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June 2012

*Esta edición también trae artículos en español. Vea adentro y compártalo. También está disponible en el internet. Ver a [www.occupyeugenemedia.org/newsletter/](http://www.occupyeugenemedia.org/newsletter/)*

## OCCUPIERS DEFEND HOMEOWNERS, DENOUNCE MERS

By NICOLE MEDEMA



PHOTO BY NICOLE MEDEMA

On May 26, FAC erected a memorial site in front of the downtown Wells Fargo to honor Norman Rousseau, a California resident who took his life on May 13. Two days later Wells Fargo took his home. The site was dedicated to one of many victims of the criminal foreclosure crisis

Oregon Attorney General John Kroger is currently arguing in the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals that mortgage lenders have been breaking state law by utilizing the agent Mortgage Electronic Registration System, Inc. to bypass paperwork and county fees. If he wins this case on behalf of Oregon homeowners, the rate of foreclosures would most likely fall meanwhile heighten the ability for homeowners to contest their cases in court.

Since its inception, the Occupy Eugene Foreclosure Actions Committee has been dedicated to supporting and defending homeowners in Lane County. Their research has demonstrated that Lane County lost millions of dollars to the use of MERS. Every time a loan shifts hands, Oregon law requires that it be registered in county record, for a modest fee. Banks avoided

these fees through MERS and thus, they say, cost Lane County millions of dollars and broke the law.

This loss comes at a time of far-reaching budget cuts in Oregon. On the evening of Thursday, May 17th, FAC and other Occupy participants took their discovery to the Lane County Budget Committee meeting on the new budget proposal for the 2012-2013 fiscal year. There, they argued that the county ought to seek retroactive payment from lenders for unrecorded transactions.

Those payments, they explained, could be used to cushion the public service cuts in the new budget proposal. That proposal includes extensive cuts to the police budget including a significant decrease in jail beds and a 71 percent decrease in patrolling deputies, significant cuts to Health and Human Services, less District Attorney office employees representing 30  
**See Homeowners, p. 3**

## EUGENE THROUGH THE LENS OF ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

By ALISON GUZMAN

Eugene, nationally recognized as a bike city, a community near nature and a place where we value sustainability, would not normally attract attention around environmental human rights and justice issues, which is why for one day, Beyond Toxics invited city and agency officials, students, and community leaders on a bus tour to West Eugene to see how families live through the lens of environmental justice.

One key component of environmental justice is the idea that all people, regardless of where you live and how much money and influence you command, have the right to participate in the decisions that affect their environment and health. Beyond Tox-

ics, in partnership with Centro LatinoAmericano, a local social justice organization, recently finished an in-depth look at environmental health in West Eugene. Our research proved that lower-income neighborhoods in West Eugene are bearing the brunt of exposure to toxic air — reason for us to take action. Our goal is to mesh environmental justice into public health policies and land use planning (such as the Envision Eugene process now taking place in our community).

For example, did you know that people living in West Eugene are “fence line neighborhoods” to 99% of all toxic industrial air emissions in Eugene? Did you know that some schools in West

**See Environmental Justice, p. 3**

Welcome to the fourth issue of Occupy Eugene’s newsletter. We hope you enjoy our articles and find a place to join us in our efforts to bring about our vision. You may find our complete vision statement at <http://occupyeugenemedia.org/vision-statement/>. As a way to identify how you might get involved please see our calendar of events insert or contact a committee

# ONGOING OCCUPY EUGENE EVENTS

**Occupying the Heart and Mind Silent Interfaith Meditation/Prayer** Fridays at OEV (7th Ave. and Polk St.) 11:45 a.m. to 1 p.m. and Saturdays at OEV 2:30 to 3:30 p.m.

**General Assemblies** Tuesdays 7 p.m. at OEV and Fridays 6 p.m. at the Wayne Morse Free Speech Plaza (8th Ave. and Oak St.)

**Communications Series for the month of June**, Wednesdays 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. with a social hour to follow at OEV, 7th Ave. and Polk St.

**Free Medical Tent** Sundays noon to 4 p.m. at Park Blocks (Park and Oak Streets). Medical Services also available at OEV Tuesdays 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.

**Kesey Square Revival** Fridays, starting around 12:30 p.m.

**Housing/Foreclosure Actions Committee** Thursdays at 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. at Growers Market, 454 Willamette St.

