In this issue:

Capitalism vs. Climate: An Environmental SOS Action Plan

By Catherine Sigmond


On April 7, 2011, Klein joined the board of directors of 350.org, a global grassroots movement that Bill McKibben started to solve the climate crisis. Her enthusiasm for “the wacky plan to turn a wonky scientific target into a global people’s movement,” is apparent in the article she wrote on joining the board:

“If Wall Street is occupying President Obama’s State Department and the halls of Congress, it’s time for the people to occupy Wall Street.”

Activists at last year’s Social Justice Real Conference held a march and rally against the fossil fuel industries, coinciding with the $50,000 strong forward on climate march in Washington, D.C.

GMO-Free Oregon

By Gerard Beach

One of the most important political issues to take center stage this year is the fight for GMO labeling. According to figures compiled by watchdog group Maplight, $30 million raised by both sides. Monsanto, DuPont, and others raised over $22 million for their efforts. The final results of the 522 vote will be certified by Washington State on Dec. 5.

Since the first commercialization of GMO grain crops in 1996, technology of plant-based genetic manipulation has been received with skepticism by much of the planet. In 1997, only one year after GMO commercial release, the European Union imposed mandatory labeling of GMO foods with a 1% tolerance level, while Japan followed suit in 2001 with a 5% GMO content limit. Today, 64 countries have enacted GMO labeling laws. The EU and other countries have also proclaimed a large number of GMO-Free zones within their boundaries.

Unlike the EU, the United States does not require labeling of foods made with GMO ingredients. No independent studies are required to test the safety of GMO foods before releasing them into the market. The FDA asks only for voluntary industry studies. Corporations that want to sell GMO foods employ their own “scientists” to “prove” GMO foods are safe, and that is the extent of the public safety net. If the FDA says it’s okay, then the FDA says it’s okay, and GMO foods make it onto the dinner table. An estimated 70% of processed foods on grocery shelves contain genetically engineered ingredients.

Through what many consider to be an abuse of patent laws, the threat of lawsuits, funds for research, and a history of campaigns to destroy the credibility of scientists who speak out against GMO foods, the biotech industry has made it difficult and risky to do studies on GMO foods outside of their corporate labs.

A French study conducted for the lifetime of subject rats (rather than the typical 90 days used in industry studies) and published in 2012 found that “Fed GM corn or Roundup, up to 50% of males and 70% of females died prematurely, compared with only 30% and 20% in the control group.” Rats in the study began to develop tumors after 120 days; these tumors as well as liver and kidney damage were the causes of increased premature deaths.

Although the French study has been criticized, scientifically literate critics see "The Shock Doctrine" has been translated into 30 languages with over a million copies sold. In 1997, only one year after GMO commercial release, the European Union imposed mandatory labeling of GMO foods with a 1% tolerance level, while Japan followed suit in 2001 with a 5% GMO content limit. Today, 64 countries have enacted GMO labeling laws. The EU and other countries have also proclaimed a large number of GMO-Free zones within their boundaries.

Unlike the EU, the United States does not require labeling of foods made with GMO ingredients. No independent studies are required to test the safety of GMO foods before releasing them into the market. The FDA asks only for voluntary industry studies. Corporations that want to sell GMO foods employ their own "scientists" to "prove" GMO foods are safe, and that is the extent of the public safety net. If the FDA says it's okay, then the FDA says it's okay, and GMO foods make it onto the dinner table. An estimated 70% of processed foods on grocery shelves contain genetically engineered ingredients.

Through what many consider to be an abuse of patent laws, the threat of lawsuits, funds for research, and a history of campaigns to destroy the credibility of scientists who speak out against GMO foods, the biotech industry has made it difficult and risky to do studies on GMO foods outside of their corporate labs.

A French study conducted for the lifetime of subject rats (rather than the typical 90 days used in industry studies) and published in 2012 found that "Fed GM corn or Roundup, up to 50% of males and 70% of females died prematurely, compared with only 30% and 20% in the control group." Rats in the study began to develop tumors after 120 days; these tumors as well as liver and kidney damage were the causes of increased premature deaths.

Although the French study has been criticized, scientifically literate critics see 0
Important announcement on General Assemblies

There was quorum at the “Big” GA on Friday, Nov. 15 and by consensus it was decided:

1. There will be only one official GA each month, held on the third Friday of the month at Growers Market. A quorum of 15 Occupiers is still required to pass proposals.

2. The space at Growers will continue to be reserved on Fridays at 6 p.m. so that Occupiers can meet weekly for discussion when they desire.

3. An “Emergency GA” can be called for via Occupy Contacts. The subject of the meeting must be in the email. If Quorum (15) is reached, only proposals regarding the previously communicated concern may be passed.
Violence, Football and War

By Jack Dresser and Jerry Biegel

According to the Associated Press, the training facilities have made nationwide news, and Oregon's head coach, Mark Helfrich, will earn $1.8 million yearly with additional bonuses if the team does well. Ducks athletes have a new, exclusive study facility with tutoring more readily available than other students enjoy — a flagrant commitment to elitism. Meanwhile, UO faculty salaries lag behind those at other universities, student tuition tutoring more readily available than other students enjoy — a flagrant commitment to elitism. Meanwhile, UO faculty salaries lag behind those at other universities, student tuition

Danger Lurks in the COMFORT ZONE!

It’s the most perfect feeling in the world to know you’ve hit a guy just right, that you’ve maximized the physical pain he can feel.

