade, and in striking funding for USIP, Congress has demonstrated that it is on the war path. Everything in the path of war had better take careful notice," said Kucinich. In 1984 Congress had created the USIP as an independent government-sponsored organization dedicated to preventing and resolving conflicts. Kucinich pointed out, "The two wars will consume \$42.7 million in 142 minutes if \$158 billion can finance the wars for an entire year." He is introducing legislation to create a Cabinet-level Department of Peace. "We must continue to challenge the notion that war is inevitable and that peace is impractical. Peace is inevitable. It is war that is impractical," he said.

Cut wasteful federal spending? Why not abolish draft registration and the Selective Service? In mid-February Oregon Congressman Peter DeFazio, who has long opposed the draft and draft registration, introduced a budget amendment to save millions of dollars by abolishing the Selective Service, the unnecessary military draft agency. (Nobody has been drafted since 1973.) He said taxpayers are wasting \$25 million in 2011 and could save \$250 million over 10 years. This amendment failed. Does the U.S. House really want to eliminate unnecessary "big government" spending?

Visit our sister community, Santo Tomas, Nicaragua, this July: Some Evergreen State College students are spending spring quarter in Santo Tomas, getting to know the people and helping with various projects there. Also, another delegation of Olympia area adults, youths, kids will travel there this summer, led by Jean Eberhardt and Grace Cox. For this delegation a modest level of Spanish fluency will suffice. Info: Grace at gfcx@prodigy.net or Jean at (360) 943-8642 eberhardtjl@yahoo.com

151 Congress members invest up to \$196 million in military contractors: On April 3, 2008, The Center for Responsive Politics, (www.OpenSecrets.org) reported, "According to the most recent reports of their personal finances, 151 current members of Congress had between \$78.7 million and \$195.5 million invested in companies that received defense contracts of at least \$5 million in 2006. In all, these companies received more than \$275.6 billion from the government in 2006, or \$755 million per day...." You gotta wonder: What would the 2011 numbers be?

Good news: : US Supreme Court rules in favor of local activist in FOIA case against US Navy: The U.S. Supreme Court decided Monday in favor of Seattle-area resident Glen Milner, who sued the Navy under the Freedom of Information Act. Mr. Milner has sought the disclosure of weapons data maintained at Naval Magazine Indian Island (NMII), an ammunition and explosives depot located near the civilian communities of Port Hadlock and Port Townsend on Puget Sound. The Supreme Court rejected the Navy's urging to broaden the scope of FOIA's exemptions to apply to Explosive Safety Quantity Distance (ESQD) maps. The Navy uses ESQD maps to estimate what surrounding communities would be affected if explosives or ammunition detonate. Mr. Milner is concerned about the risks the storage facility poses to residents and visitors nearby and requested the maps pursuant to FOIA. "The public has a right to know if they are danger," stated Mr. Milner. "FOIA is about public access and the Supreme Court affirmed that today." Info: Glen Milner at (206) 365-7865 gkaajm@juno.com or David S. Mann at (206) 621-8868 mann@gendlermann.com

DEATH PENALTY

Illinois abolished the death penalty: On March 9, Illinois Governor Pat Quinn signed the bill abolishing executions and commuting all 15 current death sentences to life in prison without parole. Both houses of the Illinois Legislature had passed the bill more than a month before. Gov. Quinn reported that he struggled hard with the decision and finally concluded that experience has shown “there is no way to design a perfect death penalty system, free from the numerous flaws that can lead to wrongful convictions or discriminatory treatment. ... With our broken system, we cannot ensure justice is achieved in every case.” Since 1977 Illinois has executed 12 people but **exonerated 20 men from Illinois’ death row.** Florida – which still maintains the death penalty – has exonerated an even larger number of innocent people.

Do you want news and other information from Olympia FOR’s death penalty committee? The Olympia FOR’s Committee for Alternatives to the Death Penalty works actively to abolish the death penalty. Besides meeting monthly (and our meetings are very enjoyable!), every now and then we and share information by e-mail. **We maintain two e-mail lists: “In the Loop” and our Committee Roster.** If you’re interested in receiving e-mails inviting you to our monthly meetings, containing news of Washington State’s death penalty, and announcing local events about the death penalty, please join our **“In the Loop”** list by notifying Emily Hammargren, 352-0695 **death-penalty@olympiafor.org** If you want to receive these **“In the Loop”** e-mails and also participate more, we invite you to join our **Committee Roster** so you can help plan upcoming events and make other decisions with the committee. If you’d like to be added to our **Committee Roster**, please contact Alice Curtis, 943-4076 **olyalice@gmail.com**

DEMOCRACY AND HUMAN RIGHTS

Religious people oppose torture – and create resources for June 2011 Torture Awareness Month: Now is the time to start planning for this June’s annual Torture Awareness Month. The National Religious Campaign Against Torture (NRCAT) can provide a number of useful resources to help you prepare. With an overall theme of “accountability,” NRCAT is promoting a variety of activities for congregations at different levels of engagement with the torture issue. For information and resources visit **www.nrcat.org** and **www.tortureisamoralissue.org** See a **new short video and discussion guide** featuring religious leaders from diverse traditions addressing theological questions about accountability as a path to healing. (Accountability is not just about prosecution and should never be about vengeance.) Get **worship resources** (a short prayer, bulletin insert, sermon talking points). More advanced resources are available too.

Hold Them Accountable: Merit Pay for Congress: Our education system’s problems stem from underfunding, poverty in America, and a great many other sources, but teachers get blamed instead. Politicians, media, and foundations are beating up on teachers and demanding “accountability.” James Thindwa wrote a thought-provoking article recently. (www.inthesetimes.com/main/ararticle/7065/) He suggests using outcome data to **hold Congress members accountable.** He writes, “One of the most popular remedies for our ailing schools is ‘merit pay,’ an idea championed by business, civic and political leaders, including President Barack Obama. It is the notion that teacher compensation should be tied to performance in order to “incentivize” excellence” He suggests measuring outcomes such as rates of poverty, infant mortality, homelessness, gun violence, hate crimes, water quality, disparities in wealth and income, and so forth. He suggests that U.S. House and Senate members whose districts perform better than average according to these Quality of Life measures receive merit pay, and those whose districts perform below average be subject to pay cuts and instant recall elections back home.

*"We can either have democracy in this country
or we can have great wealth concentrated in the hands of a few.
But we can't have both." -- US Supreme Court Justice Louis Brandeis*

ENVIRONMENT, RESOURCES AND SUSTAINABILITY

Protecting Olympia's Isthmus: News of the bankrupt Larida Passage project: The foreclosure sale of Isthmus land where high-rise condominiums would have been built was postponed from March 18 because the property owners filed for bankruptcy. Community-based people who want to buy the precious land for a park (the Olympia Capitol Park Foundation) were present and will continue working to save this land for public use. The foreclosure auction had set a minimum bid of \$2,030,000. Info: Jerry Reilly, Olympia Capitol Park Foundation (360) 561-4212 and www.olycapitolparkfoundation.org

Japan's nuclear power catastrophe: Good sources of information: Excellent sources of the latest news and resources are available from reliable organizations: Beyond Nuclear (www.beyondnuclear.org), the Union of Concerned Scientists (www.allthingsnuclear.org), and Physicians for Social Responsibility (www.psr.org/news-events/news-archive/japans-nuclear-reactor-crisis-worsens.html).