**Foreclosure Assistance for Homeowners** Wednesdays at 5 p.m. at Growers Market, 454 Willamette St.

## OCCUPY EUGENE AND ALLIES EVENTS

**Occupy Interfaith meeting "Homeless in Eugene"** Sunday June 10 at 2:30 p.m. A growing number of churches are taking on important community discussions with Occupy. Everyone invited. Location to be announced. Call Ruth Duemler at 541-484-6145.

**Occupy Eugene Gathering**, Saturday June 16 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. at the old Federal Building, 7th Ave. and Pearl St. Children's activities, performances, and workshops. Potlucks at 1 p.m. and 6 p.m.

**Public Dialogue on Local Food Economics**, Saturday June 23 from 2-5pm at EWEB (500 E 4th Ave)

**Occupy/Tea Party Evening Community Conversations** Dates, Time and location TBD

**Protest in Solidarity with Students in Quebec** Monday June 11 7:00 p.m. Park Blocks SW corner of 8th & Oak

("The people of Montreal, Quebec have joined students on strike in daily demonstrations numbering in the hundreds of thousands. The strikes have been underway for more than 100 days, and seem to be expanding to other parts of Canada, along with showings of student power in Chicago, Chile, and elsewhere." (Occupy Portland)

**Flags Occupy the Fed** Thursday June 14 Old Fed Courtyard E. & 7th & Pearl

(Flag Day) Bring all flags — any type, any size — to the Old Fed Wednesday night. They will be flown all day in support of worldwide diversity and solidarity

**Statewide Protest Keep Nestle Out of the Gorge Coalition** Tuesday June 26 Cascade Locks, Portland

**Butte to Butte 4.5 Mile Mayor's Fitness Walk** Wednesday July 4 8:20 a.m.

(Join Occupiers carrying a coffin representing the "Death of the American Dream" for some light-hearted outreach and fun.)

**For a more current list of all Occupy Eugene events** please see our calendar at [www.occupyeugenemedia.org/calendar/](http://www.occupyeugenemedia.org/calendar/)

**For a list of Occupy Portland events** please see their calendar at <http://occupyportlandcalendar.org/>

## ALL ARE WELCOME AT OE PUBLIC GATHERING

BY MARY BROADHURST

Occupy activists, organizers, and supporters will gather on June 16 at the Federal Building at 7th and Pearl starting at 11 a.m.

There will be two potlucks, one at 1 p.m. and one at 6 p.m. Activities for children will include a magic show at 1 p.m. and a reading of The Lorax. Come, bring a dish to share, and enjoy music, poetry, and 50-minute presenta-

tions on a variety of relevant topics, including Communications 101 for Activists and Medicine with What's On Hand.

Want to perform? Want to help out with logistics or any other part of this event? If so, please contact [Jana@greenfuelsinfo@yahoo.com](mailto:Jana@greenfuelsinfo@yahoo.com) or [MaryB@marib.eugene@gmail.com](mailto:MaryB@marib.eugene@gmail.com) or call 541-525-0130.

### Committees and Working Groups

We have numerous committees and working groups, such as Fundraising, Homeless Solutions, Media Group, Communications, Medical, Foreclosure Actions, Library, Welcoming, etc. Please go to [www.occupyeugenemedia.org/volunteer/](http://www.occupyeugenemedia.org/volunteer/) to learn more and to volunteer.

## Occupy Eugene

*We are a nonviolent, non-partisan, social-political movement for accountability and responsibility in government. We stand in solidarity with Occupy Movements around the globe and all people who will no longer sit back and watch corporate and special interests run their government, and spoil the living Earth.*

*For we, the people, are the government. It is time to turn away from a culture of war and domination, and create a living economy which operates in harmony with our living planet.*

*We must begin by opening our hearts to those the present system would discard and push into the shadows, because we believe that, in our United States, it's we the people who are sovereign-not global corporations.*

*We have come together to create a community that expresses our common needs, to organize, network, and participate in solutions and to remind one another that, as a society, we have unfinished business in our pursuit of social and economic justice.*

*Note: This excerpt has been approved by the OE General Assembly. For the complete Occupy Eugene Vision Statement click on "INFO" on our website.*

Occupy Eugene V (OEV) Main Site: 1274 W. 7th (7th and Polk streets)

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Current and Archived Newsletters: <http://occupyeugenemedia.org/newsletter/>

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### Reader Feedback and Comments:

We welcome your comments, suggestions, and feedback, as well as content and financial contributions for our newsletter. E-mail us at [newsletter@occupyeugenemedia.org](mailto:newsletter@occupyeugenemedia.org)

## Homeowners, continued from page 1

percent of county cases, and the overall axing of 224 county jobs.