By Chris Hedges

Adapted from Jack Dresser from Information Clearing House, Oct. 28, 2013

Chris Hedges, an author, journalist, and war correspondent for two decades, sees the neoliberal capitalist system as doomed by its own corruption and inherent injustices.

As long as most citizens believe in the ideas that justify global capitalism,” Hedges writes, “the private and state institutions that serve our corporate masters are unassailable. When these ideas are shattered, the institutions that buttress the ruling class collapse and dissolve. The collapse of ideas is paranoid, from the inside out. It is a battle the corporate state is steadily losing. An increasing number of Americans are realizing that we have been stripped of political power. They recognize that we have been shorn of our most basic and cherished civil liberties, and live under the gaze of the most intrusive security and surveillance apparatus in human history. Half the country lives in poverty. Many of the rest of us, if the corporate state is not overthrown, will join them. These truths are no longer hidden.

Hedges sees us unperepared for this. “The ideas that are rising to take their place, however, are inept. The expectation of toughness. A 2011 study of seven 7-8 year old players found 753 impacts of 47 brains examined. They have retreated into Christian fascism and a celebration of the gun culture. The left, knocked off balance by decades of force state repression in the name of anti-communism, is struggling to rebrand and define itself. Populous state repression in order to hide the risks of repeated concussions. But research evidence aside, how can sports enthusiasts fail to imagine the potential damage inflicted repeatedly by expertly executed, crushing ‘tackles’ by 200-pound players hurting at high speeds? Off the playing field, these ‘hits’ would constitute aggravated assault and battery.

The U.S. public was similarly misled about costs and risks of invading Iraq, bizarrely minimized by Deputy Defense Director Paul Wolfowitz and other Bush administration front men. Ironically, brain injuries caused by IEDs are the most common disabilities among Iraq and Afghanistan war veterans.

You can see the obvious parallel here. The common denominator among these brain injuries is the American appetite for violence and conditioned indifference to its consequences. And one serves to prepare us to accept the other.

The American glorification of football in mythic guise reflects this same desensitization. Gladwell compared football to dog fighting: “We take young boys, essentially, and train them repeatedly, over the course of the concussions, teaching them, teaching each to the bone, with known neurological consequences. And why do they do that? Out of an allegiance to their owners and their coaches and a feeling they’re participating in some grand American spectacle.’’

Pain and injury are concealed, fear and empathy are repressed as standards of machismo, and the triumphant pleasure of domination is dramatized. Conditioned by cultural glorification of violence, these attitudes easily extend to cheerleading for America’s imperial wars, with disastrous consequences for thousands of the world’s citizens who remain faceless to our own. What are we training our children to become?

http://www.forbes.com/sites/daviddisalvo/2013/07/21/is-malcolm-gladwell-right-should-college-football-be-banned/

What is our comfort zone? The one we have created for ourselves. Our lifestyle, it drastically changes our consumption pattern. Our way of consuming is our way of thinking. Our fat cats want us distracted and oblivious to the horrendous consequences of over-consumption.

So what does it take to see outside the comfort zone? What happens out there? Discomfort? Maybe, but that would be the initiation to a much better world. Protests in the winter of California at the University of California Concedent College sounds the alarm: ‘We are at a crucial turning point in world history. If the mass of our society waits any longer to change our lifestyle, it is likely that change will be too late; we will have passed the point of no return to a healthy planet. It’s seri-...’

Activists everywhere seek new ways to coexist in a sustainable, just environment. That takes courage and creativity. Gayle McLaughlin, mayor of Richmond, Calif., noticed and seized an opportunity to right some major wrongs. Forty percent of recent home buyers in the nation’s second largest city are under “water.” To head off foreclosures and ensuing blight, the former school teacher hatched a plan to use eminent domain to obtain the homes that banks own as collateral for their bad loans, then sell them back to original owners at current market value. ““It is not an option to stand on our backs,” says the mayor, “We are going to stand up to Wall Street.”

What are similar steps our City Councils and County Commissioners can take to protect and serve the 99% here in Lane County?

• Citizens each have a choice: to act as passive “bystanders in the grandstands” — just watch and complain — or to live as active “players on the field” like Richmond’s Mayor McLaughlin. Our own Allev Yalkavage and Lauren Regan are leading the way, pressing hard for civil rights and social justice. Everyone Sunday in the Park Blocks, Occupy Medical’s team delivers free, high quality health care to all who ask for it. BTFW, GM always needs more help to set up their Mobile Clinic “camp” at 11 a.m., take it down at 4 p.m., and return to 6 p.m. daily.

Imagination and humor can sometimes solve pressing problems. Lauren Kelly writes on the Alternet: “A group of artists, including ‘cross‘legged’ movement, forgoing all sexual activity until officials agreed to build a safe, direct road from Eugene to the coast. They called it ‘Lysistrata,’” women used this device to end the War of the Athenian and Persians. ‘On a hilltop near Athens, 300 women vowed to refuse sex to men until the Persians left the country.’

Chris Hedges quotes Alexander Berkman, “Revolution is evolution at its boiling point,” and, like a teakettle, “it is the fire underneath that makes it boil, quickly it will come to the boiling point will depend on how strong the fire is.”

Hedges continues, “the real work of revolutionary farmers is to create a mass movement whose massiveness cannot be contained by mainstream society, noticed only after it has largely been completed. Throughout history, those who have sought radical change have always had to create uprooting elites and construct alternative ideas for society, ideas often embodied in a utopian revolutionary myth.”

