

connections



The Peaceful Holiday Fair returns to Central United Methodist Church—hurray! Friday & Sat, December 1&2. Enjoy music, food, friends, and unique gifts. More info next issue.

SAVE THE DATES

NOVEMBER 7
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DECEMBER 1&2
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.....**20**

THURSDAYS
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FIRST WEDNESDAY
FREEDOM SERIES AT
UOP.....**18**

Recommendations from all sides

Statewide Offices

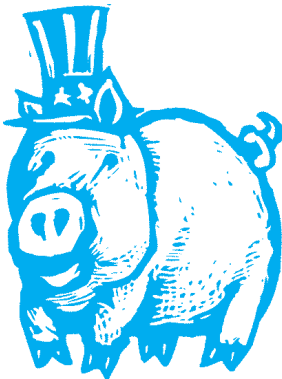
	CLCV	Dems	ConsFed	ILWU	SEIU	FB	GREENS	LWV
Governor		Angelides		Angelides		Schwarz	Camejo	
Lt Governor	Garamendi		Garamendi	McClintock			Warren	
Attorney General	Brown			Brown			Wyman	
Secretary of State	Bowen			Bowen			Hill	
Treasurer		Lockyer			Lockyer		Thakker	
Controller		Chiang			Chiang		Wells	
Insurance Comm				Bustamante			Cafiero	
Cong. Dist. 11	McNerney	McNerney	McNerney					

Initiatives 2006

	CLCV	Dems	ConsFed	ILWU	SEIU	FB	GREENS	LWV
Proposition 1A	Y	Y		Y		Y		Y
Proposition 1B	Y	Y		Y			N	Y
Proposition 1C	Y	Y	Y	Y		Y		Y
Proposition 1D		Y		Y		Y		Y
Proposition 1E		Y	Y	Y		Y		Y
Proposition 83		Y				Y	N	
Proposition 84	Y	Y		Y				Y
Proposition 85		N		N	N		N	N
Proposition 86		Y		Y	Y	N		
Proposition 87	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	
Proposition 88		N	N	N	N	N		N
Proposition 89			Y		Y	N		Y
Proposition 90	N	N		N	N	N	N	N

CLCV = California League of Conservation Voters
Dems = Democrats
ConsFed = Consumer Federation
ILWU = International Longshoremen Worker's Union
SEIU = Service Employees International Union
FB = Farm Bureau
Greens = Green Party
LWV = League of Women Voters

The recommendations above represent the positions of a wide range of organizations. In this issue you will find more detailed information on the initiatives and some candidates to help you make an informed decision on November 7. This election will be determined by turnout. Help get out the vote!



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Nov 8—A brave new world

Bruce Giudici

Barring outright fraud at the ballot box*, we will be entering a brave new world on November 8. Recent "bad news" for the ruling regime has overwhelmed the money and media advantage incumbents always enjoy. The current "coming home to roost" situation was supposed to occur post-election: James Baker declaring that Iraq is unwinnable, ditto Senator Bill Frist in Afghanistan. Korean diplomacy, Foley morality, Pombo environmentalism, and Bush eloquence happens, however: these are the factors that give us

all hope. Change is in the air.

After the elections, then, we can expect investigations into the disasters the regime has papered over—war crimes, due process, torture, contractor profiteering, the manipulation of pre-war intelligence. Some charges may require impeachment. If you have read *Connections*, you know the issues. Entering its 21st year, we will continue to provide the information you will need to stay involved in the democratic process that has been so ill-served through the past 6 years.

Statewide, bond issues should help boost our local economies.

Initiatives to support alternative energy (87), schools (88), and campaign finance reform (89) will move us forward: those to severely punish sex offenders (83), limit abortion rights (85) and limit local land use planning (90) will not. Making health care costs rely on increased cigarette smoking (86) seems to encourage the wrong thing.

Locally, we hope that the elections of Susan Talamantes Eggman and Steven Bestolorides will provide a real presence at the table for those of us who value grassroots-based community development. The lower

Bruce Giudici



threshold to pass school bond issues will further demonstrate that the pendulum is swinging back in our direction.

In this election, we have a real chance; turnout is key. Make a difference: get out the vote. Happy Autumn.

* If you are interested in monitoring Stockton polling stations, please contact Margee Ensign at Mmensign@cs.com

Initiative summary (see page 1 for recommendations)

Proposition 1A—Changes way highway taxes are earmarked

Proposition 1B—\$20 billion road bond measure

Proposition 1C—\$3 billion housing bond

Proposition 1D—\$10 billion school bond

Proposition 1E—\$4 billion levee bond

Proposition 83—Severely punishing sex offenders

Increases penalties for violent and habitual sex offenders and child molesters. Prohibits registered sex offenders from residing within 2,000 feet of any school or park, and requires lifetime Global Positioning System monitoring of felony registered sex offenders. Expands the definition of a sexually violent predator, and changes the current two-year involuntary civil commitment for a sexually violent predator to an indeterminate commitment, subject to annual review by the Director of Mental Health and petition by the sexually violent predator for conditional release or unconditional discharge.



Proposition 84—\$5 billion water bond. Initiative Statute.

Proposition 85—Anti-choice parental notification Constitutional Amendment.