During the height of the housing bubble, in 2005-2006, mortgage loans were being granted to individuals without adequate money, credit, nor a down payment. These loans, called subprime, were high-interest loans rife with excessive fees and inflated penalties for refinancing. They caused an inevitable endemic of foreclosures that was set into place by irresponsible lenders.

In addition, banks bundled up mortgage loans to be sold on the international market to investors. That is where MERS comes in. The trade of loan bundles was so complex that registering their trade with the county was an increasing hassle. MERS, with their mantra "process loans, not paperwork", handled the movement of loans and bypassed county registration. This is what the Attorney General, Occupiers, and other public interest groups have labeled as outright illegal.

It has also caused confusion when borrowers are set for foreclosure. A mortgage made by a resident here in Eugene with

Bank of America, for example, is most likely no longer owned by Bank of America. The resident is actually making payments to an investor who bought the loan on the market. So, when the resident wants to refinance his or her loan, the bank from which they took a loan is no longer in control. Although no longer in possession of the mortgage note, the bank opts for foreclosure.

This, in a nutshell, is the present-day injustice called-out by Occupiers, locally and nationally. Americans are suffering from the economic crisis caused by banks that profit from other people's losses while our supposedly representative government supports those banks with bailouts and by repressing those who protest. Hence, the saying "They got bailed out, we got sold out."

The Foreclosure Actions Committee offers homeowners assistance on Wednesdays at 5 p.m. at the Grower's Market at 454 Willamette St. They can be contacted on their website Occupy-Your-Home.com

## Environmental Justice, continued from page 1

Eugene are ranked in the worst 12-13% nationwide for school children exposed to carcinogens and breathing irritants? In other words, these are families living in homes located so close to major sources of pollution that they are affected by bad air on a regular basis. Unlike families in other neighborhoods, these families may not be able to open their windows on a summer day, may not be able to take their children to the park to play, or go out in their garden because the smell of chemicals is overwhelming. Their children also have more frequent asthma attacks when there is foul-smelling air.

To achieve justice, we need to help major decision makers in our community face some of the injustices that unfortunately exist so uncomfortably close to home. To achieve justice, we need to challenge the current structures so that other people and communities also gain access to political attention and social resources

that may not normally be readily available.

The truth is that communities, specifically lower-income communities, live in areas that are in critical need of public health improvements due to their disproportionate exposures to toxics such as polluted air and contaminated ground water. If we don't watch out for the health of all our children and acknowledge that communities are disproportionately affected by poverty, then who will? As Winona LaDuke put it, "Take responsibility for history. Recognize that sometimes things take a long time to change."

Beyond Toxics is fighting for what is just in Eugene – we are envisioning a healthier future for all our residents. We hope you will help us by becoming a member. You never know how many lives you may save or change by your actions in



PHOTO PROVIDED BY BEYOND TOXICS  
Dharmika Henley, community member of the Trainsong Neighborhood, speaks about ground-water and air pollution in her community during the April 2012 Environmental Justice Tour

the long run.

For more information, contact Alison Guzman, Beyond Toxics/Centro Latino-Americano, 541.465.8860/ 541-687-2667  
aguzman@beyondtoxics.org/ Alison@centrolatinoamericano.org

# OCCUPY MEDICAL CLINIC EXPANDS SERVICE

BY SUE SIERRALUPE

The brave volunteers at Occupy Eugene Medical Clinic (OEMC) have opened the doors even wider to serve the citizens of Lane County. As healthcare professionals, we have seen patients truly suffer from neglect. Our American society has isolated its high-need citizens under the guise of rugged individuality. In contrast, the OEMC has a crew of generous volunteers who are making the change they want to see in the world by devoting their time to the basic human right they believe in: health care for all. Benjamin Hunt, for example, is giving free haircuts every other week. Barbara F-B started Bodywork Day with a talented

Reiki expert and will be doing work once a month. Marilyn is a dental hygienist who sets up a portable dental chair and offers exams, basic cleaning and fluoride treatment. Occupy Dental Clinic is coming up, which is only possible due to our alliance with St. Vincent de Paul. Saturday, June 23 is the projected day for our first dental clinic. I can not even begin to tell you the asset this service will be our community. Occupy Eugene Medical Clinic is open for business every Sunday at the downtown Eugene Park Blocks, on 8th and Oak from 12-4pm.