Help our local community transition to sustainability in light of peak oil, diminishing resources, climate chaos and economic decline: A network of local non-profits and individuals will work together toward a common goal of sustainability and resilience in our region. The Alliance for Community Transition South Sound (ACTSS) is working locally to coordinate and strengthen local citizen action in response to these very real problems. They want to accelerate our community's transition toward a resilient and sustainable future dependent upon human resourcefulness, renewable energy, and a healthy natural environment. This will include helping the community develop and implement an action plan to strengthen our economy, reduce our carbon footprint, and increase our capacity to adapt to a changing climate. A number of knowledgeable and respected local persons are working actively, including Joanne Lee, Gita Moulton, Barb Scavezze, Carole Richmond, Dani Madrone, Janine Gates, Krag Unsoeld, Chris Hawkins, and TJ Johnson. Info: Joanne Lee at 360-352-6224 or joanne@naturalcoach.com

Two resources for local sustainability: *Choices for Sustainable Living* is a seven-session discussion guide for the workplace, community center, religious congregation, university or home. It explores exploring the meaning of sustainable living and the ties between lifestyle choices and their impact on the earth. ***Menu for the Future*** is a six-session discussion guide exploring the connection between food and sustainability. The discussion course's goals are: (1) To explore food systems and their impacts on culture, society and ecological systems; (2) To gain insight into agricultural and individual practices that promote personal and ecological well-being; and (3) To consider your role in creating or supporting sustainable food systems. A friend recommends these workbooks highly and says they come with support including fliers to print. See www.nwei.org/files for the *MF* flyer and order form and www.nwei.org/discussion_courses/course-offerings/choices-for-sustainable-living

Stop the privatization of water: We're currently in a water crisis. Even if you and I don't see its effects on a daily basis, one out of six people worldwide don't have access to clean water. At the same time, multinational corporations are in a race to control as much of this precious resource as possible. Global financial institutions require poor countries to privatize their water in order to get loans. This monopolizes control over what should be a "public good," raises the costs, and deprives poor people of access to safe water. A few years ago when Bechtel, a multinational corporation, tried to privatize the water of Cochabamba, Bolivia, the citizens rose up, threw Bechtel out, reclaimed their water systems, reformed their system, and elected new political leaders to protect their water rights. Now Bolivian President Evo Morales is introducing a resolution at the United Nations, calling for an end to the sale of public water resources to private corporations around the world. The nonprofit organization Food & Water Watch (www.foodandwaterwatch.org) supports this resolution and supports community driven solutions that will protect water as a human right.



"You never change things by fighting the existing reality.
To change something, build a new model that makes the existing model obsolete."
-- Buckminster Fuller

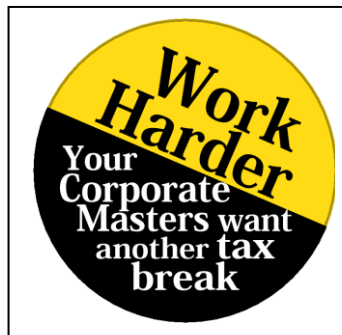
ECONOMIC JUSTICE

The City of Olympia has joined the National Sweat-free Consortium:

The Consortium of cities and states, whose collective resources and experience promote effective sweatshop-free purchasing, now has 13 members. The City of Olympia is the newest member, following quickly the City of Seattle's decision to join the Consortium. The nine cities and four states share databases of purchasing, collaborate on best practices, create the financial resources to have independent monitors evaluate worker complaints about factory conditions, and hope to build the Consortium's membership so public procurement can be a force to improve labor conditions. Millions of workers toil at poverty wages in deplorable working conditions. Public purchasing collectively is about 20% of our nation's GNP, so if public agencies would take responsibility, this large market force could significantly improve pay and working conditions around the world. For more information on the Consortium go to buysweatfree.org. Olympia's anti-sweatshop organization – the **South Sound Clean Clothes Campaign** (www.SouthSoundCleanClothes.org) – meets at 7:00 pm on the second Tuesday of each month at Traditions Café, 5th & Water SW in downtown Olympia. Info: Dick Meyer 705-2819 dick@traditionsfairtrade.com

NAFTA is bad enough. Stop the “free trade” deals for Colombia and Korea:

While US workers are losing jobs, “free trade” supporters are pushing ahead with more schemes to help multi-national companies drive down wages and avoid environmental laws. President Obama is urging passage of the NAFTA-esque Korean trade deal that George W. Bush had negotiated. The Korean deal would even let North Korea's notorious dictatorship to use their sweatshops (wages of 25 cents per hour) to manufacture products for sale in the U.S. This news comes from Public Citizen, a progressive multi-issue organization founded decades ago by Ralph Nader. Public Citizen says, “Current U.S. law strictly limits imports from North Korea. But the Free Trade Agreement (FTA) would provide a way around the sanctions – with new tariff-free access for goods with up to 65% North Korean value in parts and inputs as long as final assembly is in South Korea!” North Korea's government takes a large portion of business profits. Members of Congress and the public have demanded that the Bush and Obama administrations change these horrible sweatshop-promoting provisions, but our calls were ignored. Likewise, they refused our demands that goods containing North Korean content be labeled as such. Our final recourse is to demand that Congress reject this backdoor attack on our national security and basic labor rights. www.citizen.org/trade



You pay more income tax than do many giant corporations with billions of dollars of profits. We can pressure them to pay their fair share: Tax loop holes allow many of our biggest and richest

business to avoid paying any income tax at all. Recently a grassroots movement in Britain (UK Uncut – www.ukuncut.org.uk) started mobilizing many thousands of people to protest their big profitable businesses that underpay taxes, while the British government is slashing funding for health, education and social programs. (International bodies such as the World Bank and International Monetary Fund have been imposing these brutal “austerity” requirements on Third World countries, and now they're coming to the UK and US too.) Americans inspired by UK Uncut started a US grassroots movement (US Uncut – www.usuncut.org) and started replicating their activities here. US Uncut is a grassroots movement taking direct action against corporate tax cheats and unnecessary and unfair public service cuts across the U.S. US Uncut reports that big businesses are more profitable than ever, and nearly two-thirds of US corporations (including Verizon, Bank of America, ExxonMobil, General Electric, Citigroup) **don't pay any federal income tax**. US Uncut also reports that the non-partisan Government Accountability Office, 83 of the top 100 publicly traded corporations that operate in the US exploit corporate tax havens. **Tax havens alone account for up to \$1 trillion in tax revenue lost every decade** – money that Congress should invest in K-12 education, colleges, public health, job creation and hundreds of other worthy public programs. US Uncut is a horizontal movement. There are no centrally planned protests. If you want one in your town or city, you'll have to take it on yourself. US Uncut's blog has additional information: <http://usuncut.org/blog/what-to-do>

OTHER NEWS, RESOURCES AND OPPORTUNITIES

Olympia FOR needs people to help our Outreach Committee:

The Olympia FOR is constantly reaching out to our community, telling people who we are and what we do. We set up information tables at public events, communicate with various organizations and constituencies, write information about the Olympia FOR to print on paper and post to various websites, and so forth. We created an Outreach Committee to plan and carry out these activities, but the committee is very short-handed. Would you help the Olympia FOR's outreach efforts? Please contact Glen Anderson 491-9093 glen@olympiafor.org

Our **Fundraising Committee** also needs more volunteers.

Would you help sometimes with Olympia FOR's mailing parties?

We typically assemble our newsletters on a weekday afternoon every two months and our other mailings at various days and times. We can contact you when we need help. If you're available, great! If you're not available, that's OK; we can try on another occasion. Contact Glen Anderson at glen@olympiafor.org 491-9093

Get trained to serve as a hospice volunteer:

Providence SoundHomeCare and Hospice will offer Hospice Volunteer Training to meet the increasing need for volunteers. Hospice offers volunteers the opportunity to enhance terminally ill patients' lives and enrich their own. They provide much-needed support to families and caregivers. Volunteers can visit with patients, provide respite, assist with errands, be a loving presence, play games, or even go fishing out to lunch with the patient or family member or caregiver. Training in Thurston County will occur this spring. You must attend all of these dates: Fridays April 29, May 6 and May 13 from 9:30 am to 4:30 pm, and Wednesday May 4 and 11 from 6:30 to 9:00 pm. Registration deadline is April 22. For information and an application, please contact Debe Edden, Volunteer Coordinator, at (360) 493-4689.

"TURN THE BUDGET AROUND" – CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

We also encourage people to decorate their boxes at home in advance and bring their completed boxes to start building the wall right away at 1:00.

We'll stack the cardboard boxes to build the wall – with all of the war images facing one way. Then we'll invite everyone to **"Turn the Budget Around"** and show the peaceful images.

Come with your vision of what could be! Prepare your boxes at home or use our art supplies on-site. Show your hopes for a better future! As you can imagine, this is a family-friendly event – fun for kids and adults of all ages!