And Hedges sees danger involved: “An uprising that is devoid of ideas and vision is never a threat to ruling elites. Social upheaval without clear definition and direction, with-...”

See Revolution, p. 6

Danger Lurks in the COMFORT ZONE!

By Graham Lewis with Fergus McLean

What, a Comfort Zone can be dangerous? Don’t we all need a comfort zone of familiarity where we can relax for a while, recharge, find a sense of security, and comfort? Over the years, and conflict around us? Yes, but corporate America wants to permanently keep us in an illusion. Kind of a bubble that blunts our consumption. We consume our way to happiness. Those fat America wants to permanently keep us in

Over 4,500 ex-NFL players recently settled a class-action lawsuit against the NFL for $765 million for the long-term effects of repeated sub-concussive injuries compounded by occasional concussions, a condition called chronic traumatic encephalopathy. Post-mortem examinations of ex-NFL athletes found the unique, telltale conditions of this indicator of 46 brains examined.

The lawsuit charged the NFL with a deliberate attempt to mislead the public and players about the dangers of the game. The league had created a “Mild Traumatic Brain Injury” committee that was pushed forward and conflated scientific research in order to hide the risks of repeated concussions. But research evidence aside, how can sports enthusiasts fail to imagine the potential damage inflicted repeatedly by expertly executed, crushing “tackles” by 200-pound players hurting at high speeds? Off the playing field, these “hits” would constitute aggravated assault and battery.

The U.S. public was similarly misled about costs and risks of invading Iraq, bizarrely minimized by Deputy Defense Director Paul Wolfowitz and other Bush administration front men. Ironically, brain injuries caused by IEDs are the most common disabilities among Iraq and Afghanistan war veterans.

You can see the obvious parallel here. The common denominator among these brain injuries is the American appetite for violence and conditioned indifference to its consequences. And one serves to prepare us to accept the other.

The American glorification of football in mythic guise reflects this same desensitization. Gladwell compared football to dog fighting: “We take young boys, essentially, and train them repeatedly, over the course of the concussions, teaching them, teaching each to the bone, with known neurological consequences. And why do they do that? Out of an allegiance to their owners and their coaches and a feeling they’re participating in some grand American spectacle.’’

Pain and injury are concealed, fear and empathy are repressed as standards of machismo, and the triumphant pleasure of domination is dramatized. Conditioned by cultural glorification of violence, these attitudes easily extend to cheerleading for America’s imperial wars, with disastrous consequences for thousands of the world’s citizens who remain faceless to our own. What are we training our children to become?

http://www.forbes.com/sites/daviddisalvo/2013/07/21/is-malcolm-gladwell-right-should-college-football-be-banned/

What is our comfort zone? The one we have created for ourselves. Our lifestyle, it drastically changes our consumption pattern. Our way of consuming is our way of thinking. Our fat cats want us distracted and oblivious to the horrendous consequences of over-consump-...
OVE Hosts a Grand Opening
By Victor Nelson

On a sunny Saturday in early October, Opportunity Village Eugene (OVE) opened its gate and welcomed the community to a Grand Opening complete with food, tours of the village, and the chance to see inside the Conestoga huts and bungalows that the villagers have been busily furnishing and decorating.

Mayor Kitty Piercy, Dan Bryant (president of the OVE board of directors), and Tom Hargreaves (chair of the Train-song neighborhood) welcomed people to the opening, and the Raging Grannies, Walker T. Ryan, Cross Current, and Eden entertained. Visitors strolled around the village, talking to residents who seemed eager to show off their tiny new homes filled with pictures, comforters, bookshelves, and other items that help make a hut a home.

Located at 111 Garfield St. in the Train-song neighborhood, OVE is a pilot program for unhoused adults and arose during the City Council-approved for a one-year run on city property. The goal of the program is to provide people temporarily and in a place where they can safely sleep, live, and find support from the community in demanding implementation of the city’s anti-eviction program.

What to do with the bedrolls, tents and other belongings were stored; some were stolen. The goal of the program is to provide the mentally ill — needed help. OE activists Sabra Mar and partner, Reagan Clarke, helped relocate the most vulnerable residents.

The residents of this self-managed village have come to live by some basic rules including no drugs, alcohol, or violence. Those who break the rules are asked to leave. Villagers have also accepted responsibility for working at least 10 hours each week to support and maintain the village by doing shifts in areas such as construction, cooking, gardening, and security. By working, meeting, and making decisions for the village together, the residents are building the skills they will need to transition out of the community that can help support them when they have left.

OVE was built with donations of time, skills, materials, and money. If you would like to donate to OVE, go to https://www.facebook.com/OpportunityVillageEugene and click on the donate icon at the top of the page.

Displaced Persons, SLEEPS, Whovilles and Potemkin Villages
By Catherine Simpson

Advocates for the unhoused sign up to speak before a City Council meeting.

This article is based on an interview with homeless advocate Sabra Marcroft. I spoke to her about the eviction of 150 campers from the wetlands because she and her partner, Reagan Clarke, helped relocate the most vulnerable campers since neither Lane County nor the city of Eugene made any provisions ahead of time for the housing/shelter needs of these displaced persons.

The evictions were massive and coordinated: They began in July with BLM evicting at least 150 homeless campers from their land. Shortly after, the city of Eugene evicted people living in 22 camps, and the Oregon Department of Transportation evicted the occupants of another two camps.