***"A ship in port is safe, but that's not what ships are built for." — Grace Murray Hopper***

# MEDIA GROUP ADVANCES MOVEMENT'S MESSAGE

By DAVID GEITGEY SIERRALUPE

Media is one of the strengths of the Occupy Movement. Everywhere we go, we bring cameras and recording equipment. Liverstreamers are at all of our marches and most of our meetings. Occupy, more than any other historic social movement, is happening live and in full disclosure.

The Occupy Eugene Media Group (OEMG) was born back in January, when Josh McWhorter and Jana Thrift decided they needed to do something with all of the interviews they had recorded at the camp. They launched a youtube channel and started feeding their videos into it.

At the same time, Joe Tyndall was volunteering at the Community Television (CTV) Studio at Sheldon High School. He had a whole television studio at his disposal and a desire to start broadcasting the Occupy message. Jana and Josh joined

up with Joe, and Occupy TV was born.

Street video and studio productions ran side-by-side, with everybody pitching in. Eventually, different members were drawn to different tasks. Jana focused on videotaping the streets and uploading it to Youtube. Joe and I worked as a team to get our various Occupy-branded studio productions up and running.

Today, OEMG is two distinct units: studio production and field production.

Jana coordinates the Field Production of OEMG. She tries to be at every Occupy event with her cameras. Then, instead of sleeping, she edits her material at night (she has requested volunteer video editors!). Jana's field crew is made up primarily by three other people. They broadcast the whole run of the weekly Occupy Education series on CTV. They've been a frequent sight at Occupy the Trees,

Occupy Medical, Occupy Outpost 6, and the Federal Building.

Joe and I, as well as Mike Elliot and Graham Lewis have focused on studio production. We produce Occupy TV out of the CTV Studio behind Sheldon High School. For Occupy TV we have produced 38 one-hour episodes of interviews with local and national newsmakers. Every Wednesday evening, we host Occupy Radio, on KWVA 88.1 FM. We replay all of the interviews on the Occupy Media Podcast.

Occupy Media has hosted Bill Ayers, Max Rameau, David Barsamian, Michelle Shocked, and Alice DiMichele. In the future we will host Andrew Basevich and Cindy Sheehan. You can find the podcast at Occupy Media on iTunes, or Occupy Media Podcast on Facebook.

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# UNDOING RACISM AND PRIVILEGE

By RUTH WREN

The Occupy movement has brought together many people in the hope of creating real justice. The movement is inspiring but also challenging. One of these challenges has been race, which is understandable given the racial history of the U.S. Unless the issues of white privilege and racism are faced and dealt with openly, we cannot build a true 99% movement.

In a workshop held last month, we focused on developing an understanding of these issues and how they affect us individually and institutionally – through conversation, workshop exercises, and creating goals for action. We plan to have more workshops and a weekly (or bi-weekly) discussion group.

Racism and privilege are two sides of the same coin. The problem is not skin color; the problem is a racial hierarchy that goes back to the inception of the U.S. where full citizenship rights were given only to white males who owned property. Since we have all been born into this racial hierarchy, we will replicate it in our movement – unless we consciously work to examine privilege and racism in its many forms and constantly

root it out. What makes this work so difficult is that privilege is mostly invisible to those who have it. You can be privileged without feeling privileged.

What can we do to make Occupy more welcoming for people of color? A good place to start is to see that the issues of people of color are unifying rather than divisive, that their issues are our issues, too.

This does not mean that we should strive for color blindness. Color blindness is not the answer.

In “Whiteness and the 99%,” the late Joel Olson, activist and political science professor at Northern Arizona University, wrote: “The roots of left colorblindness lie in the white democracy and the distorted mindset it creates. It encourages whites to think that their issues are ‘universal’ while those of people of color are ‘specific.’ But that is exactly backwards. The struggles of people of color are the problems that everyone shares.” You can read Olson’s essay at <http://www.bringtheruckus.org/?q=node%2F146>.

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# OCCUPY YOUR HEART

By DAVID HAZEN

I’ve been having a conversation with a friend about how to expand the Occupy movement. I believe that many social change efforts eventually evaporate or morph into some other transitory, trendy effort because they are lacking the non-verbal connection between people that comes from the heart. We’ve been conditioned in this culture to think only with our heads, naming and blaming others. Our analytical thinking leaves us feeling isolated and distrustful of each other. Now is the time to transcend petty bickering and get on with making a world that works for everyone. Love, empathy and forgive-

ness are poo-pooed as weak, yet they are powerful tools for building a movement. If Occupy is to become a long-term, significant source of social change, it has to speak the language of the emotions that unite, not the prejudices that divide.