Pat Holm reports one highlight from 20 years ago: "Twenty years ago, Isak (4) and Aaron (8) Andrews enjoyed drawing pictures on boxes as their father, Brad Andrews, explained what this was all about. He told them, "Our government spends most of our money to make guns to hurt people, so the people here today want the government

to change that and spend money for good things to help people." After we built the wall, box by box, we danced around it to the music of a small samba band. Later Isak and Aaron agreed that knocking down the wall and smashing the boxes was the best part.

The Artesian Rumble Arkestra and other musical acts will perform at our festive May 22 event. We are planning several additional activities that will be informative and fun!

The Olympia FOR's Bring Our Billion\$ Home campaign has assembled an enthusiastic and creative planning committee for this, and we need even more volunteers. Please contact Pat Holm 357-4151 frogprin@cco.net to find out how you can help. Thanks!

Mark your calendars now for 1:00-3:30 pm on Sunday May 22! Invite your friends! Share the information from www.olympiafor.org/bring_the_billions_home.htm

Olympia Fellowship of RECONCILIATION MISSION STATEMENT

The Olympia Chapter of the Fellowship of Reconciliation works for a nonviolent world, a healthy environment, social justice, economic justice, and peace. We bring together people of diverse ages, races, and faiths who are committed to active nonviolence as a transformative way of life and as a means of profound social change. We model these principles by personal example. We collaborate and dialogue with the larger community for mutual education and to engage in nonviolent and compassionate actions. – Adopted April 9, 2009

CALENDAR

EVENTS SPONSORED BY FOR ARE PRECEDED BY THE SYMBOL **FOR**.

PHONE NUMBERS ARE IN (360) UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED.

EVENTS OUTSIDE OF THURSTON COUNTY HAVE THEIR LOCATIONS UNDERLINED.

TCTV PROGRAMS USE CABLE CHANNEL 22 IN THURSTON COUNTY.

EVERY WEEK:

NOTE: TCTV programs use cable channel 22 within Thurston County.

FOR Every Sunday evening at 10:00 pm: The Olympia FOR's "Big Picture" documentary videos on TCTV:

APRIL: "Radiation: A Slow Death, A New Generation of Hibakusha." **MAY:** "COINTELPRO: The F.B.I.'s War on Black America." See newsletter page 8. Info: Carol 866-7645 carolburns98@comcast.net

Every Monday through Friday from 5:00 to 6:00 am AND from 4 to 5 pm: "Democracy Now" with Amy Goodman on TCTV

Every Monday through Friday from 9:00 to 10:00 am: "Democracy Now" with Amy Goodman on KAOS 89.3 FM

FOR Every Monday from 1:30 to 2:30 pm: Olympia FOR's TCTV Program: **APRIL:** "Soldiers' Wounds: One Cost of War that Never Ends." **MAY:** "Causing and Exploiting Budget Crises." See newsletter pages 4 and 5 or www.olympiafor.org

Every Monday through Friday from 5:00 to 5:30 pm: Free Speech Radio News on KAOS 89.3 FM

Every Monday from 5:00 to 6:00 pm: Veterans for Peace airs a locally produced program on TCTV. Info: Dennis Mills 867-1487 mills.dennis@comcast.net

Every Thursday from 8:00 to 9:00 pm: Veterans for Peace airs a locally produced program on TCTV. Info: Dennis Mills 867-1487 mills.dennis@comcast.net

Every Thursday from 12:00 to 1:00 pm: "Parallel University" on KAOS 89.3 FM features interesting, informative programs about peace, social justice, the environment, progressive politics, and other alternative viewpoints. Info: parralleluniversity@yahoo.com

FOR Every Thursday from 9:00 to 10:00 pm: Olympia FOR's TCTV Program: **APRIL:** "Soldiers' Wounds: One Cost of War that Never Ends." **MAY:** "Causing and Exploiting Budget Crises." See newsletter pages 4 and 5 or www.olympiafor.org

NOTE NEW TIME: **FOR** Every Thursday evening at 10:00 pm immediately following the end of our interview program: The Olympia FOR's "Big Picture" documentary videos on TCTV: **APRIL:** "Radiation: A Slow Death, A New Generation of Hibakusha." **MAY:** "COINTELPRO: The F.B.I.'s War on Black America." See page 8. Info: Carol 866-7645 carolburns98@comcast.net

FOR Every Friday from 4:30 to 6:00 pm: Peace Vigil at south end of Percival Landing at 4th & Water downtown. Please join us for whatever length of time you can. We provide plenty of signs. Also enjoy the Artesian Rumble Arkestra jazz band that joins us at 5:00 to support our vigil! Sponsor: Olympia FOR. Info: 491-9093 glen@olympiafor.org

Every Friday from 5:00 to 6:00 pm: "Women in Black" Silent Vigil for Peace on the south side of W. 4th Ave. near the fountain. Women only. Please wear black. Some signs are provided. Since 1988 "Women in Black" has been a loose network of women worldwide committed to peace with justice and actively opposed to war and violence. Info: Karin Kraft 754-5352 kraftkf@comcast.net

FOR Every Saturday from 12:00 noon to 1:00 pm: Peace Vigil in Centralia on the edge of Washington Park at Locust & Pearl in downtown Centralia. On most Saturdays gather afterward nearby at the Santa Lucia Coffee House. Sponsor: Fire Mountain FOR. Info: June Butler 748-9658 or Larry Kerschner 880-4741 peacepoet@gmail.com

FOR Every Wednesday from 12:00 noon to 1:00 pm: Peace Vigil in NW corner of Sylvester Park (corner of Legion & Capitol Way). Please come for all or part of the hour to witness in a very



friendly way for peace and nonviolence. We provide plenty of signs. Info: 491-9093 glen@olympiafor.org

PHOTO by BERD Whirlock

SPECIFIC DATES

Sat April 2: A Taste of Afghanistan – Enjoy a dinner of (mostly) Afghani food along with a conversation about Afghanistan: Members of United for Peace of Pierce County invite you to an evening of food and conversation on Afghanistan. Dr. Tosh Kakar, professor of computer science and engineering at Pacific Lutheran University, who is from Afghanistan, will speak informally about Afghanistan's history, culture and present situation. All ages are invited to this family-friendly event, which is free and open to the public. 6:00 pm at First United Methodist Church, 621 Tacoma Ave. S., Tacoma, WA 98402. (Enter in the back, off the alley. Info: Sallie Shawl, awestruckbigtime@gmail.com)

Sat April 2 begins the “We Are One” week of action to protect workers’ rights: Members of faith communities are raising moral voices this week to protest the attacks on workers’ rights, on working families, and on poor and vulnerable people. An organization called Interfaith Worker Justice has developed resources that you can use in worship this coming weekend and beyond. See www.iwj.org/blog/comments.cfm?blog_id=144 Also see the Washington Association of Churches’ website for information about Standing Up for Working Families: www.thewac.org/2011/03/25/stand-in-solidarity-with-wisconsin-workers-and-their-faith-communities/

FOR Sun April 3: Watch the documentary “Radiation: A Slow Death, A New Generation of Hibakusha” on TCTV: Watch it at 10:00 pm every Thursday night immediately after our interview program and at 10:00 pm every Sunday night throughout this month on TCTV cable channel 22 in Thurston County. See newsletter page 8. Info: Carol Burns, 866-7645 carolburns98@comcast.net

FOR Mon April 4: “Soldiers’ Wounds: One Cost of War That Never Ends.” -- Olympia FOR’s April TCTV program: Watch it every Monday at 1:30 pm and every Thursday at 9:00 pm on TCTV cable channel 22 in Thurston County. See a description in our February-March newsletter or http://olympiafor.org/tv_programs.htm. Info: Glen 491-9093 glen@olympiafor.org

Mon April 4: Camp Quixote’s Birthday Party: Help celebrate the birthday of Camp Quixote, a democratically operated homeless shelter. Enjoy the celebration and fundraiser from 5:00 to 9:00 pm at the First Christian Church, 701 Franklin Street SE, Olympia. The celebration will include a silent auction, awesome appetizers, and great music played by the Olympia Jazz Senators. Proceeds will help keep the camp going until we can build Quixote Village, a permanent location.