While most of the campers could leave on their own, the least able — the elderly, the physically disabled and the mentally ill — needed help. OE activists Sabra Marcroft, Reagan Clarke, Gordon Starnack, and other homeless advocates helped, but at times even the helpers were overwhelmed. What to do with the bedrolls, tents and other possessions? Some the campers took with them; other belongings were stored; some were stolen.

Where were the hundreds of displaced people to go? Only a few friends would who allowed them to camp in their backyards. Others with no legal place to be or to sleep dispersed out into the community looking for places under bridges, in alleys, and by the river.

At a meeting with representatives from BLM, the city, and local social service providers working with people evicted from the camps, including Pearl Wolfe (Lane County Social Services), Norman Riddle (White Bird), Jack Tripp (Eugene Mission), and Michael Carrigan (CALC), it was clear not enough help was available for the displaced campers.

And then SLEEPS began to stir. SLEEPS (Safe Legally Entitled Places to Sleep), which began with the Fall of 2012, had not been active for several months. But with the evictions, several people who identified with the SLEEPS mission stepped forward. James Chastain, an original SLEEPS member, held a protest near the wetlands, demonstrating against the evictions and lack of safe places to sleep. SLEEPS was awake again.

In August, August, they began to separate themselves from the protest and began to separate themselves from the Free Speech Plaza. The SLEEPS protest immediately moved back to the Free Speech Plaza. Many people joined the protest, some committed to the protest, others who simply needed a safe place to sleep.

Problems emerged. The idea of people overwhelming the plaza; personalities clashed; behavioral issues arose among people looking for a place to sleep but not familiar with protest protocol.

The SLEEPS began to separate themselves from SLEEPs and to move away from the Free Speech Plaza to sites on River Road and the Northwest Expressway and the Lane County Fairgrounds. Campers began calling these sites Whoville, referring to both the Dr. Seuss book “Horton Hears a Who” and the Hoovervilles of the 1930s, the shantytowns that were formed in the rainy season. Valkyrie has proposed the ex-

According to Dan Bryant, the SLEEPS protest "has been successful in bringing attention to the needs of the unhoused adults in Eugene. The protest continues to grow and has become a powerful voice for those who are most vulnerable in our community."

The number of people displaced by a contracting economy is growing. In the meantime, part of the discussion during the Oct. 28 City Council meeting was how to reform the council's approach to determining who will be a good fit for the village. The residents of this self-managed village have come to live by some basic rules including no drugs, alcohol, or violence. Those who break the rules are asked to leave. Villagers have also accepted responsibility for working at least 10 hours each week to support and maintain the village by doing shifts in areas such as construction, cooking, gardening, and security. By working, meeting, and making decisions for the village together, the residents are building the skills they will need to transition out of the community that can help support them when they have left.

“OVE was built with donations of time, skills, materials, and money. If you would like to donate to OVE, go to https://www.facebook.com/OpportunityVillageEugene and click on the donate icon at the top of the page.”

A resident of OVE greets visitors at the Grand Opening.

Continued on next page
Everyone Deserves a Safe Place to Sleep

The outer reaches of her domain accompanied by foreign dignitaries, Potemkin, her counselor and consort, had murals depicting newly built villages put up along the route. I hope we consult the residents of these future Whovilles and see if they choose to have fenced in or open camps. Hiding homelessness from the rest of the population would be an insulting disservice to all.

Please show your support for the displaced and unsheltered in our city. Contact your city officials. Contact Alley at the Nightingale Public Advocacy Collective to see how you can help. And visit the sites. Talk to the residents. Break down the barriers between the housed and the unhoused. Hundreds of thousands became homeless in the Phillipses overnight. Homelessness can happen to anyone at anytime. Lets keep this in mind and act with compassion and understanding.

Alley Valkyrie Voted EW’s Hellraiser of the Year

By Vicke Nelson

Eugene’s Weekly’s readers couldn’t have made a better choice. Who else has been arrested protecting people’s right to free speech and assembly, gotten banned from the Lane County Courthouse, and also been written up as one of EW’s Happening People?

The founder of the Nightingale Public Advocacy Collective, Alley works with the people at the SLEEPS and the Whoville sites, and advocates tirelessly for the unhoused.

Once Alley starts working on an issue, she researches it thoroughly, and works tenaciously toward a solution. She has earned the respect of everyone from the mayor and the council to the whole city that it’s illegal to destroy the property of the unhoused. So OE thanks EW’s readers for voting for our own Alley Valkyrie. As a friend wrote on her Facebook page, “. . . there can never be too many badass open-hearted hippie warriors of love.”

How You Can Help

Show up at the camps or OVE and talk to the residents. A friendly visit boosts morale.

Bring a donation of food that doesn’t need a lot of preparation, such as ramen, peanut butter, cheese, bread, and fruit. Or bring a hot ready-to-eat casserole or a pot of stew or chile.

Donate items to help people get through a cold winter day: socks, boots, gloves, and hand warmers.

In addition, the following gear is on the campers’ most wanted list: tarps, tents, lanterns and lights (LED or battery), propane canisters, buckets, pallets, and backpacks.

If you have a few hours to contribute, consider volunteering. Opportunity Village, (541) 689-6747, need trained volunteers every night they are open.