Amends California Constitution to prohibit abortion for unemancipated minor until 48 hours after physician notifies minor's parent or legal guardian, except in medical emergency or with parental waiver. Permits minor to obtain court order waiving notice based on clear and convincing evidence of minor's maturity or best interests. Mandates various reporting requirements, including reports from physicians regarding abortions performed on minors. Authorizes monetary damages against physicians for violation. Requires minor's consent to abortion, with certain exceptions. Permits judicial relief if minor's consent coerced.

Proposition 86—Cigarette tax increase for health care. Initiative Constitutional Amendment and Statute.

Imposes additional 13 cent tax on each cigarette distributed (\$2.60 per pack), and indirectly increases tax on other tobacco products. Provides funding to qualified hospitals for emergency services, nursing education

and health insurance to eligible children. Revenue also allocated to specified purposes including tobacco use prevention programs, enforcement of tobacco-related laws, and research, prevention and treatment of various conditions including cancers (breast, cervical, prostate and colorectal), heart disease, stroke, asthma and obesity. Exempts recipient hospitals from antitrust laws in certain circumstances. Revenue excluded from appropriation limits and Proposition 98 calculations.

Proposition 87—\$4 billion alternative energy program. Initiative Constitutional Amendment and Statute.

Establishes \$4 billion program to reduce oil and gasoline usage by 25%, with research and production incentives for alternative energy, alternative energy vehicles, energy efficient technologies, and for education and training. Funded by tax of 1.5% to 6%, depending on oil price per barrel, on producers of oil extracted in California. Prohibits producers from passing tax on to consumers. Program administered by California Energy Alternatives Program Authority. Prohibits changing tax while indebtedness remains. Revenues excluded from Proposition 98 calculations and appropriation limits.

Proposition 88—Small property tax increase for schools. Initiative Constitutional Amendment and Statute.

Provides additional public school funding for kindergarten through 12 by imposing a \$50 tax on each real property parcel; exempts certain elderly and disabled homeowners. Funds must be used for class size reduction, textbooks, school safety, Academic Success facility grants, and a data system to evaluate program effectiveness.

Proposition 89—Public campaign financing with contribution and expenditure limits. Initiative Statute.

Provides that candidates for state elective office meeting certain eligibility requirements, including collection of a specified number of \$5 contributions from voters, may voluntarily receive public campaign funding from the Fair Political Practices Commission, in amounts varying by elective office and type of election. Increases income tax rate on corporations and financial institutions by 0.2 percent to fund program. Imposes new limits on campaign contributions to state-office candidates and campaign committees, and new restrictions on contributions and expenditures by lobbyists and corporations.

(continued next page)

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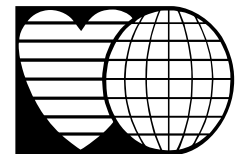
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"The Peace and Justice Network is a nonprofit educational organization committed to the vision of a world in which the equality of all persons is achieved, basic needs are met, conflict is resolved nonviolently, and the earth's resources are shared responsibly for the well-being of all her inhabitants and all future generations."

In the pre-election trenches

Sally Galiste

A demonstration,

The first week of October brought politics front and center to the Valley area. President George W. Bush arrived via Air Force One at the Stockton Airport Monday evening, spent the night at the Radisson, and was whisked into political fundraisers in Northern California Tuesday and Wednesday.

I attended the Tuesday morning event, held at the Stockton Civic Auditorium, which generated thousands of dollars for Rep. Richard Pombo's already flush campaign fund. Hundreds of supporters dished out \$250 per breakfast plate to brag, "I had breakfast with the President," when in reality, GWB was in a separate room, heavily protected from those supporters.

Yes, I was there, but not inside the auditorium: I came to join the hundreds of non-supporters outside the building—in Martin Luther King Plaza, behind chain link fence, and directly facing riot police, motorcycle police, and mounted police.

People of all types, causes, and complaints held up stickless signs directed at the breakfast guests arriving in their morning finery—and at the Presidential entourage motorcade, arriving late and leaving early. We shouted, chanted, and even sang songs, but mostly we mingled and talked about our convictions to each other and to the media. Video and digital cameras focused on signs, people,

kids, and arguments. Connections were made, commitments to future political events arranged, and by 10 a.m., it was mostly all over. What a great way to spend a morning in the Valley.

an eco-symposium,

Thursday lunchtime found me switching hats, as I arrived on the University of the Pacific campus as they hosted a 2-week long environmental symposium, which focused that day on each human's ecological footprint on Earth. Joining Students for Environmental Action, a newly re-formed club at UOP, we spoke with university staff and students about this issue and others. I extended a welcome hand to the club, and encouraged them to make connections with local environmental groups, such as the Delta Sierra club, the local Audubon chapter, and with Defenders of Wildlife, of which I am a dedicated volunteer. They were thrilled and looked forward to joint activities/events in the name of recycling, helping the environment, and hopefully, fun. After all, they are college kids.

and a debate

Thursday evening I was lost in downtown Tracy, looking for Poet Christian School Auditorium. With help from a passerby, I finally got turned around, heading south down Central Ave. until I

saw dozens of "Jerry McNerney for Congress" signs all along the roadway.



Yep, I'd found the place all right: hundreds of people everywhere, and nearly as many reporters and cameramen. The reason? The one and only debate taking place between the two candidates for 11th Congressional District in California: incumbent Richard Pombo and opponent Jerry McNerney.