Mon April 4: J Street’s organizing event for a two-state solution and Middle East peace: Olympia peace supporter Susan Rosen, who attended “Giving Voice to Our Values,” J Street’s recent conference in Washington DC, will follow up with a local organizing event at Temple Beth Hatfiloh, 201 8th Ave SE, at 7:00 pm. J Street is an organization of American Jews and others who work for a two-state solution and Middle East peace for everyone. J Street refers to itself as “pro-Israel,

pro-peace.” Info: Susan Rosen 786-1112 or gordon@jstreet.org

Tues April 5: Malalai Joya, a courageous Afghan woman, will speak in Olympia twice today and in Tacoma tonight: Evergreen State College’s Lecture Hall 1 from 10:00 am to 11:15, South Puget Sound Community College (See a large reader board posted outside Student Activities Center) at 12:00 noon, and at Tacoma’s UW campus (William Phillip Hall) on Pacific Ave at the south end of Tacoma’s downtown, at 7:00 pm. Malalai Joya started an illegal school for girls under the Taliban, then a medical clinic, then an orphanage. At 25 she became the youngest member of the Afghan Parliament. She attracted attention there by pointing out the war crimes of fellow parliamentarians, who then tried to kill her. The BBC called her “the bravest woman in Afghanistan.” She’ll be discussing the plight of women and the poor in her nation, and calling for an end to military occupation. Free, but people are encouraged to donate through Peace Action (www.peace-action.org) to benefit women in Afghanistan. Info: Molly Gibbs 412-1519 mollygibbs3@gmail.com

FOR Tues April 5: Olympia FOR’s book discussion group about moving from war to peace: 7:00 pm at Chuck Schultz’s home, 1621 Tullis NE (a little north of San Francisco Street Bakery). Info about books and discussions for tonight and in future months: Chuck at 705-8520 chuck-schultz3@msn.com



Tues-Fri April 5-8: April Week of Action at the State Capitol to prevent drastic cuts and close corporate tax loopholes instead: A wide range of people want to pressure the Legislature and

Governor to pass a humane state budget that will adequately fund social services and create jobs. They want to stop scapegoating public workers and vulnerable people. Organizers include the Olympia Coalition for a Fair Budget (OlyCoForFairBudget@gmail.com) and POWER (Parents Organizing For Welfare and Economic Rights) at 352-9716 welfarerights@riseup.net www.oly-wa.us/power/ and lots of labor, students, teachers, the religious community, and other people of good will. Solutions include taxing rich people and closing corporate tax loopholes. People will gather **Tuesday April 5 at 10 a.m.** at the Rafah Mural at the corner of State Ave and Capitol Way for a short rally and march to the Capitol steps for an 11:45 speaker. Music and more will extend from 12 noon to 6 pm. Enjoy, Seattle’s famous folk singer Jim Page, powerful local singer-songwriter Danny Kelly, and our Citizens Band, Olympia Free Choir, some political theater, and more.

<http://olycoforfairbudget.wordpress.com/>
<http://wearewashington.wordpress.com/>
www.facebook.com/event.php?id=134108203328679

Wed April 6: 12 noon at or near the Capitol: Washington Community Action Network will bring hundreds of community activists and students to Olympia in an attempt to find out whether the Legislature will make the bankers and billionaires make sacrifices to get us out of the economic crisis.

<http://wearewashington.wordpress.com/>
www.facebook.com/event.php?eid=134108203328679

Thurs April 7: Health care unions will mobilize workers at the Capitol: SEIU District 1199NW, health care workers and others will demand that the Legislature look into the faces of the victims and make humane decisions to fix the deficit problems. Exact time, location and other info will be posted at <http://olycoforfairbudget.wordpress.com/>
<http://wearewashington.wordpress.com/>

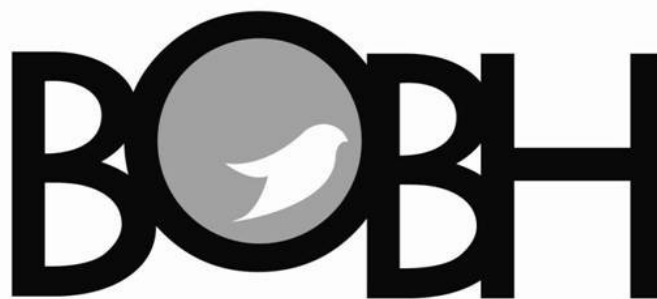
Thurs April 7: The Olympia Farmers' Market opens for the 2011 season: Support local farmers, local craftspeople and locally owned small businesses. Info: www.olympiafarmersmarket.com

Fri April 8: A major Labor Rally at 12:00 noon at the Capitol: Washington's working families are tired of being blamed and punished for the damage done by Wall Street banks and corporations. Join thousands of public and private sector workers from all trades as we stand together as one and demand that lawmakers PUT PEOPLE FIRST! We want good jobs, we want our rights, and we want them NOW! See <http://olycoforfairbudget.wordpress.com/>
<http://wearewashington.wordpress.com/>

Fri-Sat April 8-9: The Rachel Corrie Foundation's Peace Works Conference – "Solidarity in Action" at The Evergreen State College and features Alice Walker ("The Poet/Writer as Activist") downtown at the Washington Center for the Performing Arts, 512 Washington St. SE, Olympia, at 7:30 p.m. on Friday April 8. Tickets are \$25 general public; \$12.50 for students and low income, and are available at the Washington Center's box office, <http://www.washingtoncenter.org/> 360-753-8586 Alice Walker is the keynote for the **Peace Works Conference - Solidarity in Action** at The Evergreen State College, Olympia, Friday April 8 from 12 p.m. to 5 p.m. and Saturday April 9 from 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. The conference includes two exciting days of networking, panels, and workshops. Panelists will address the current situation in Israel/Palestine and strategies for justice and peace, the growing international campaigns for Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions (BDS), and cross-movement building. Local and national organizers will facilitate workshops to educate, motivate, and provide tools for community organizing. For info, updates, and registration see www.rachelcorriefoundation.org/peaceworks/pw2011 or call the Rachel Corrie Foundation at 360-754-3998.

Fri April 8: Heartsparkle Players and the Olympia Seed Exchange invite people to join them on stage for improvisational "playback theater." Playback Theatre is a spontaneous collaboration between performers and audience. People tell moments from their lives, then watch them re-created with movement, music and dialogue. Each month the Heartsparkle Players collaborate with a different local group. April's performance

collaborates with *The Olympia Seed Exchange* whose mission is to promote local food security by growing, distributing and educating people about seeds. A seasonal Seed Exchange occurs where community members can access free seeds and seed-sowing information. The *Olympia Seed Exchange* also offers free workshops about seed saving and maintains several demonstration beds. 7:30 pm at Traditions Café, 5th & Water downtown. A \$5-\$10 donation is requested but no one will be turned away for lack of funds. Info about Heartsparkle Players is at www.heartsparkle.org and Debe 943-6772



BRING OUR BILLIONS HOME

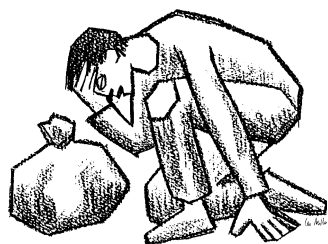
FOR Sat April 9: "Bring Our Billion\$ Home" -- Cut military spending, and use the savings to fund human and environmental needs: The Olympia FOR is actively participating in the Western Washington FOR's campaign. **We'll meet from 10:00 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. at the Olympia Timberland Library, 8th & Franklin, Olympia.** Info: Glen Anderson 491-9093 glen@olympiafor.org locally and (206) 789-5565 at the WWFOR office in Seattle

Sat April 9: Discover the Wonders of Nature at the Nisqually National Wildlife Refuge: 10 am to 12 noon at the Nisqually National Wildlife Refuge, 100 Brown Farm Road NE, Lacey 98516: In the context of Thomas Berry's wisdom that *Earth is the Primary Educator*, children will immerse themselves in the natural world and **"Discover the Wonders of Nature at the Nisqually National Wildlife Refuge."** This program – aimed especially at families and educators – will include a tour of the Education Center, the Nature Explore Area, and information about the Refuge's environmental education programs. This program will help children develop their inherent capacity to be fully present to the natural world. This is the sixth and last event in the *Earth Care Series 2010-2011* entitled: **Ethical Eating: Healthy Planet, Healthy Food, Healthy People**, co-sponsored by Earth Care Catholics and the Interfaith Works Earth Stewardship Committee.