Lead, Follow or Get out of the Way: Interview with Tin Man

By Catherine Sherbon

Tin Man is 49, slim, sunburned, with striking blue eyes and hair cut close to the scalp. The first time I saw him speaking at a City Council meeting, I guessed he was a vet. The military is there in his bearing, in his strategic thinking, in the discipline he brings to managing the Whoville site. In fact, he is an Air Force vet who served four years at the Nellis Air Force Base in Nevada. After that he worked for the Veterans Administration in San Francisco as a recreational therapist. He hurt his arms in the process and had surgery on both arms. He then came to Eugene with a promise of a job and continued treatment. The job fell through, and Tin Man himself “fell through the cracks,” as he puts it. He has been homeless since February 2012.

I spoke with him at Whoville #9, Revisited, where Tin Man told me that with winter coming, he suspects the city is waiting for “mother nature to take its course.” He says, “. . . the city should realize we are not going away. . . . The unintended effect of the city dragging its feet is that these standing staccato strengthens the resolve and dedication of the residents of Whoville”.

As the Whovilles, which grew out of SLEEPS, emerged into an entity in their own right, residents felt the need to begin advocating on their own behalf directly with city officials. “We were the ones that have been out here on the various sites the city is proposing,” Tin Man says emphatically. “We are concerned that throughout this entire process neither city officials nor several community members or organizations of the intended to actually visit our site and ask people what it is that they need. So it’s become the Whoville tradition, if the mayor and the council will not come to us, we will go directly to them.”

Tin Man says that council decisions to break up existing camps without offering the unhoused alternative sites, have caused the unhoused to move into downtown, where their presence is upsetting, especially to some merchants. He sees the evictions, as well as the lack of direct communication with representatives of the Whovilles, as a lack of concern and understanding for a segment of the population in genuine need.

And now, after forcing individuals who were out of sight to begin with, the city continues to try to hide the homeless and isolate them by choosing locations that are unsafe and unsanitary, unable to be secured, with lack of sidewalk or disabled access, when they are fully aware that we have three individuals in wheelchairs in the current campsites,” he said.

Tin Man is frustrated with the city’s failure to offer new solutions or to reconsider past decisions. “As the leaders of Whoville are entrusted by its residents to make decisions and hard choices that are in the best interest of the fellow protesters, we ask the Mayor and City Council to follow our lead and make the right choice, not the most popular one, not the easiest one, and probably not the one that would give them the most votes in the next election. As leaders they need to make the best choice for the City of Eugene. . . . This entire situation reminds me of a plaque my First Sergeant had on his desk. It read, ‘Lead, follow or get out of the way’. I asked if he had a list of demands, and Tin Man responded immediately with a well thought out list:

1. Negotiate directly with the Whovilles. As some members of the community put their biases against the homeless to rest, so should the city officials, and they should begin recognizing the contributions and value of all citizens of Eugene. The commitment of the unhoused to the city can be seen when people are willing to travel from city lot to city lot in all kinds of weather just to have a safe place to sleep. This protest shows a love for Eugene and a desire to make Eugene a better community for everyone.

2. Negotiate honestly. How can a group of individuals trust the integrity of the process when city officials knowingly offer an unsafe site for only 15 people when at the present Whoville site alone we have over 60 people?

3. Give Whoville proper consideration. The city is allowing other groups to put forth proposals for legal camps — groups, which, unlike Whoville, have not proven their effectiveness.

I have offered take into consideration the impact these decisions may have on all the residents of Eugene. Just because a decision is not easy does not mean that it option does not exist. If the city is unable to come up with a solution or offer alternatives, then please listen to those who have put forth solutions to serious issues and demonstrated the dedication it takes to create change.”
with years of experience with herbal medicine and natural remedies. Most of the vitamins and over-the-counter remedies are gifts from neighbors. Despite a tiny budget, clients who can’t afford necessary prescriptions are not turned away. They can usually get meds at Bi-Mart’s very low cost.

In a wheelchair, Mike comes weekly for relief for ulcers on his legs. Donna, who also donned work clothes, says, “He has diabetes. It causes major circulation issues and foot problems, especially with the toe nails.” Mike’s legs appear to be in bad shape. “But they look so much better than three months ago,” says Donna. “He went back a week or two ago in Cottage Grove.”

Irena grew up on a small farm near Puerto Vallarta and has lived in Eugene many years. A petite back, she brought her mother for Jerry’s help with a painful ingrown toenail.“Nikor, Nikor, Nikor. Nicks and erosions are driving him crazy. He works at a dairy near Creswell, has no benefits, and isn’t paid enough to afford regular doctor visits. The translator goes along when Jerry meets with Dr. Willy and relays how to use the recommended medicines.

Clark’s story clearly exemplifies economic displacement. He supported himself for 15 years selling books on e-Bay, while raising his kids as a stay-at-home father. He talks about the book business, as well as the shift he made into online book sales and how it had cost him the heart of our business.” He survives now on food stamps and mostly camps out. Last week, he came to the OM’s bus on a chilly day.

Revolution, continued from p. 3

out ideas behind it, descends into nihilism, random violence and chaos. It consumes itself.

“By the time ruling elites are openly defined, there has already been a nearly total loss of faith in the ideas—in our case free market capitalism and globalization—that sustain the structures of the ruling elites. And once enough people get it, a process that can take years, the slow, quiet, and peaceful social evolution becomes quick, militant, and violent.”

This predicts Hedges, “is where we are headed.” Although he prefers “a system in which institutions sustain the structures of the ruling elites. Corporations, freed from all laws, apparatus and militarized police forces. But the state controlling a vast internal security apparatus: ‘Corporations, freed from all laws, apparatus and militarized police forces. But the state controlling a vast internal security apparatus.”