Now for most readers of this newspaper, the identification/description/political stance of Republican Richard Pombo is unnecessary. Suffice to say, I didn't intend on cheering for my current representative. So, with McNerney sticker on shirt, I entered the tiny, filled-to-the-gills auditorium and stood off to the side to witness this historic event.

By 7 p.m. the shindig began, with the editor of the Tracy Press doing the honors of presenting each candidate. Each gave their short but not-so-sweet campaign shtick to claps, cheers and boos.

This certainly was a lively crowd. Most of the 90 minute debate involved questions fired at each or both candidates, queried from the audience. Questions and responses ran the gamut: from war in Iraq, scandals in Congress, commuter jams, No Child Left Behind reauthorization, energy needs, farmers needs, and more.

Only rarely did the two candidates agree on anything. Pombo spent a lot of time explaining his actions or inactions for the past 14 years, accusing people and the press of "character assassination," and swearing he had done nothing wrong or illegal as a Congressman.

McNerney came on like gangbusters, highlighting Pombo's



Songs and chants greet fundraiser

On Tuesday, Oct 3 people began to drift into Martin Luther King Plaza around 6:30 a.m. greeting each other and passing out signs, kazoos and song lists. Bay area activists were welcomed for their support, old friends reunited and newcomers were relieved to find like-minded people willing to stand up for their beliefs. The protest signs ranged from traditional "No more War" to humorous "With a Bush and Dick in the White House, someone is sure to get f.....d." This crowd had come to make a statement.

The crowd was very peaceful, but the Stockton P.D. seemed to think they would have a crazy crowd on hand. The men and women who were ordered to march out like SS troops and stand facing us with blank to hostile stares looked ridiculous—yet at the same time more than a few of us felt the chill of what it would be like to live in a police state. Are we that far away from

the mentality of crowd control at any price? We are doing just that in Iraq.

Moteczuma Sanchez, President of Delta College MECHA and Brenda Insurriaga, Vice President of MECHA, UOP stood with other protesters outside the Civic Auditorium. Moteczuma, dressed in his fatigues, said he was in Iraq during the first 5 months of occupation and would not return if ordered to do so. Sanchez and Insurriaga were not alone; hundreds of local and bay area citizens gathered to express their dislike of the president and Pombo. Songs, chants, and cries of discontent greeted those who paid \$250 and more to eat in the auditorium and get a glimpse of the president. A group of 15-20 men posed for a photo near the fountain—all members of District Council No. 12 Northern California—the International Union of Painters and Allied Trades.

Initiatives (continued from page 2)

Proposition 90—Stops government taking private property for other private purpose. Initiative Constitutional Amendment.

Bars state and local governments from condemning or damaging private property to promote other private projects, uses. Limits government's authority to adopt certain land use, housing, consumer, environmental and workplace laws and regulations,

except when necessary to preserve public health or safety. Voids unpublished eminent domain court decisions. Defines "just compensation." Government must occupy condemned property or lease property for public use. Condemned private property must be offered for resale to prior owner or owner's heir at current fair market value if government abandons condemnation's objective. Exempts certain governmental actions.

dubious honor as being "the 13th most corrupt Congressman" in America, and noting that the first, second and third place winners had toppled from power, caught red-handed. With one of his responses, McNerney prefaced it with "When I am in Washington, I will...." to great cheers/claps/

whistles of the crowd.

At the conclusion, each candidate stood and asked the audience to please vote for them. Another day well spent.

Sally Galiste is a four decade Stocktonian and current roving reporter for Connections.

Confused? Here are some voting basics

Absentee Voting

How do I vote by absentee ballot?

If you are temporarily living out of the state or overseas, or will be out of town on election day, or otherwise won't be able to get to the polls, you will need to request an absentee ballot in writing between 29 and seven days prior to the election in order to vote. Any registered voter is eligible to cast an absentee ballot, also known as a mail-in ballot, and about 20 percent of California's voters do so. Recently California law changed to allow any voter to register as a permanent absentee voter for any reason, meaning that if you choose permanent absentee status you will not have to request an absentee ballot for each election, rather you will automatically receive an absentee ballot for each election.

An absentee ballot request form can be found on the "Sample Ballot" you receive from the county, and many political campaigns now mail request forms to voters as well. If you do not have a request form, contact your county election office <government/ceo.html>.

An absentee ballot must be received by your county election office by 8 pm on Election Day; you can mail in your ballot, return it to any polling place worker on Election Day, or return it in person to your

county election office. For more information about absentee voting, please visit the Secretary of State's web site.

Will my absentee ballot actually be counted?

All absentee ballots that are returned to county election offices <government/ceo.html> by 8pm on election day are counted. If you have heard that not all absentee ballots are counted in California, rest assured that is not the case. All votes legally cast in this state are counted, regardless of whether they were cast at the polling place or submitted via mail through the absentee voting process. It may take a little longer to incorporate all of the absentee votes into the final election results, but they are all counted.

Absentee ballots must be returned to county election offices <government/ceo.html> and received by those offices by the time polls close (8pm) on Election Day in order to be counted. Late-arriving absentee ballots are not counted (just as you would not be able to vote if you arrived at your polling place at 9 or 10pm).

Election Day Voting

Where do I go to vote? How do I find my polling place?

If you do not have your county "Sample Ballot", which lists your polling place, you can call your county election office <government/ceo.html>, or use that agency's web site to look up your polling place by entering your address (not all web sites offer this feature). If you have the address of your polling place but don't know how to get there, try calling the election office or using an online map and driving directions service such as Mapquest <http://www.mapquest.com>.