Sat April 9: Watch the documentary "COINTELPRO 101" – The Seattle premier showing of the film "COINTELPRO 101" will begin at 7:00 pm. The documentary lasts one hour. Then Q&A will continue to 9:00 p.m. at University Friends Meeting House, 4001 9th Avenue NE, Seattle (I-5 to 45th Street, east, then south). "COINTELPRO 101" exposes the history of the FBI's secret government program, Counter-Intelligence Pro-

gram (COINTELPRO), launched in the 1960s and officially active until 1975 used illegal means to disrupt, destroy and devastate movements for social change inside this country. The film details the history of the Black, Chicano/Latino, Puerto Rican and Native American movements for freedom in this country. Also see the Olympia FOR's "Big Picture" documentary on this topic on TCTV during May (newsletter page 8). Info: www.seattlejericho.com/events.htm

Sun April 10: PFLAG's monthly gathering focuses on "The Roots of Violence and Oppression" -- Rosalinda Noriega from Partners in Prevention Education (PiPE) will speak on "The Roots of Violence and Oppression." <https://youthchangeagents.org>. 2:00 to 4:30 pm at First United Methodist Church, 1224 Legion Way SE. PFLAG works with GLBTQ folks and their families and friends and also reaches out to the general public to improve society's understanding and inclusiveness. Info: Alec Clayton alec@alecclayton.com



(Drawing by LEE Miller)

Sun April 10: Bridges Not Walls works on immigration issues in humane ways: Bridges Not Walls brings people together to address issues of immigration in our community. Immigrants, regardless of legal status, deserve to be treated with dignity. BNW works to

make our communities places where immigrants are valued and respected. BNW opposes the fear and intimidation created by immigration enforcement in our region. Therefore, we work in solidarity with the immigrant communities in our area to promote human rights, economic rights and civil rights for all people. They meet twice each month, alternating between Shelton and Olympia. Meet at 4:00 pm today in the MIXX 96 meeting room at the SW corner of State and Washington in downtown Olympia. Info: 943-8642

FOR Sun April 10: "Nuclear Disarmament: Now or Never? Whose Responsibility?" Presentation by Sister Jackie Hudson at Seattle FOR's monthly gathering: 5:00 pm simple potluck, 6:00 pm announcements, 6:30-8:00 pm program at Woodland Park Presbyterian Church, 225 N 70th (Greenwood neighborhood NW of Woodland Park), Seattle. Info: (206) 789-5565 wwfor@wwfor.org

Tues April 12: Organize to stop sweatshops: South Sound Clean Clothes Campaign formed in 2000 to address sweatshop issues and has focused on getting public entities to adopt sweatshop free purchasing practices. SSCCC meets at 7:00 pm at Traditions Café, 5th & Water SW on the 2nd Tuesday of each month. Info: Dick Meyer 705-2819 and www.southsoundcleanclothes.org

Tues April 12: National Organization for Women (NOW) meets at 7:00 pm at Traditions Café, 5th & Water SW. Join other like minded folks wanting to discuss issues and books/articles on gender discrimination, white privilege, and its impact on our social system. Help plan future events and meetings to do some-

thing where we can to improve life for all women and men. Info: Linda Malanchuk 357-7272

Tues April 12: A new book -- Real Common Sense: Using our Founding Values to Reclaim Our Nation and Stop the Radical Right from Hijacking America -- will be launched at Orca Books: Brian Kahn's new book is a response to Glenn Beck and others like him. America's extreme Right falsely claims the Founding Fathers as allies for their radical agenda. Kahn claims it's time to cut through the rhetoric, smoke, and spin, and get back to our core American values. We have gone off course as a country by emphasizing consumerism over citizenship, entertainment over education, and "me" over "we". By rediscovering the moral compass our Founders put into place, we can create a united America, and a future worthy of our grandchildren. 6:00 pm at Orca Books, 509 4th Ave E, Olympia. Info: 352-0123 www.orcabooks.com/blogs/news

FOR Wed April 13: Olympia FOR's Steering Committee meets at 7:00 pm at Beth Rodman's home for overall planning and decision-making. All Olympia FOR members are welcome. Info: Co-Chairs Berd Whitlock 259-4291 robertfwwhitlock@gmail.com or Alice Zillah 357-7705 alicezillah@yahoo.com

Wed April 13: Olympia Movement for Justice and Peace (OMJP) meets at 7:00 pm on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday evenings of each month to work on a variety of global and local issues. Meet at the POWER office, 309 5th Ave SE, Olympia. Info: Larry 866-2404 Imosqueda@comcast.net

Thurs April 14: Climate Solutions 12th Annual Olympia Fundraiser: 5:30-8:00 pm in the Wine Cellar Room, Waterstreet Café; 610 Water St. SW, Olympia. Featured speakers: Rich Feldman, PNW Regional Manager of ECOTality North America (with the very latest news on their ambitious rollout of Electric Vehicle charging station infrastructure in our region); Gregg Small, Executive Director of Climate Solutions; and Lisa Smith from Enterprise for Equity. Come support Climate Solutions. RSVP by April 4 <http://csolympiafundraiser2011.eventbrite.com>

FOR Fri April 15: Peace Vigil from 4:30 to 6:00 pm at south end of Percival Landing near W 4th Ave. **Today's vigil needs many more people to make a strong focus on our "Bring Our Billion\$ Home" campaign to cut military spending and channel the money for humane, useful purposes.** Please join us for whatever length of time you can. We provide plenty of signs. Also enjoy hearing the Artesian Rumble Arkestra perform here from 5:00 to 6:00 to support our vigil! Sponsor: Olympia FOR. Info: 491-9093 info@olympiafor.org See information about our vigils at <http://olympiafor.org/vigils.htm>

Fri-Sun April 15-17: Environmental Film Festival at Capitol Theater, 206 5th Ave SE, Olympia. Friday evening opening events, with films continuing on Saturday and Sunday. **Friday** 6:00 pm opening night celebration, 7:00 pm "Carbon Nation" film screening followed by panel discussion forum with filmmaker Q&A. **Saturday at 12 noon** see "Particles on the

Wall – The Hanford Traveling Exhibit Closing Reception” in the Mezzanine Art Gallery. “Particles on the Wall is an interdisciplinary group exhibit exploring elements of science and the nuclear age, Hanford history, their thread through our lives and their bearing on the Columbia River and natural world. Poems, visual art, memorabilia, and science “factoids” illuminate key events regarding the nuclear history and role of nuclear technology in Washington State, current concerns with radioactive contamination, and the quest for peace. Show up at the closing reception and you’ll get a chance to hear poetry readings and to add your story to the exhibit in the “This is My Hanford” live interview corner! **Saturday at 6:30 pm** watch **“Into Eternity”** (2010 film from Denmark, Finland, Sweden and Italy. A disconnect exists between the brevity of recorded human history on the one hand, which extends back less than 10,000 years, and the dangerous long-term persistence of the hazards of nuclear waste on the other, which lasts for hundreds of thousands of years. It’s a problem that raises interesting questions about how to effectively manage the safe disposal of such materials in order to protect generations into the unimaginable future. It’s a powerful documentary. **Saturday at 9:00 pm** watch **“End of the Line,”** a recent British documentary. At the rate we are presently using our ocean resources, many experts believe that by 2050 there will no longer be edible fish available there – bluntly, zero fish in the seas. This documentary takes a hard look at some of the results of overfishing and what it may hold for the future. Specific issues covered include the imminent extinction of bluefish tuna, in part a result of sushi catching on in the Western Hemisphere; the effects of an enormous overpopulation of jellyfish; and speculation on what the world would be like without fish. The film also brings to light some of the grotesque but standard practices of deep-sea fishing. **Sunday daytime** watch **several short films.** **Sunday at 7:30 pm** watch **“SoLa: Louisiana Water Stories”** – When filmmaker Jon Bowermaster landed in southern Louisiana to make his documentary about the people of the area and their relationships with the water, it was at just about exactly the midpoint between the region's two recent colossal disasters – after Katrina, but before the BP oil spill. The film affords us the opportunity to look into exactly what's at stake in these catastrophic messes, introducing us to the unique individuals dedicated to water resource issues on the Gulf Coast and to the irreplaceable landscapes they are intent on preserving in the face of pollution, erosions, storms, and institutional neglect. Info: www.olympiafilmsociety.org