To corporate totalitarianism, like the shift to market capitalism and globalization — that seeks to keep our uprising nonviolent. We revolutionary violence, or what the state calls terrorism.”

Though they are blinded by personal greed and complex problems find solutions. Always generous and complex problems find solutions. Always generous and that the loss of faith in the ideas—that is, in the belief that the state can organize effective and prolonged resistance—is a crisis for the managers of corporations no longer care about the effects of their pillage. Many of the systems they are putting to full effect. They are blinded by personal greed and hubris. They believe their obscene wealth can buy them security and protection. They should have spent a little less time studying management in business school and a little more time studying human and historical facts. They are digging their own graves.”

As Hedges describes it, we’re reaching the wall in our dead-end alley: “Our shift to corporate totalitarianism, like the shift to all forms of totalitarianism, is incremental. This process is now complete. The ‘consent of the governed’ is a cruel joke. Democratic politicians speak in the familiar ‘I-feel-your-pain’ language of the liberal class while allowing corporations to strip us of personal wealth and power. They are effective tools for corporate power.”

And movements such as Occupy are targeted by the threatened elite: “The corporate state seeks to maintain the fiction of our personal agency in the political and economic process. As long as we believe we are participants, a lie sustained through massive propaganda campaigns, endless and absurd election cycles and the pageant of empty political theater, our corporate oligarchs rest easy in their private jets, boardrooms, penthouses and mansions. As the bankruptcy of corporate capitalism and globalization is exposed, the ruling elite are increasingly desperate. This is why voices of dissent — as well as spontaneous uprisings such as the Occupy movement — are ruthlessly crushed by the corporate state.
The 2014 Great March for Climate Action

By JoAnn Angell

I found out about the 2014 Great March for Climate Action from my long-time friend, colleague, and housemate Tom Atlee. He marched in the 1986 Great Peace March, a substantial part of the inspiration for this year’s march. I’ve heard and read about natural disasters over the years, and I really want some of the glow and groundedness — in each of them.

For me, the Great March for Climate Action is an opportunity to wake people up, raise a ruckus, and organize the power necessary to either prevent catastrophe or to move beyond our current system. I believe we have brought main streets back to life, and the march will set the tone for a new way of life in the United States. We would not be talking about climate change at all around us, many are finding inspiration from the experience on the 1986 march, which fell apart when the sponsoring organization went bankrupt two weeks after the marchers left Los Angeles. One third of the marchers, about 400 people, refused to give up and made their way across the rest of the country, wrestling with hundreds of challenges and finding their way through, over, or around each one. He was blown away by the persistence, creativity, and group processes that made this possible.

Action Plan, continued from p. 1

forces will somehow manage to solve the very problems that capitalism created. On Nov. 28, 2011, eight months after Klein joined the board of 350.org for the article “Capitalism vs. Climate” appeared in The Nation. The article is a bit of a rant, calling on progressives to wake up to the fact that mainstream right-wing Heritage Foundation have a deeper understanding of the threats to our very existence. Klein’s article that the marchers, about 400 people, refused to give up and made their way across the rest of the country, wresting with hundreds of challenges and finding their way through, over, or around each one. He was blown away by the persistence, creativity, and group processes that made this possible.

For me, the Great March for Climate Action is an opportunity to wake people up, raise a ruckus, and organize the power necessary to either prevent catastrophe or to move beyond our current system. I believe we have brought main streets back to life, and the march will set the tone for a new way of life in the United States. We would not be talking about climate change at all around us, many are finding inspiration from the experience on the 1986 march, which fell apart when the sponsoring organization went bankrupt two weeks after the marchers left Los Angeles. One third of the marchers, about 400 people, refused to give up and made their way across the rest of the country, wrestling with hundreds of challenges and finding their way through, over, or around each one. He was blown away by the persistence, creativity, and group processes that made this possible.

For me, the Great March for Climate Action is an opportunity to wake people up, raise a ruckus, and organize the power necessary to either prevent catastrophe or to move beyond our current system. I believe we have brought main streets back to life, and the march will set the tone for a new way of life in the United States. We would not be talking about climate change at all around us, many are finding inspiration from the experience on the 1986 march, which fell apart when the sponsoring organization went bankrupt two weeks after the marchers left Los Angeles. One third of the marchers, about 400 people, refused to give up and made their way across the rest of the country, wrestling with hundreds of challenges and finding their way through, over, or around each one. He was blown away by the persistence, creativity, and group processes that made this possible.

For me, the Great March for Climate Action is an opportunity to wake people up, raise a ruckus, and organize the power necessary to either prevent catastrophe or to move beyond our current system. I believe we have brought main streets back to life, and the march will set the tone for a new way of life in the United States. We would not be talking about climate change at all around us, many are finding inspiration from the experience on the 1986 march, which fell apart when the sponsoring organization went bankrupt two weeks after the marchers left Los Angeles. One third of the marchers, about 400 people, refused to give up and made their way across the rest of the country, wrestling with hundreds of challenges and finding their way through, over, or around each one. He was blown away by the persistence, creativity, and group processes that made this possible.