What would it take to create a large-scale interpersonal solidarity not based on politics or ideology, but based on love? Small wisdom circles have always provided mutual encouragement for heart connection in a safe space. They allow people to occupy the intuitive, collective knowledge of the group, even though the dominant culture would tell you such

knowledge is unscientific or impractical. I believe that if we share personal stories about the joy, wonder, and power of community-- stories of restoration that relate the miracles of collaboration, forgiveness, compassion, and gratitude-- then in a few years we would occupy enough heart-to-heart space that it would be the prevailing norm. Long-standing social problems based on separation between “us” and “them” would begin to dissolve. The energy unleashed by a new kind of solidarity will make the domination paradigm pitifully obsolete.

# PROTESTERS MARCH TO CHALLENGE NATO SUMMIT

BY NICOLE MEDEMA



On May 20, 2012, an estimated 10,000 protesters marched in peaceful protest of the NATO Summit through the streets of downtown Chicago, some chanting “No NATO, No War, Peace and Justice is what we’re for.” The dozens of Iraq and Afghanistan war veterans who led the march, including Occupy Oakland’s Scott Olsen, spoke to the crowd at the march’s conclusion on stage about their disillusion with the so-called war on terrorism. They discarded

atmosphere of fear by asking Chicago residents to leave town and businesses



to close as police officers raided homes and made arrests prior to the protests. Journalists were targeted by police while protesters were terrorized and ‘disappeared’ into police cars. After the veterans left the stage on Sunday, violent clashes happened when police ordered protesters to vacate the area. Mainstream media estimated the crowd to be a mere 2,000. PHOTOS BY KATE HARNEDY

their medals by throwing them into the empty street towards the NATO Summit. City officials and media outlets manifested an

## FRIDAY BANK ACTIONS CONTINUE

BY REID KIMBALL

In the fall of 2011 Occupy Eugene held weekly protests in front of Bank of America on 11th Ave. Those soon ended once the occupation of the Park Blocks began.

On April 6, 2012 the protests came back and since then, each Friday we have been standing in front of Bank of America, engaging customers and those who pass in dialog and sharing information about Bank of America’s crimes.

On April, Friday the 13, we dressed as zombie bankers, because writer Matt Taibbi called Bank of America a zombie bank. Bank of America should have perished in the 2008 economic collapse, but instead was resurrected from the dead with a massive bailout by our government.

They have gone on to terrorize customers with illegal foreclosures and high fees.

Other themes in the works for future Fridays are “Housing is a Human Right,” “Beach Day,” and “Safer Banking,” where activists will hand out free condoms to customers while encouraging them to move their money to safer community credit unions. After all, no one likes getting screwed while banking.

Occupy Eugene recommends keeping your money in a local credit union. Credit unions serve the needs of the community much better than the larger banks do. I’ll leave you with a small list of local community credit unions here in Eugene. If you do research, you’ll find others that may suit your needs as well.

SELCO Community Credit Union  
<http://www.selco.org/>  
(541) 686-8000

Oregon Community Credit Union  
<http://www.oregoncommunitycu.org/>  
(541) 687 2347

Northwest Community Credit Union  
<http://www.nwcu.com/>  
(541) 686-2934

Don’t forget to join us at Bank of America’s 11th Ave. location every Friday from 4:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.!

## CONSENSUS-BASED GENERAL ASSEMBLIES MEET BI-WEEKLY

BY JENNEFER HARPER

General Assemblies (GAs) are still the happening place to be! Meeting now every Tuesday at 7pm at 1274 West 7th Avenue (OEV) and on Fridays at 6pm at Wayne Morse Free Speech Plaza, the GAs are where you will hear the latest Occupy Eugene news, help make decisions from the group, and network with others. As a whole, our decisions are made using the consensus process. The facilitation team

is currently designing a consensus training to offer to our community. Stay tuned and check the Occupy Eugene website calendar for dates and times of the training. The facilitation team is currently seeking new volunteers to help with the various roles needed at the GA. We are looking for facilitators experienced with consensus based decision making, minutes takers, livestreamers, and timekeepers. There are

lots of ways to help provide for a smooth running GA outside of just facilitating. So, if you’d like to get involved with the team, please send a message to: [jenneferharper@yahoo.com](mailto:jenneferharper@yahoo.com). The facilitation team periodically offers trainings in: facilitation, minutes taking, and livestreaming. Come be part of the process!