What time do the polls open and close?

Polls open at 7 a.m. and close at 8 p.m. on Election Day.

What do I do if I am going to be out of town on Election Day?

Contact your county election office <government/ceo.html> to find out how to cast an absentee ballot

I've moved since I registered—can I still vote?

Maybe. You are required to be registered to vote at your current address, and you should re-register to vote whenever you move. If you have moved within the same county since you last registered, you may still be able to vote. If you have moved within fifteen days of an election (after the registration deadline for that election), you can go to your previous polling place to vote on election day, or you can request an absentee ballot.

If you have moved within the

same county more than fifteen days prior to an election and have not re-registered by the deadline, you should call your county election office <government/ceo.html> to get the location of your new polling place, or use the polling place look-up feature on that office's web site (if available). You will need to bring two pieces of identification showing your name and new address (one piece is okay if it is your driver's license showing your new address) with you to the polling place, where you will then fill out a new voter registration form and cast what is called a "provisional ballot" (provisional ballots are set aside and not counted until voter eligibility can be confirmed by the election office.)

Please keep in mind that the above applies only to voters who have moved within a particular county, not those who have moved from one county to another, in which case you would need to contact the election office in your new county. You may not be able to vote until you have re-registered at your new address.

Whom do I contact about voter fraud or other voting concerns?

If you have a concern regarding voter fraud, voter intimidation or any other irregularity involving voter registration or voting, please contact either the Secretary of State's Voting Information Hotline at 1-800-345-VOTE, or your county election office <government/ceo.html>.

Registering to Vote

How do I know if I am currently registered to vote?

Shortly after you complete your registration form you should receive a postcard from your county election office saying you've been registered. You do not need to bring this card with you when you go to vote. All registered voters (with the exception of those who register at the last minute) receive a "Sample Ballot" from their county elections office. Registered voters also receive an official voter information guide

from the California Secretary of State. If you do not receive these pamphlets, or if you are otherwise unsure of your registration status, call your county election office <government/ceo.html> to confirm your registration.

How do I register to vote?

To register, you'll need to complete a voter registration form, sometimes called an affidavit. There are many ways to get the form:

- pick up a form in person at any number of public offices (library, DMV, post office, county election office <government/ceo.html>, city clerk, etc.)
- call 1-800-345-VOTE to request a form be mailed to you
- call your county election office <government/ceo.html> to request a form be mailed to you
- download a form in English <http://www.ss.ca.gov/elections/english.pdf> or Spanish <http://www.ss.ca.gov/elections/spanish.pdf> from the Secretary of State's web site

Additionally, many campaigns and political parties send out staff and volunteers to register voters at malls and other public places. You may request a voter registration form from these people too. The law requires them to supply you with a form regardless of which political party you want to register with, so don't be misled by signs that say "Republicans Register Here" or "Democrats Register Here". You can also register to vote when you renew your driver's license with the DMV. The deadline to register to vote in the November election is October 18th. Your form must be signed, dated and postmarked by that deadline.

Who is eligible to vote?

You must be 18 years of age and a U.S. citizen to vote in California. (17 year olds may register to vote if they will be 18 by Election Day.) Legal residents of California who are not U.S. citizens, and illegal California residents are not eligible to register or vote. Convicted felons currently serving a prison term or on parole are not eligible

to register or vote. A California driver's license is not required in order to vote.

What is the deadline for registering to vote?

You must register to vote by the 15th day before an election in order to be eligible to vote. If you register or reregister at least 29 days prior to the election, you will receive a Sample Ballot in the mail from your county election office; if you register between 29 and 15 days prior to the election, you will receive a Sample Ballot only if the county has time to process your registration before mailing the Sample Ballots. Extra Sample Ballots will be available at all polling places. Your registration form must be signed, dated and postmarked by the registration deadline. If you have questions about the registration deadline, contact your county election office <government/ceo.html>.

Can I register to vote over the Internet?

It is not possible to register to vote via the Internet at this time.

Voting for Candidates and Measures

What is the percentage of the vote required to pass local and state measures?

All statewide propositions pass or fail on a straight majority vote, regardless of topic or type of ballot measure. At the local level, some measures require a majority vote to pass and others, such as school bond measures, require 55% of the vote in order to pass. (The percentage required to pass local school bonds used to be 66%, but that changed with the passage of statewide Proposition 39 in November 2000.) Local tax increases for a specific use must receive two-thirds of the vote to pass; this threshold was established with the passage of Proposition 218 in November 1996.

Source: California Voter Foundation website, <http://www.calvoter.org>

Bush visit attracts new protesters

Dianne Runion

On Tuesday October 3, President George W. Bush and Congressman Richard Pombo ate their 250-dollar a plate breakfasts while I joined my first demonstration directly across the street in Martin Luther King Plaza. Although now 66, I missed the peace protests of the 1960s for three good reasons: I was a registered Republican, living abroad with my Marine Corps officer husband, bringing up two pre-school-aged sons. But President George W. Bush has violated every conservative value I ever held dear. Because of this administration, I changed my registration at the beginning of the second Gulf War to "Decline to state." Tuesday I stood under the Pax Christi banner in peaceful demonstration. In those two hours, a tsunami of feelings flooded over me.