For me, the Great March for Climate Action is an opportunity to wake people up, raise a ruckus, and organize the power necessary to either prevent catastrophe or to move beyond our current system. I believe we have brought main streets back to life, and the march will set the tone for a new way of life in the United States. We would not be talking about climate change at all around us, many are finding inspiration from the experience on the 1986 march, which fell apart when the sponsoring organization went bankrupt two weeks after the marchers left Los Angeles. One third of the marchers, about 400 people, refused to give up and made their way across the rest of the country, wrestling with hundreds of challenges and finding their way through, over, or around each one. He was blown away by the persistence, creativity, and group processes that made this possible.

For me, the Great March for Climate Action is an opportunity to wake people up, raise a ruckus, and organize the power necessary to either prevent catastrophe or to move beyond our current system. I believe we have brought main streets back to life, and the march will set the tone for a new way of life in the United States. We would not be talking about climate change at all around us, many are finding inspiration from the experience on the 1986 march, which fell apart when the sponsoring organization went bankrupt two weeks after the marchers left Los Angeles. One third of the marchers, about 400 people, refused to give up and made their way across the rest of the country, wrestling with hundreds of challenges and finding their way through, over, or around each one. He was blown away by the persistence, creativity, and group processes that made this possible.

For me, the Great March for Climate Action is an opportunity to wake people up, raise a ruckus, and organize the power necessary to either prevent catastrophe or to move beyond our current system. I believe we have brought main streets back to life, and the march will set the tone for a new way of life in the United States. We would not be talking about climate change at all around us, many are finding inspiration from the experience on the 1986 march, which fell apart when the sponsoring organization went bankrupt two weeks after the marchers left Los Angeles. One third of the marchers, about 400 people, refused to give up and made their way across the rest of the country, wrestling with hundreds of challenges and finding their way through, over, or around each one. He was blown away by the persistence, creativity, and group processes that made this possible.

For me, the Great March for Climate Action is an opportunity to wake people up, raise a ruckus, and organize the power necessary to either prevent catastrophe or to move beyond our current system. I believe we have brought main streets back to life, and the march will set the tone for a new way of life in the United States. We would not be talking about climate change at all around us, many are finding inspiration from the experience on the 1986 march, which fell apart when the sponsoring organization went bankrupt two weeks after the marchers left Los Angeles. One third of the marchers, about 400 people, refused to give up and made their way across the rest of the country, wrestling with hundreds of challenges and finding their way through, over, or around each one. He was blown away by the persistence, creativity, and group processes that made this possible.

For me, the Great March for Climate Action is an opportunity to wake people up, raise a ruckus, and organize the power necessary to either prevent catastrophe or to move beyond our current system. I believe we have brought main streets back to life, and the march will set the tone for a new way of life in the United States. We would not be talking about climate change at all around us, many are finding inspiration from the experience on the 1986 march, which fell apart when the sponsoring organization went bankrupt two weeks after the marchers left Los Angeles. One third of the marchers, about 400 people, refused to give up and made their way across the rest of the country, wrestling with hundreds of challenges and finding their way through, over, or around each one. He was blown away by the persistence, creativity, and group processes that made this possible.

For me, the Great March for Climate Action is an opportunity to wake people up, raise a ruckus, and organize the power necessary to either prevent catastrophe or to move beyond our current system. I believe we have brought main streets back to life, and the march will set the tone for a new way of life in the United States. We would not be talking about climate change at all around us, many are finding inspiration from the experience on the 1986 march, which fell apart when the sponsoring organization went bankrupt two weeks after the marchers left Los Angeles. One third of the marchers, about 400 people, refused to give up and made their way across the rest of the country, wrestling with hundreds of challenges and finding their way through, over, or around each one. He was blown away by the persistence, creativity, and group processes that made this possible.

For me, the Great March for Climate Action is an opportunity to wake people up, raise a ruckus, and organize the power necessary to either prevent catastrophe or to move beyond our current system. I believe we have brought main streets back to life, and the march will set the tone for a new way of life in the United States. We would not be talking about climate change at all around us, many are finding inspiration from the experience on the 1986 march, which fell apart when the sponsoring organization went bankrupt two weeks after the marchers left Los Angeles. One third of the marchers, about 400 people, refused to give up and made their way across the rest of the country, wrestling with hundreds of challenges and finding their way through, over, or around each one. He was blown away by the persistence, creativity, and group processes that made this possible.

For me, the Great March for Climate Action is an opportunity to wake people up, raise a ruckus, and organize the power necessary to either prevent catastrophe or to move beyond our current system. I believe we have brought main streets back to life, and the march will set the tone for a new way of life in the United States. We would not be talking about climate change at all around us, many are finding inspiration from the experience on the 1986 march, which fell apart when the sponsoring organization went bankrupt two weeks after the marchers left Los Angeles. One third of the marchers, about 400 people, refused to give up and made their way across the rest of the country, wrestling with hundreds of challenges and finding their way through, over, or around each one. He was blown away by the persistence, creativity, and group processes that made this possible.

For me, the Great March for Climate Action is an opportunity to wake people up, raise a ruckus, and organize the power necessary to either prevent catastrophe or to move beyond our current system. I believe we have brought main streets back to life, and the march will set the tone for a new way of life in the United States. We would not be talking about climate change at all around us, many are finding inspiration from the experience on the 1986 march, which fell apart when the sponsoring organization went bankrupt two weeks after the marchers left Los Angeles. One third of the marchers, about 400 people, refused to give up and made their way across the rest of the country, wrestling with hundreds of challenges and finding their way through, over, or around each one. He was blown away by the persistence, creativity, and group processes that made this possible.
Interview with Carla Newbre
By Catherine Skowron

Carla moved to Oregon in 1979 to live on an organic farm in the woods 14 miles outside of Drain. She lived and farmed there for four years, then moved to Idaho, returning to Oregon a few years later, and settling in Eugene. Carla says she became involved with Occupy because “these are my peeps.” We formed a community at the Occupy encampment. After the first camp at Washington-Jefferson was disbanded neither the community nor the issues went away, and she continued working toward economic and social justice with the people she had met there.