FOR Sat April 16: “Fair Elections for a Fair Economy” -- **Western Washington FOR Spring Assembly** in West Seattle will help peace & justice folks network regionally about peace and justice issues. 9 am to 4 pm at Fauntleroy UCC, 9260 California Ave SW (near the ferry to Vashon), Seattle. Low cost includes lunch. See the flyer enclosed with this newsletter and at the Olympia FOR and Western Washington FOR websites. Info: (206) 789-5565 wwfor@wwfor.org Carpooling & info from Olympia: 491-9093 glenn@olympiafor.org

Sat April 16 (and the third Saturday of each month): Gather at the NW Detention Center in Tacoma to protect immigrant rights: Bridges Not Walls invites you to participate in a vigil at the Northwest Detention Center, which was built on a superfund toxic waste site on the tideflats east of

downtown Tacoma. The NWDC houses up to 1500 detainees and is run by GEO Group, a profit-making corporation that consumes \$150,000 of taxpayers’ taxes each night that it’s full. Prisons and detention centers are a bizarre growth industry in the US! Come bring coffee and food to support families that are visiting their locked-up loved ones and protest a failed immigration policy. Meet at the Olympia-Rafah Solidarity Mural at Capitol Way and State Ave for a carpool that leaves at 11:00 a.m. You will return to Oly by around 5 p.m. Info: bridgesnotwalls@riseup.net or (503) 970-3399 by Friday for more information on what to bring (and what not to bring).

Sat-Sun April 16-17: 2011 South Sound Green Tour: Visit and learn about the latest money-saving, eco-friendly ways to build, landscape, and live for a sustainable community. This community educational event will showcase South Sound’s greenest homes and buildings. Builders, architects, craftspeople and suppliers with a deep green focus will showcase their design and construction projects on this free, public tour. Enjoy 20 inspiring sites, 50 educational workshops, and an EcoExpo of innovative solutions. Go Green! Catch a ride or electric-car taxi from the *Go Green Transit Hub*, sponsored by Intercity Transit. Presented by NW EcoBuilding Guild. Info: www.SouthSoundGreenTour.org and Chris van Daalen, Education Coordinator, South Sound Chapter, NW EcoBuilding Guild (360) 789-9669 EcoBuilding.News@gmail.com www.EcoBuilding.org

Sun April 17: An I.C.E. monitoring workshop will help you protect immigrant rights: Join Bridges Not Walls for a hands-on workshop to learn about monitoring and documenting I.C.E. (Immigration and Customs Enforcement) and Border Patrol activity in our area. Also get updates on realities at the border and in our local community. An experienced organizer from the San Diego area -- Benjamin Prado, Coordinator of the San Diego U.S./Mexico Border Program of the American Friends Service Committee -- will lead this workshop. It runs from 1:00 to 4:00 pm at the Mixx-96 meeting room at the SW corner of State Ave and Washington Street, Olympia. This program works to support the growth and development of immigrant-led organizations, with the goal of bringing the voices and concerns of immigrant communities into policy debates at the local, state, and national level. Info: (360) 427-3756 bridgesnotwalls@riseup.net and www.oly-wa.us/bridges

Sun April 17: Veterans for Peace: Our local Olympia Vfp chapter 109, the Rachel Corrie Chapter, meets at 5:30 pm at Traditions Café, 5th & Water. www.vfp109rcc.org and 867-1487

Sun April 17: “A Toast to Chocolate” benefit for the Dispute Resolution Center of Thurston County: This annual event will occur at Olympia’s Red Lion hotel. Details will be available soon from Anna Shelton 956-1155 ext. 3 or ashelton@mediatethurston.org

Mon April 18: Offer flyers about military spending when people take their income tax envelopes to the Olympia Post Office: Again this year Scott Yoos is coordinating a timely opportunity to reach out to the public with information and a friendly smile at the Olympia Post Office, 9th & Jefferson. The War Resisters League’s famous pie chart --

<http://www.warresisters.org/sites/default/files/FY2012piechart-color.pdf> -- has interesting information to share with people. About half of our income tax dollars go for wars (past, present and future) through current military spending, nuclear weapons in the Energy Dept budget, veterans' benefits, interest on the military's portion of the national debt, and new weapons being built. This information also pertains to the FOR's campaign to "Bring our Billion\$ Home." Info: scottyoo@hotmail.com

Tues-Wed-Thurs April 19-20-21: Public hearings and public comments on Navy's EIS to build a second Explosives Handling Wharf at Trident nuclear submarine base at Bangor in Kitsap County: Hearings are April 19 North Kitsap High Poulsbo, Wed April 20 Chimacum High School, Thursday April 21 Seattle Central Library Wright-Ketcham Room. Info: www.nbkeis.com/ehw and www.gzcenter.org

Fri April 22: Luminary Procession: Meet at 5th & Washington at 9:30 pm. Bring your lantern and luminaries. Sponsor: Procession of the Species / Earthbound Productions. Info: www.procession.org 705-1087

FOR Sat April 23: Olympia FOR Fundraising Committee meets from 10:00 am to 12:00 noon at Glen Anderson's home in Lacey. Info: Alice Zillah 357-7705 alicezillah@yahoo.com Address and directions: Glen 491-9093 glen@olympiafor.org

Sat April 23: TC Pro-Net's Foodraiser for the Food Bank: The Thurston County Progressive Network (www.tcpronet.org) invites anyone who cares about our community to participate in this annual Food Raiser for the Thurston County Food Bank (downtown and satellite branches elsewhere in the county). 11 am to 4 pm at various locations at local stores. Sign up for a shift of 2 hours or less with 2 or more persons per shift. Info: qmagoo@hotmail.com or info@tcpronet.org

Sat April 23: Procession of the Species: Arrive early downtown for Olympia's amazing 17th annual event. It's a joyous, artistic, musical, festive, participatory pageant through the streets of Olympia, celebrating the natural world without any words or advertising or live animals or motorized vehicles. It begins at 4:30 pm. Info: www.procession.org 705-1087

Sun April 24: South Sound Buddhist Peace Fellowship hosts an open meeting: SSBPF includes members of the local Buddhist community engaging in the Buddhist path of right action in regard to working for peace, justice and social change. 3:30-5:00 pm. Location and info: Robert Lovitt 357-2825 ssbpf@comcast.net www.ssbpf.org

Sun April 24: Bridges Not Walls works on immigration issues in humane ways: See description for Sunday April 12 above. Meet at 4:00 pm today at the Mason County Literacy office in downtown Shelton. The carpool from Olympia will leave promptly at 3:15 pm from the Olympia-Rafah Solidarity Mural (corner of State Ave and Capitol Way in downtown Olympia). Info: 943-8642

FOR Mon April 25: Death penalty abolition committee of Olympia FOR meets to educate ourselves and work on fur-

ther activities to abolish that atrocity. 7 pm in Tumwater. Info: Emily Hammargren 352-0695 deathpenalty@olympiafor.org



Tues April 26: Antonia Juhasz speaks here about the Gulf oil spill: One of our nation's top politically progressive experts on big oil companies will speak from 7 to 9 pm at Olympia's Unitarian church, 2300 East End Street NW. Antonia Juhasz's new book *Black Tide*, details what happened to people on each

side of the oil spill. The book tells about blackened beaches, chemical dispersants, financial fallout and amazing *local* leadership. Copies of *Black Tide* will be available for sale. Info: Molly Gibbs mollygibbs3@gmail.com

Wed April 27: Earth Day: A Community Interfaith Celebration of Earth's Families: Enjoy a reception with light refreshments following. Children and people of all faiths are welcome! The program includes SongLight Children's Choir, Native and Celtic Flutes, The Olympia Peace Choir, Spoken Word from several faith traditions, drumming and more. 7:00 pm at Lincoln School Gym, 213 21st Ave SE, Olympia. Sponsor: Interfaith Works of Thurston County, 357-7224 www.interfaith-works.org