While peaceful demonstrators gathered around 7 am, a phalanx of Mobile Field Force police officers marched onto the square heavily armed and wearing black full-riot gear. They stationed themselves prominently at precise intervals facing the crowd of 200 or so. "Just like in MY country," a Slavic immigrant muttered. While a reasoning brain says these officers are sworn to protect us all from fools who might get violent, nothing can quite prepare the gut for how daunting these troops are. One officer filmed us demonstrators for several hours.

Knowing one's face is on record—possibly with the FBI and the CIA, certainly with local law enforcement officers—gives sober pause. I'd already made a public stand in a newspaper column just days after the PATRIOT Act whizzed through Congress and the Senate. I had scanned all and carefully read parts of it, a luxury most of our elected representatives did not enjoy — with only about 12 hours taken before they shoved this freedom-challenging document into law in the panicked wake of 9/11.

Was my computer information being seized and examined

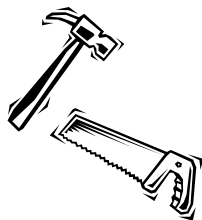
without my knowledge? Had government officials been in my house? Were my phone calls monitored or my library records checked? What happened to some of those Bill of Rights guarantees I'd learned about in eighth-grade Constitution class?

What could be more unlikely than a grandmotherly protestor? Yet one demonstrator's sign said it for me: "Question authority before it questions you." But three generations of business people stood behind and beside me on both sides of my family tree. What would they say? On the other hand, would my grandchildren have breath to ask what happened to our air, our water, our national parks, our seas and skies if I said and did nothing? To whom is my duty owed?

Parking two blocks from Martin Luther King Plaza, I nevertheless walked 10 blocks each way to get around the high cyclone fences that blocked access to the Civic Auditorium. Scores of Secret Service agents and police officers and their vehicles maintained a strong presence that visually shouted KEEP OUT.

The president entered from the back of the auditorium, where a long canopy blocked any view. One officer recalled the 1950s when he had stood along President Eisenhower's route, saluting him as Ike waved from an open convertible. A presidential assassination and another near miss changed that forever. But presidential limousines with tinted windows and routes that avoid any whiff of protest show how isolated this president is from dissent. What if we lesser mortals lacked the correctives of friends, family, colleagues and community to guide and temper our choices?

Briefly holding the Peace of Christ banner, I prayed for peace, for change and for saner choices. And in the crisp autumn morning, I also breathed a prayer of thanks that I still had the freedom to dissent. It's a freedom worth standing up for—even if those you want most to look, refuse to see.



Sawznhammers

"Saw": a tool for analysis, taking things apart; a proverb, often trite
"Hammer": a tool for synthesis, putting things together; to pound away

Left out of the Record

John Morearty

The day after George Bush descended from heaven on Richard Pombo, the *Record* headline read: "Smaller protest than expected greets president." Smaller than expected by whom? The story never said, but there were 350-500 of us. That's small for Stockton?

In three full pages of coverage, there was plenty the *Record* did not say. My wife Ria and I were there with signs, a banner and songsheets from 6:30 till almost 9 AM; here's stuff the *Record* left out.

While some protesters did chant, shout, and whistle at police, many of us sang peaceful, calming songs: Where Have All the Flowers Gone, Blowin' in the Wind, Ain't Gonna Study War No More, This Land is Your Land, All We are Saying is Give Peace a Chance, and of course, We Shall Overcome.

We carried signs saying Save Mother Earth, No War on Iran, and Pombo is a Crook. Also a banner, Wage Peace, and another reading "Pax Christi-World Peace," with the emblem of the international Catholic peace fellowship—a huge red rose, whose stem was black felt twisted to look like barbed wire.

The *Record* did report that some 150 county employees marched in with signs and banners, but it didn't say they were members of that unmentionable thing—a labor union.

Other union workers were prominent. About a dozen burly guys wore T-shirts proclaiming ILWU, the International Longshore Workers Union. Dolores Huerta, co-founder with Cesar Chavez of the United Farm Workers Union (AFL-CIO), walked among us.

Nadia McCaffrey of Tracy wore black; her son Patrick was murdered by the Iraqi soldiers he was training (a fact the Pentagon withheld for two years). She climbed a little ladder and told us, as the *Record* reported, that

she turns her back on Bush and Pombo. She added what the *Record* ignored: that she is working to establish a center for the medical and psychological treatment of wounded returning veterans, whom the Pentagon ignores.

Someone unexpectedly asked me to say a few words, and with typical modesty I said sure, but the *Record* didn't report that either. Here's what I said, ornamented by a few afterthoughts:

"Look around, at each other. We are the ones we've been waiting for! Yesterday was Gandhi's birthday, and he's not coming back. Tomorrow is the feast of St. Francis of Assisi, and he's not coming back. We are gathered in Martin Luther King Plaza, his statue is over there, and he's not coming back either. These are our teachers in nonviolent resistance to evil, and they are not coming back.

"But we are here, we have been coming back for many years, and with all our struggles and imperfections and failings, we are STILL the ones we've been waiting for.

"And we will keep coming back until we bring this Empire

down! We will bring it down not with violence, we will resist with steadfast nonviolence. We will stand and speak the truth and shine bright light on the brutish iniquities and short-sighted follies of this evil imperial system, till it collapses of its own gross weight.

"Then we can garden in peace, sing and make love and play with the children, and walk in the sunshine and rain. Not that we should wait for the fall of the empire to do those things!"