***“Activism is my rent for living on this planet.” — Alice Walker***

# WORLDWIDE DEMONSTRATIONS CONNECT THE DOTS

BY JERRY BRULE

May 5 was Broken Earth Day or Connect the Dots Day. Activities were held in hundreds of locations all over the world coordinated by Bill McKibben's 350.org. Occupy Eugene was busy occupying the Fed, but other Occupy groups throughout the nation and the world were "Occupying the Earth" that day. Occupy London connected the dots with international mobilizations against the tar sands; Occupy Salt Lake City held a teach-in, hike, and picnic; and Occupy Nevada City created dots with their bodies across the Brunswick Bridge. Occupy Salem, N.Y. connected the dots by marching from a flooded bike path, to a fracking corporation, to the Dept of Environmental Conservation, to the Federal Building. You can view other activities at <http://www.climatedots.org/>

Last year, we had all kinds of extreme

weather. There were record snowfalls, record rains, record flooding, record tornados, record droughts and record forest fires. The years between 2001 and 2010 were the hottest on record and those years also had the second greatest amount of precipitation on record. Check [http://www.wmo.int/pages/mediacentre/press\\_releases/pr\\_943\\_en.html](http://www.wmo.int/pages/mediacentre/press_releases/pr_943_en.html)

This year looks like it will be even hotter. In the month of March, we broke 7,000 heat records. International Falls, Minnesota, usually the coldest place in the country in March, was 80 degrees. These unprecedented temperatures remind people that the earth is warming up. People are starting to connect the dots!

Despite the multi-million dollar propaganda campaign from the fossil fuel industry designed to spread doubt, more than

60% of the people in the U.S. now realize that human-induced global warming is the cause of all of the extreme weather events we are experiencing.

The science is clear and settled with 98% of climatologists agreeing. In fact, most of the scientists' conservative projections have been surpassed and the climate changes are occurring faster than predicted. See <http://phys.org/news161953575.html>

350.org, which coordinated the Broken Earth Day/Connect the Dots activities, was so named because a carbon dioxide level of 350 ppm is the limit of CO2 that would create a two degree centigrade temperature increase. CO2 levels above 350 ppm may lead to uncontrollable catastrophic temperature increases. We are currently at 393 ppm

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## WINNEMEM WINTU TRIBE DEFENDS SACRED CEREMONY

BY MISA JOO

Occupy Eugene heard the call for action made by Chief Caileen Sisk of the Winnemem Wintu tribe of Northern California in alliance with the local Winnemem Support Group of Oregon.

On May 24, Occupy Eugene and Earth First Cascadia joined Bay Area activists and traditional canoe families who rallied along the McCloud River to support the Winnemem. They demanded a halt to river access to recreational activities in honor of the Women's Coming of Age Ceremony for Marisa Sisk, to be held in June. A War Dance Ceremony will be staged at the homeland and ceremonial site of the tribe. A War Dance in conjunction with a Coming of Age Ceremony is not tradition. It is the sign of the times.

For six years, the tribe has advocated for their human rights to carry on the women's ceremony, asking the Forest Service to apply a mandatory closure of 400 yards of the McCloud River where it meets Shasta Lake. They gave evidence that the US

Forest Service's previous 'voluntary closure' failed, due to inebriated boaters who ignored the closure by repeatedly buzzing the ceremony to taunt, abuse and threaten the tribe.

The US Forest Service gave the tribe the cold shoulder. When the women of the tribe traveled to speak to Region 5 Regional Forester Randy Moore at his Vallejo office, Moore promised a decision by May 1-- but never made one. On May 14, Chief Sisk sent the word out: "We have used every path offered to appeal, seek protection, or advocate our rights. All paths have been closed. We have only our ceremonies to turn to, and are willing to go through H'up Chonos, or War Dance, to show the world we are willing to die to protect our ceremony."

Chief Caileen Sisk stresses the importance of the ceremony for young women, calling it "our web of life" which holds together the fabric of the tribe from generation to generation.

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## OCCUPY OREGON COUNTRY FAIR

BY LAUREN ASPROOTH

Occupy Eugene is proud to announce that it has been accepted to be part of the Peace and Justice booth in Community Village this year at Oregon Country Fair July 13, 14,15.