Wed April 27: Olympia Movement for Justice and Peace (OMJP) meets at 7:00 pm on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday evenings of each month to work on a variety of global and local issues. Meet at the POWER office, 309 5th Ave SE, Olympia. Info: Larry 866-2404 Imosqueda@comcast.net

Thurs April 28: "Money-Sex-War-Karma! Notes for a Buddhist Revolution" presentation by Prof. David Loy, a scholar and zen teacher (Sanbo Kyodan Zen Lineage) who has written 8 books including *A Buddhist History of the West* (2002) and *Money, Sex, War, Karma: Notes for a Buddhist Revolution* (2008). He will speak on how Buddhism addresses America's toxic karma of consumerism, sensationalism and violence, based on the classic Buddhist vision of "the 3 Poisons." All are welcome! 6:30-8:30 pm at a Common Bread gathering at The Evergreen State College Longhouse (south from the Library). Info: Fred LaMotte at fredlamotte@gmail.com and <http://cbread.blogspot.com/>

FOR Sat April 30: "Bring Our Billion\$ Home" -- Cut military spending, and use the savings to fund human and environmental needs: The Olympia FOR is actively participating in the Western Washington FOR's campaign. We'll meet from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the Washington State Labor Council meeting room, 3rd floor of 9th & Columbia Bldg, Olympia. Info: Glen Anderson 491-9093 glen@olympiafor.org locally and (206) 789-5565 wwfor@wwfor.org at the WWFOR office in Seattle

Sun May 1: CROP WALK raises money to feed hungry people: Thurston County's 31st annual CROP Walk is being organized now. There are several ways to help during April and on May 1. Interfaith Works 357-7224 www.interfaith-works.org

FOR Sun May 1: Watch the documentary “COINTEL-PRO: The F.B.I.’s War on Black America.” Today is the debut date for the May episode of the Olympia FOR’s “Big Picture” series of documentaries. Watch it at 10:00 pm every Sunday night and 10:00 pm every Thursday evening immediately after our interview program on TCTV cable channel 22 in Thurston County. See page 8. Info: Carol 866-7645 carolburns98@comcast.net

FOR Mon May 2: “Causing and Exploiting Budget Crises.” -- Olympia FOR’s May TCTV program debuts today and airs this month every Monday from 1:30 to 2:30 pm and every Thursday 9-10 pm on TCTV cable channel 22 in Thurston County. (See page 4) Glen 491-9093 glen@olympiafor.org www.olympiafor.org

FOR Tues May 3: Olympia FOR’s book discussion group about moving from war to peace: 7:00 pm at Chuck Schultz’s home, 1621 Tullis NE (a little north of San Francisco Street Bakery). Info about books and discussions for tonight and in future months: Chuck at 705-8520 chuckschultz3@msn.com



Fri-Sat May 6-7: I am my brother’s keeper: Confronting Islamophobia: This interfaith conference of Jews, Muslims and Christians will show

support, respect and understanding for Americans of all faiths: When the poison of prejudice infects a society, the society is as much at risk as the victims of intolerance. In the United States we are infected with many hatreds, and among those most in danger are Muslims. Other groups have been the target of misinformation and misinterpretation, and now one of the most pervasive is the misunderstanding of Islam. Disdain for and fear of Muslims exists among rich and poor, liberal and conservative. Islamophobia has increased in virulence and reminds many of the rise of anti-Semitism in Germany in the 1920s. How we confront Islamophobia will determine the health of our society. Hear excellent keynote speakers and participate in workshops. Enjoy Saturday’s interfaith service. Enjoy dinner at a mosque. Friday night \$10, Saturday \$45 (includes lunch and dinner), or both \$55 (includes lunch and dinner). Many excellent sponsoring groups. Buy tickets from <http://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/158529> Download mail in registration form: http://confrontingislamophobia.org/PDFs/Registration_form.pdf Info: info@confrontingislamophobia.org and www.confrontingislamophobia.org

Fri-Sun May 6-8: Third Annual NW Solidarity Conference with Latin America: Several groups are organizing this three-day event at The Evergreen State College. The goal is to strengthen regional collaboration between individuals and organizations working on Latin American issues. The public is welcome. The conference includes workshops, education, skill-

sharing, “meet and greet” opportunities, and much more. Info: <http://nwlasconference.wordpress.com/>

Fri-Thurs May 6-12: Watch the award-winning film “Of Gods and Men” about Christian monks living in harmony with Muslim brothers in a monastery in Algeria: Based on a true story of what happened when a fundamentalist group massacred foreign workers in the 1990s, and the Christian monks refused the army’s protection. Through “discernment,” they sorted out what God’s will for them was and lived harmoniously with Muslim brothers. Highly recommended! Olympia Film Society will show this at Capitol Theater, 206 5th Ave SE. Show times at www.olyfilm.org Info at www.sonyclassics.com/ofgodsandmen/

Sat May 7: “Mom says, ABOLISH NUKES NOW!” -- This is the theme of the Mothers’ Day events at the Ground Zero Center for Nonviolent Action (www.gzcenter.org) in Poulsbo, Kitsap County, next to the Trident nuclear submarine base. Ground Zero will honor nurturing women and continue its work toward a peaceful, weapons-free world. GZ invites you to join them in conveying this message during the vigil and nonviolent direct action at one of the entrance gates at Naval Base Kitsap-Bangor, home to the largest concentration of operational nuclear weapons. Enjoy a full day of events, including nonviolence training, an orientation to the Naval base and the Trident weapons system, and planning for the day’s vigil and action at the Bangor gate. See the full day’s schedule, this event’s flyer, and GZ’s current newsletter at www.gzcenter.org – and share it with friends. The Ground Zero Center for Nonviolent Action is located at 16159 Clear Creek Road NW, Poulsbo. Info: Anne Hall, anne-hall@familyhealing.com, (206) 545-3562, or Sue Ablao, gznnonviolencenews@yahoo.com, (360) 930-8697

Sun May 8: PFLAG monthly gathering features Stonewall Youth members talking about their programs and offering a free sneak peek of their upcoming drag show. 2:00 to 4:30 pm at First United Methodist Church, 1224 Legion Way SE. PFLAG works with GLBTQ folks and their families and friends – and reaches out to the general public to improve society’s understanding and inclusiveness. Info: Alec Clayton alec@alecclayton.com

Sun May 8: Bridges Not Walls works on immigration issues in humane ways: See description for Sunday April 10 above. Meet at 4:00 pm today in the MIXX 96 meeting room at the SW corner of State and Washington in downtown Olympia. Info: 943-8642

Tues May 10: Organize to stop sweatshops: South Sound Clean Clothes Campaign formed in 2000 to address sweatshop issues and has focused on getting public entities to adopt sweatshop free purchasing practices. SSSCC meets at 7:00 pm at Traditions Café, 5th & Water SW on the 2nd Tuesday of each month. Info: Dick Meyer 705-2819 and www.southsoundcleanclothes.org

Tues May 10: National Organization for Women (NOW) meets at 7:00 pm at Traditions Café, 5th & Water SW. Info: Linda Malanchuk 357-7272

Wed May 11: Olympia Movement for Justice and Peace (OMJP) meets at 7:00 pm on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday evenings of each month to work on a variety of global and local issues. Meet at the POWER office, 309 5th Ave SE, Olympia. Info: Larry 866-2404 Imosqueda@comcast.net

Fri May 13: Heartsparkle Players and improvisational "playback theater" – "Stories of the Wisdom of Ancient Traditions" – with the Bandha Room Ashtanga Yoga Studio featuring Steph Donchey on Sitar: Playback Theatre is a spontaneous collaboration between performers and audience. People tell moments from their lives, then watch them re-created with movement, music and dialogue. Each month the Heartsparkle Players collaborate with a different local group. 7:30 pm at Traditions Café, 5th & Water downtown. A \$5-\$10 donation is requested but no one will be turned away for lack of funds. Info about Heartsparkle Players is at www.heartsparkle.org and Debe 943-6772

Fri May 13: Archbishop Desmond Tutu will make one of his last public appearances today at the Tacoma Dome. Read at least one of his books to prepare for hearing this great human being. Info: www.tacomafoundation.org