None of this did the *Record* report. They did run a fluffy story on the visit of George W. Bush to the George W. Bush elementary school in Stockton. He didn't read *My Pet Goat* this time, he told the students they were excellent readers, and shook hands with them. The *Record* ran three of their pictures with happy quotes, including one girl who said "my grandpa likes the president." They were all smiling Latino students.

Latino voter turnout, of course, is crucial in whether Congressman Richard Pombo gets re-elected. But the *Record* didn't mention that either.



Proposition 84: Clean Water, Parks and Coastal Protection

California is facing enormous population growth in the coming years, with 25 million new residents expected by 2040. But our investment in infrastructure is not keeping pace with our population growth. Current funding for natural resources and environmental protection programs is critically low. In fact, funding for resources makes up less than 1% of the overall state budget. We must make the investments needed to ensure that all Californians will have access to safe drinking water, better protection from floods and opportunities to enjoy parks, natural landscapes and our rivers, lakes, beaches, bays and coastline.

A broad coalition of interests—water districts, conservation and environmental groups, local government entities, museum and park interests, elected officials, and civic organizations—has been formed to support Proposition 84, the Clean Water, Parks and Coastal Protection Bond.

Water

Proposition 84 will provide critically needed funding for programs that will help ensure safe drinking water for all Californians by cleaning up polluted waters and protecting them from further contamination. The measure will dedicate funds to protect the water quality of the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta—the source of drinking water for 23 million Californians. In addition, Proposition 84 will provide funds to assist each region of California in improving local water supply reliability and local water quality.

Rivers, lakes, streams

The health of California's rivers, lakes and streams is continually threatened by pollution, reduced water quality, and destruction of fish and wildlife habitats. Proposition 84 will provide funding to develop river parkways, restore and protect urban streams, and keep contaminated storm water runoff out of our rivers, lakes and streams.

Beaches, bays, coastal waters

California's coastline is one of the most beautiful parts of the state, but coastal areas and marine life are being harmed by overdevelopment and toxic pollution that flows out of storm drains, resulting in beach closures, public health and safety threats, and declining ocean ecosystems. Proposition 84 is the first in the nation to provide dedicated funds—\$540 million—to help preserve our ocean and major bays, and ensure vibrant marine resources and fishing communities for generations to come. As part of this, Proposition 84 also funds programs to protect the San Francisco, Santa Monica and San Diego bays and their watersheds.

Flood control

Over the next 50 years there is a two-in-three chance that an earthquake or a storm will damage California's six thousand miles of vulnerable levees. A disaster of this kind could result in the loss of lives and homes and could leave 23 million Californians without reliable drinking water. Proposition 84 would strengthen flood protection in order to avoid these kinds of devastating disasters. It will provide for funding the identification and mapping of high-risk flood areas, and the inspection and repair of levees and flood control facilities. By planning, designing and implementing multi-objective flood corridor projects, Proposition 84 will reduce future flood risk and maximize public benefits.

Parks, public access

All Californians deserve access to our state's natural resources, yet our state and local park systems are currently unable to take on the challenges that arise in a rapidly-growing society. Proposition 84 will include projects that will expand and restore the state park system to reflect the state's growing population and shifting

population centers. Proposition 84 will also provide funding for the creation of local and regional parks especially in communities that are park-poor. In addition, it will fund the development of nature education opportunities at institutions, including natural history museums, aquariums, research facilities and botanical gardens.

Wildlife, forest conservation

California's wildlife and forests as well as its farms and ranches are under direct threat from the state's rapid population growth. Proposition 84 will fund the programs needed to protect California's forests, wildlife as well as preserve working forests, farms and ranches.

Sustainable communities

California's rise in population and the impacts of climate change pose significant challenges. These challenges must be addressed through careful planning and improvements in our land use and water management systems. Proposition 84 will help California prepare for the challenges that lie ahead while improving the livability of our cities and communities through programs to re-design California's water and flood control systems. The programs included in Proposition 84 will support the greening of our cities, schools and neighborhoods, while stimulating investments in water use efficiency and conservation to reduce energy consumption.

Source: Californians for Clean Water, Parks and Coastal Protection/Yes on 84: a coalition of conservation groups, The Nature Conservancy and the California Conservation Action Fund, 591 Redwood Highway, #4000, Mill Valley, CA 94941

No on Prop 85

* Prop. 85 would prohibit abortions for California teens until 48 hours after their parents have been notified.

The law would force scared, pregnant teens to tell their parents, even if they come from a troubled home of violence and abuse. While the proposed law would include a bypass provision for teens to seek help from a judge, a girl afraid to tell her parents isn't going to march up to a judge in a strange courthouse to talk about her pregnancy. Pregnant teens don't need a judge. They need a counselor and a doctor.

Why should you vote no on 85?

* Prop. 85 delays the medical care and counseling pregnant teens need. We shouldn't allow anything that could delay or deter teens from seeking proper medical care and counseling.

* Prop. 85 would put vulnerable teens in jeopardy. While many parents rightly want to be involved in their teenage daughters' lives, in the real world, some teens can't go to their parents—a major reason why Proposition 85 is wrong for California. Some teens live in dangerous homes of violence and abuse. They might be kicked out of their homes, beaten or worse. They would delay the medical care and counseling they desperately need.

* Good family communication cannot be imposed by government.

* When laws make teenagers choose between talking with parents or having illegal and unsafe abortions, some will delay critical medical care, turn to self-induced or illegal back-alley abortions, or even consider suicide.