Since 1976 Community Village has been bringing together Eugene's most vibrant environmental, social justice, peace, and spiritual groups to promote and network for progressive social change. Occupy Eugene is excited to have the chance to be a part of this tradition and collaborate with one of our biggest supporters, Oregon Country Fair.

John McCahill and Lauren Asprooth will be the Occupy booth representatives. The Occupy Eugene Foreclosure Actions Committee will be holding a workshop on how to successfully save your home from foreclosure.

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**"IF THERE IS NO STRUGGLE, THERE IS NO PROGRESS. THOSE WHO PROFESS TO FAVOR FREEDOM, AND YET DEPRECIATE AGITATION, ARE MEN WHO WANT CROPS WITHOUT PLOWING THE GROUND; THEY WANT RAIN WITHOUT THUNDER AND LIGHTENING; THEY WANT THE OCEAN WITHOUT THE ROAR OF ITS MANY WATERS. POWER CONCEDES NOTHING WITHOUT A DEMAND. IT NEVER DID AND IT NEVER WILL." — FREDERICK DOUGLASS**

## LINKS TO ARTICLES OF INTEREST

**Bill Moyers interviews RoseAnn DeMoro, Director of the National Nurses Union, about the Robin Hood Tax**

[http://www.alternet.org/newsandviews/article/928604/moyers\\_and\\_nurses\\_union's\\_demoro\\_talk\\_robin\\_hood\\_tax/#paragraph3](http://www.alternet.org/newsandviews/article/928604/moyers_and_nurses_union's_demoro_talk_robin_hood_tax/#paragraph3)

**Plaedo's Morale from May 18th, 2012 General Assembly**

<http://youtu.be/qh613iTsTnU>

**Zombie Protest against Bank of America** <http://youtu.be/N-dTKs87Ps4>

**Foreclosure Teach-In Video by Nancie Koerber and Mark Thomas of Good Grief America**

<http://www.projectreconomy.org/resources/itemlist/category/52-weblinks>

**Nurses take on Wall Street** <http://www.care2.com/causes/nurses-push-for-robin-hood-tax-on-wall-street.html>

**'Broken Earth Day': Connecting Climate Change to Wild Weather**

<http://www.commondreams.org/headline/2012/05/04-8>

**The Climate of Repression During the NATO Summit By: Kevin Gosztola**

<http://dissenter.firedoglake.com/2012/05/24/the-climate-of-repression-during-the-nato-summit/>

**Winnemem H'up Chonos, the War Dance webpage link**

<http://www.winnememwintu.us/2012/05/16/call-to-action-help-volunteer-donate-for-war-dance-may-24-27/>

**Newbury Park Woman Faces Eviction After Husband's Suicide**

<http://losangeles.cbslocal.com/2012/05/16/newbury-park-woman-faces-eviction-after-husbands-suicide/>

**Ruth Duemler Letter to the Editor of the Register Guard "Free is not free from government"**

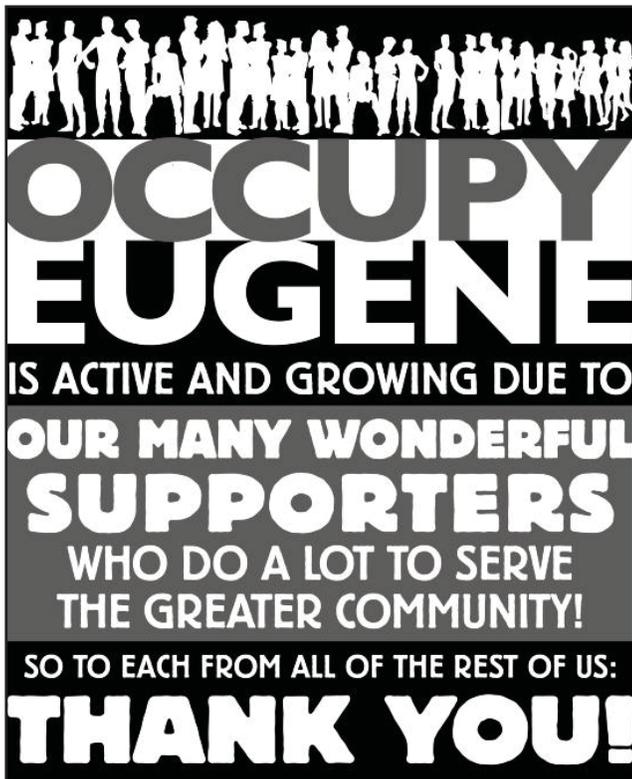
<http://projects.registerguard.com/turin/2012/may/24/letters-in-the-editors-mailbag-hassling-mascots-is-a-part-of-sports/>