FOR Sat May 14: Western Washington FOR Area Committee meeting: Everyone is welcome to attend this quarterly meeting of WWFOR's governing & networking board, the Area Committee. 10 am to 3:30 pm in Seattle. Info: 206-789-5565 wwfor@wwfor.org. Info and carpooling from Olympia: glen@olympiafor.org 491-9093

Sun May 15: Veterans for Peace: Our local Olympia Vfp chapter 109, the Rachel Corrie Chapter, meets at 5:30 pm at Traditions Café, 5th & Water, downtown. Info: www.vfp109rcc.org and 867-1487

FOR Tues May 17: Olympia FOR Annual Gathering and Election: 6:30-8:30 at Traditions Café, 5th & Water. See article on newsletter page 1. Info: glen@olympiafor.org 491-9093

FOR Thurs May 19: Deadline for Olympia FOR's June-July newsletter: Send news, announcements and calendar items by this date or very soon after. 360-491-9093 glen@olympiafor.org

FOR Sat May 21: "Bring Our Billion\$ Home" -- Cut military spending, and use the savings to fund human and environmental needs: The Olympia FOR is actively participating in the Western Washington FOR's campaign. We'll meet from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the Washington State Labor Council meeting room, 3rd floor of 9th & Columbia Bldg, Olympia. Info: Glen Anderson 491-9093 glen@olympiafor.org locally and (206) 789-5565 wwfor@wwfor.org at the WWFOR office in Seattle

Sat May 21 (and the third Saturday of each month): Gather at the NW Detention Center in Tacoma to protect immigrant rights: See the information at the Saturday April 16 listing above.

Sat May 21: Regional march and rally for clemency for Leonard Peltier: 12:00 noon from Tacoma's Portland Ave Park on Portland Ave between E. 35th and E. Fairbanks. Take Portland Ave. exit off I-5 and head south. 1:00 pm rally for justice at U.S. Federal Court House, 1717 Pacific Ave, Tacoma. A carpool from Olympia will leave from the parking lot at Harrison and Division at 10:15 am. Info: Arthur Miller bayou@blarg.net

Sun May 22: "Turn the Federal Budget Around" – Festivities in Heritage Park to Cut the Military Budget and "Bring Our Billion\$ Home" – 1:00 to 3:30 pm at 5th & Water, Olympia. See newsletter pages 1-3 and the flyer enclosed with this newsletter. Info: Pat Holm 357-4151 frog-prin@cco.net and www.olympiafor.org

Sun May 22: Bridges Not Walls works on immigration issues in humane ways: See description for Sunday April 12 above. Today's meeting will begin at 4:00 p.m. at the Mason County Literacy office in downtown Shelton. The carpool from Olympia will leave promptly at 3:15 pm from the Olympia-Rafah Solidarity Mural (State and Capitol). Info: 943-8642

FOR Mon May 23: Death penalty abolition committee of Olympia FOR meets to educate ourselves and work on further activities to abolish that atrocity. 7 pm in Tumwater. Info: Emily Hammargren 352-0695 deathpenalty@olympiafor.org

Wed May 25: Olympia Movement for Justice and Peace (OMJP) meets at 7:00 pm on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday evenings of each month to work on a variety of global and local issues. Meet at the POWER office, 309 5th Ave SE, Olympia. Info: Larry 866-2404 Imosqueda@comcast.net

FOR Sunday June 5: Olympia FOR Summer Social: The Olympia FOR's Summer Social last September was a big success, so we want to bring people together again for another Summer Social and welcome summer before it officially begins! Please join us on Sunday, June 5 from 3:00 to 6:00 pm at Yauger Park in SW Olympia. The park is on Capital Mall Drive SW, a few blocks west of Cooper Point Road SW. Turn at the Yauger Park sign. Our Summer Social planners are providing the food, so simply come and enjoy the afternoon! Please RSVP so we will know how much food to prepare. To learn more or RSVP contact Rozanne Rants at (360) 705 8520, rozanne-rants@yahoo.com.

June 6-24: Canadian School of Peacebuilding offers excellent courses taught by outstanding peace activists: The Canadian Mennonite University in Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada, will host this amazingly good series of courses. You may choose from 10 different five-day courses for professional development or academic credit. Get information from www.cmu.ca/csop or e-mail them at csop@cmu.ca

FOR Fri-Mon July 1-4: FOR's 53rd Annual conference at Seabeck in Kitsap County – "Toward a Fair, Sustainable Global Economy" will feature Sara van Gelder (Editor of *Yes! Magazine*) as our keynote speaker. Enjoy an informative and inspiring weekend with 200+ FOR folks of all ages. Special programs for children and young people. Info: Western Washington FOR office (206) 789-5565 wwfor@wwfor.org

PROGRAMS AT RISK vs. TAX BREAKS FOR THE RICH

This is what “class war” looks like. The chart’s left side shows the “shared sacrifices” and “painful cuts” that the Republicans claim we must make to solve the federal budget crisis. The chart’s right side shows WHY these cuts are “necessary.” This chart originated at the Center for American Progress (www.americanprogress.org), specifically at www.americanprogress.org/issues/2011/02/tax_breaks_infographic.html. The footnotes at the end of the website’s article provide source data.

Author Donna Cooper wrote this on February 22, 2011: “House leaders are unfortunately restricting their proposed budget cuts for the remainder of fiscal year 2011 to nonsecurity discretionary spending in an attempt to tame a \$1.3 trillion deficit. This approach is especially shortsighted since the Federal Treasury loses twice as much revenue due to tax breaks than Congress appropriates on all nonsecurity discretionary spending.

“The chart below compares the 10 safety-net programs slated for deep cuts with the cost of the tax breaks that should also be considered for reduction or elimination to bring the budget into balance. The column on the left is a list of safety-net programs that have already been targets of the House leadership’s budget ax. The column on the right is the cost to specified tax breaks.” Her article contains more information about tax breaks, which Congress fails to control.

PROGRAMS AT RISK	TAX BREAKS FOR THE WEALTHY
\$ 1 1.2 billion Early childhood programs	\$ 1 1.5 billion Per-year cost of recent tax cuts for millionaires’ estates
\$8.9 billion Low-income housing programs	\$8.9 billion Cost of allowing mortgage interest deduction for vacation homes (estimated 10-year cost)
\$7.6 billion Supplemental nutrition for per families (WIC)	\$6.7 billion Cost of “estate planning” techniques used by wealthy to avoid taxes
\$4.6 billion Teacher training and after-school programs	\$5.2 billion Cost of removing limit on itemized deductions for high-income taxpayers (fiscal year 2011)
\$4.1 billion Job training for unemployed and new workers	\$4.1 billion Cost of tax breaks for offshore operations of U.S. financial companies
\$2.5 billion Low-income Home Energy Assistance (LIHEAP) grants to poor families	\$2.5 billion Tax breaks for oil companies 9write-offs for drilling and oil well costs, fiscal year 2012)
\$2.5 billion Community health centers	\$4.9 billion Cost of extending alcohol fuel tax breaks
\$2.0 billion Homeless Assistance Grants	\$2.3 billion Tax loophole for managers of hedge funds and private equity funds (fiscal year 2012)
\$420 million Legal services for the poor	\$3 12 million Cost of allowing companies to write off punitive damages (10 years)
\$3 17 million Title X Family Planning	\$303 million Cost of special tax breaks for the timber industry
\$44 billion All programs at risk combined	\$42 billion One-year cost of extending Bush tax cuts for top brackets (FY 2012)

Tax breaks for the rich are not the only problem. While cutting funding to help people in need, **the President and Congress keep wasting more money on wars and other military spending. Let’s “Bring Our Billion\$ Home.”** Info: Olympia Fellowship of Reconciliation (360) 491-9093

www.olympiafor.org and Western Washington Fellowship of Reconciliation (206) 789-5565 www.wvfor.org

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War and other forms of violence just don't work. Military "solutions" only make problems worse.

David Bellinger said: "Just as it would be stupid to plant weeds and try to harvest vegetables, so it would be stupid to encourage the lies, conscription and murder of war, and hope to produce democracy, freedom and brotherhood. War is a Trojan horse from which emerge, at home, the enemies that destroy us."

Olympia Fellowship of Reconciliation

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Thank you!

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