Her activism has deep roots in peace work. Her professional training and skills are in crisis de-escalation and mental health. For the last few years she has been teaching crisis de-escalation in the community, so Occupy was a natural place to bring and share her skills. Many of the Occupy peacekeepers were trained by Carla, and many people are now training others involved in the SLEEPS and Whoville protests.

She also participates in SUGAR, Occupy’s conflict resolution working group, and is on the staff of Oregon Veterinary Medicine as a reporter, where she was at the Park Blocks on Sunday afternoon doing support work for OM or acting as a monitor at a protest and Whoville protests.

In addition to her activist work, Carla volunteer at a local animal shelter, and provides veterinary care for animals. She was also one of the first trainers for the Independent Auditor and the Civilian Review Board.

Carla is among those who believe in maintaining open channels of communication with the police department. She served on the inaugural police commission for eight years until she was no longer able to participate due to health issues. Carla says she was one of the many trainers in the community who took part in providing these classes.

Despite her work and training with EPO, Carla has not done formal liaison work between Occupy Eugene and police. Instead she uses her relationships with the police and Eugene’s well-known, long-time peace activists Michael Carrigan, Jen Frenzer, Paul Simon, Barbara date, and many others to help keep the lines of communication open and to address situations as they arise. For the most part, the police trust our peacekeepers and take advantage of the opportunities for dialogue that participants in Occupy Eugene extend to EPO.

EWEB Chooses Optional Smart Meters and a New Strategy
By Jack Dressen

At 5:30 p.m. on Oct. 1, the Eugene Water and Electric Board (EWEB) meeting room was packed to capacity. It was the night their board would decide whether to purchase and implement analog electricity and water meters with digital “smart meters” that send utility use information by radiowaves of electromagnetic radiation linked into “smart grids.” This is part of a worldwide campaign described as “a dangerously dumb idea” (Scientific American, Oct. 5, 2010) that is meeting with increasing customer resistance. Thirty raters who did not testify why.

Some explained the health risks of electromagnetic radiation, which the World Health Organization has identified as a possible carcinogen and consequently recommends “the precautionary principle” pending conclusive research evidence. Ignoring this would open a black hole of liability, and EWEB was cautioned against risking unpredictable legal costs. Class action lawsuits already filed against Southern California Edison, Pacific Gas & Electric and their smart meter manufacturers are charging “fraud and deceit,” “negligence,” and “products liability.”

By state attorneys general, lawsuits filed against utilities threaten, cost increases reported elsewhere, audits of utilities so. For the past year critics of smart meters have provided persuasive and rather alarming case against smart meters. This is not the option EWEB had originally intended, chosen apparently to provide protection from liability. One board member asked the manager, “With opt-in, they can sue us, right?” But his assurance will prove illusory if they continue to withhold full disclosure of risks to prospective customers.

The well-informed, very oppositional approach by a small cadre of persistent citizens probably forced EWEB’s compromise Opt-in choice, the first U.S. utility company to do so. For the past year critics of smart meters have provided EWEB with documentation of health and cybersecurity threats, cost increases reported elsewhere, audits of utilities by state attorneys general, law suits filed against utilities by owners that have installed smart meters, other communities that are rejecting smart meters, and DVD copies of the film, “Take Back Your Power,” which is viewable online and presents a persuasive and rather alarming case against smart meters.

Many questions remain. Who will choose these? Liability concerns should induce large customers (schools, workplaces, businesses, apartments, and condo associations) to decline smart meters, leaving how many willing takers? To counter doubts, EWEB will predictably respond with another disinformation campaign and generous incentive offers.

The groundwork for this was quickly laid. On Oct. 27 Mr. Gray published a Register-Guard guest opinion announcing resumption of a seductive “energy conservation” program and the introduction of “peak demand” as a “cornerstone strategy.” This, although unproven elsewhere, is the rationale for smart meters. “Such programs have a higher value to our energy future, and will carry a higher incentive rate to other programs,” he continued. Finally comes the predictable punch line: “Following pilot programs...to test time-of-use pricing...” (Readers are invited to compare “prices” and “policies” and “policies” and “persuasion” programs, is EWEB signaling a future campaign for smart meters as its highly incentivized centerpiece? There is a hidden agenda here that needs to be investigated. But perhaps an awakened public can keep smart meters with their “electromagnetic smog” out of our community altogether. We must remind EWEB to whom they are accountable. You can contact them by visiting their website, give the board members your thoughts at www.occupyeugenemedia.org.

THE OCCUPIER IS GRATEFUL TO OUR UNDERWITRERS

As our newsletter staff are all volunteers. These individuals and businesses are showing they support Occupy Eugene by helping to fund publication of the EUGENE OCCUPIER. We are grateful.

If you or your business is interested in underwriting this newsletter or Occupy TV on Channel 29, please send an inquiry to david@ocmedia.com.

THE OCCUPIER IS GRATEFUL TO OUR UNDERWITRERS

www.occupyeugenemedia.org