* Doctors, nurses, and teachers strongly oppose proposition 85.

* Supporters of Prop 85—including the Traditional Values Coalition, Evangelicals for Social

Action and Right to Life of Central California—are the same people who want to overturn Roe v. Wade and ban all abortions. This is part of a clear strategy to eventually outlaw all abortions.

* The real answer to teen pregnancy is prevention and strong, caring families—not new laws that endanger vulnerable young women.

* Professional counseling and comprehensive, age-appropriate sex education that includes abstinence and birth control are more effective solutions to the problem of teen pregnancy.

The initiative text

Waiting Period and Parental Notification Before Termination of Minor's Pregnancy. Initiative Constitutional Amendment. Amends California Constitution to prohibit abortion for unemancipated minor until 48 hours after physician notifies minor's parent or legal guardian, except in medical emergency or with parental waiver. Permits minor to obtain court order waiving notice based on clear and convincing evidence of minor's maturity or best interests. Mandates various reporting requirements, including reports from physicians regarding abortions performed on minors. Authorizes monetary damages against physicians for violation. Requires minor's consent to abortion, with certain exceptions. Permits judicial relief if minor's consent coerced. Summary of estimate by Legislative Analyst and Director of Finance of fiscal impact on state and local governments: Potential unknown net state costs of several million dollars annually for health and social services programs, court administration, and state health agency administration combined.

Source: <http://www.noon85.com>



Prop 90 kills local planning

Prop. 90 is an extreme measure that will cost taxpayers billions of dollars, result in thousands of frivolous lawsuits and hurt our ability to protect the environment and our communities.

Funded largely by "property rights" advocates from New York State, Prop. 90 would allow virtually anyone to sue over virtually any new law, simply by claiming a new law has caused "significant economic loss" to their property. That means taxpayers would end up paying exorbitantly for basic environmental and health protections.

Here's just one example of how

Prop. 90 threatens California's environment: Under Prop. 90, a landowner could sue seeking compensation if a county restricts development to 500 homes for traffic or environmental concerns when the landowner is seeking approval for 750 homes. The city and its taxpayers could be forced to pay for the value of the land as though the remaining 250 homes were built.

Faced with such overwhelming costs, state government and local governments would likely abandon their efforts to enact laws that protect the environment and public health and safety.

Remember, Prop. 90 is opposed by diverse groups representing conservationists, farmers, teachers, taxpayers, businesses, labor organizations, seniors, public safety officials, homeowners and many others. More than 20 major daily newspapers have come out against Prop. 90, calling it "deceptive," "a ruse," a "radical overreach," a "Trojan Horse" and more. The more voters learn about Prop. 90, the more they are inclined to reject it. We hope you educate yourself about this dangerous initiative and "Vote No on 90" on November 7th.

Source: Planning and Conservation League release,

Ask candidates: climate change and oil dependence

During this campaign season, join with like-minded friends. At any organized candidate forum, put this issue on their agenda and ask them the following:

* What will you do to help end our country's dangerous oil dependence? (FCNL's answer: Support policies that reduce oil demand, increase fuel efficiency, and expand renewable fuel production and distribution.)

* What will you do to help avert harmful climate change? (FCNL's answer: Support policies that promote energy conservation, increase energy efficiency, cap, reduce, and capture fossil fuel carbon emissions, and increase development and use of renewable energy.)

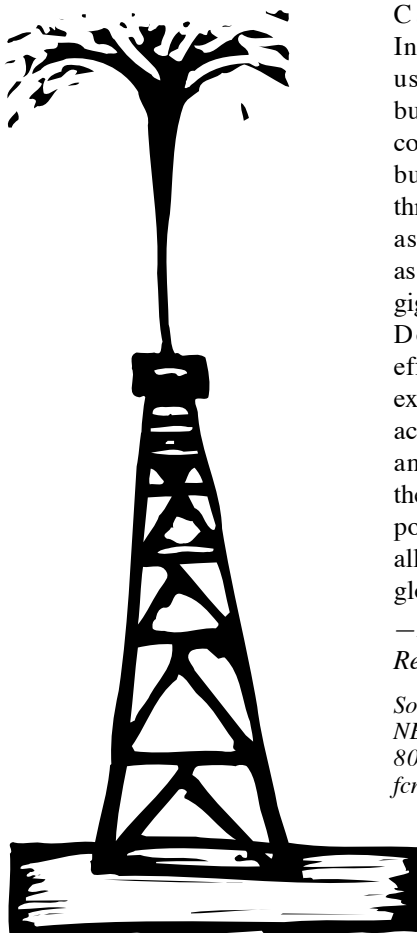
* Specifically, what do you think Congress should do to encourage energy conservation, improve energy efficiency, and expand development and use of renewable energy?

* What will you do to limit the power and influence of vested interests (such as the fossil fuel, auto, and electric power industries) in developing U.S. energy and climate change policies?

* What will you do to help low-income households make ends meet while at the same time reducing our country's harmful

dependence on oil and other fossil fuels?

* How can the U.S. work with developing countries such as China and India, to help meet their growing energy and human development needs, while also controlling their greenhouse gas emissions?