**Protest in Solidarity with Students in Quebec**

<https://www.facebook.com/events/369072756490282/>

**Butte to Butte Mayor's Walk**

[http://www.runnerspace.com/eprofile.php?event\\_id=126](http://www.runnerspace.com/eprofile.php?event_id=126)



### OLD GROWTH

BY ART BOLLMAN

There are towns not far from here  
Where nobody asks - Where are you from?  
Because they are all from there  
And when they ask - Where did you go to school?  
They mean high school

And where old men gather at the drive-up every morning  
For biscuits and gravy and a bottomless cup  
And talk about the old days of fishing and logging and millwork  
And about the NCAA tournament, and the high school team

And about the kids -- John is selling real estate in California  
Sarah is cleaning houses in Portland  
Roger is still in town, and getting by  
Somehow

I love these old men, and when they cease to meet for breakfast  
We will have all lost something  
Even if we never knew what it was

# A CONVERSATION WITH KAREN MOORE

BY CATHERINE SISKRON

“The greatest success of Occupy?” Karen Moore repeated the question I had asked her during a recent interview. “The greatest success of Occupy for me is that we have built a really strong and diverse community around a common cause.”

Karen moved to Eugene from Portland, Oregon in September 2008, the year the U.S. economy crashed. For three years following her arrival in Eugene, she brooded. She felt dissatisfied with single-cause non-profit work she had done in Portland because they did not take economics into account — something that politicians and logging interests list as a primary concern. As a consequence, she felt that those activists compromised too much when compromise is no longer viable.

During these three years, she stopped paying attention to politics and gave up on any political involvement. She felt disempowered as she watched the collapse of the housing market and dedicated herself to paying off her student debt.

Then she heard of the Big March organized by Occupy Eugene. She considered checking it out, but had a house sitting gig and left town the morning of the march. So she missed the first three weeks of Occupy Eugene, watching its inception from her perch outside of Oakridge. When she came back into town, she decided to investigate this new group, see if she could help out.

It was the first Sunday in November. She biked to the Mill Race and was met by two guys sitting in chairs, surrounded by tarps and broken-down tents. Taken aback by the disarray, she hesitated for a moment then said, “Please don’t tell me you are the only two left in the movement!” Sweet and Jerm laughed before explaining that the camp was moving to the Washington/Jefferson site.

Relieved and intrigued, Karen helped with the move and cleanup. When she arrived on her bike at the Washington/Jefferson site, there was a lot of excitement in the air. The camp was still very clean; lots of folks were holding signs, celebrating their arrival at the new site.

She was busy exploring the camp with Martin and Derek when two homeless men walked up and asked if they could move in. Karen shook her head—“This is not a homeless camp—it’s a political camp,” she tried to explain, but Derek cut her off and welcomed the two men. She was amazed by how welcoming and gentle Derek was, not at all condescending, just factual.

She thought about it all day and came back to the camp for the General Assembly. Again she was really impressed, this time with the process: the meeting was well-facilitated, everyone was allowed to talk, decisions were not rushed. All anyone had to do to be part of it was show up. She was also impressed with the diversity. Although it was cold and everyone was bundled up, it



PHOTO BY ROB SYDOR

was clear that in the world beyond the dome where the activists were meeting, people had different class statuses. But here, in the Occupy dome, everyone was equal. Everyone counted.

Karen feels at home in Occupy Eugene because the movement is based on the principle of enacting the change we envision, rather than complaining: “As an activist, I believe it’s important for us to not just be against something; we must be for something. We need to be in favor of something like a more fair local system rather than being against an abstract notion of injustice.”

“We are here because the system is broken in so many ways. Our coming together is the laying of foundation. We are all in this together. Occupy has the concrete down, but we are still working on the frame. We are preparing for many unknown changes. Outside factors will determine where we go as a group probably more than anything else. In the meantime, we are growing the movement by talking with a wide variety of people and helping everyone feel welcome.”

## DONATIONS WELCOME

*Occupy Eugene asks for your financial support so that we can continue to build coalitions, pressure our elected leaders, and work together to end the inequality and injustices in our community and in our country. We welcome any level of support and hope that you will give an amount meaningful to you. Donations to Occupy Eugene can be made on our website, at Oregon Community Credit Union, or mailed to PO. Box 744 Eugene, OR 97440.*

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