An answer: the un-coal

By investing in energy efficiency, we would vastly reduce carbon dioxide emissions and save money. There is a low-tech way to sequester carbon dioxide: Don't dig up so much of it in the first place. Princeton University's Carbon Mitigation Initiative concludes that using the most efficient building technologies for commercial and residential buildings [globally, now through 2055] could avert as much carbon dioxide as is produced by 800 one giga-watt coal power plants. Doubling automotive efficiency—possible with existing technology—would achieve the same. Do both and you've canceled out the emissions of 1,600 coal power plants—more than all the coal plants proposed globally today.

—David Talbot, *Technology Review*, July/August 2006

Source: FCNL, 245 Second St NE, Washington, DC 20002, 800-630-1330 <http://www.fcnl.org>

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Durston v. Lungren debate

In Angels Camp mid-October, a well-staged debate epitomized the stark choices to be made this election. Incumbent Dan Lungren began the evening defending the Bush doctrine overseas, while challenger Dr. Bill Durston vowed to bring the soldiers home from Iraq as soon as possible. And so went the night.

On taxes, Lungren placed himself firmly on the side of the taxpayer who got tax cuts, Durston on the side of the children who will be forced to pay for the deficit. When the topic turned to Abramoff-style campaign corruption, while Durston was on the side of publicly financed campaigns as outlined by Proposition 89, Lungren thought that instant

disclosure of contributions with no limits was the answer. Dr. Durston liked universal health care in the manner described by SB 840 (recently passed by the California legislature, vetoed by Governor Schwarzenegger), while Rep. Lungren vouched for allowing small businesses to band together so as to get cheaper insurance through cooperation.

The discussion got more personal when the issue of abortion was raised: the doctor discussed the cases he had faced in the last 20 years as an emergency room physician and the choices he saw young people make; he would be a pro-choice vote in the House. When Rep Lungren made the case of valuing the life of the fetus, the Vietnam vet Durston charged

the Congressman with hypocrisy, pointing to Lungren's vote and continued support of an Iraq war that has claimed the lives of over 2,500 American soldiers and over 650,000 Iraqis. While Durston dodged a question on Bush's Healthy Forests law enabling clearcuts, he scored points on Lungren's dismal environmental record and 0% rating with the League of Conservation Voters.

When the hour and a half debate was over, both sides had made their points, with Durston making it clear that he could make a strong, persuasive, progressive argument in a debate with California's former Attorney General and Republican gubernatorial candidate.

Eggman focus crime & sprawl

Susan Eggman

The number one issue in the city of Stockton is our high rate of crime and the subsequent effect crime has on our community and citizens. I would approach this issue with multi level interventions. We need to invest in our youth through alternative programming. I will find ways through grants and every fund available to provide our community opportunities rich with culture and arts. Investing in our youth will serve as gang and youth prevention.

Police recruitment has been an issue and we are currently 40 officers understaffed. I would work to develop innovative recruitment strategies so we could put more money into community policing, and directly attacking the gang and methamphetamine problem. I also support a new bigger jail with a drug and alcohol program built in to address the issue of recidivism.

Farming and its related industries provide one third of all jobs in the Central Valley. Saving farmland is not just aesthetics issue but also an issue of jobs. I have not talked to one voter who does not want to find a

way to preserve farmland and have some sort of community separator between valley cities. The issue always comes down to ways to pay for it. I come from a farming family and fully understand the impact on farming when development encroaches. I will research ways to fund these greenbelts that are equitable to citizens, developers and farmers. Some existing ideas include taxes, mitigation fees, and easements. We must put together a plan that balances all parties involved.

The reduction of crime and continuing to develop an educated workforce will go far in boosting economic development in Stockton. The City needs to develop an aggressive plan that uses every inventive available to bring in industry.

We have a location, which is perfect for new industries and the growth of existing ones. Two major arteries Highway 5 and 99 ring our downtown, the Port with its deep-water channel, and the Railroad. We also have an airport that requires City Council and Board of Supervisor cooperation to become viable and fully functioning. Our nearly 300 thousand populations is now primed and ready to take economic advantage of our inherent strengths with our prime location and existing assets.

I think a vote for me would already do something to immediately to improve Stockton. It would send a message of encouragement to all citizens that grass-roots campaign can truly work and give a voice back to individual and collective citizens. I would immediately push to set an agenda that focus on reducing crime, invest in our existing neighborhoods, and pledge to restore common sense and financial accountability. Together we can do better. It is time for a change with Honest Leadership and New priorities



Democrat majority needed

Pete McCloskey

I have found it difficult in the past several weeks to reach a conclusion as to what a citizen should do with respect to this fall's forthcoming congressional elections. I am a Republican, intend to remain a Republican, and am descended from three generations of California Republicans, active in Merced and San Bernardino Counties as well as in the San Francisco Bay Area. I have just engaged in an unsuccessful effort to defeat the Republican Chairman of the House Resources Committee, Richard Pombo, in the 11th Congressional District Republican primary, obtaining just over 32% of the Republican vote against Pombo's 62%.

The observation of Mr. Pombo's political consultant, Wayne Johnson, that I have been mired in the obsolete values of the 1970s, honesty, good ethics and balanced budgets, all rejected by today's modern Republicans, is only too accurate.

It has been difficult, nevertheless, to conclude as I have, that the Republican House leadership has been so unalterably corrupted by power and money that reasonable Republicans should support Democrats against DeLay-type Republican incumbents in 2006. Let me try to explain why.

I have decided to endorse Jerry McNerney and every other honorable Democrat now challenging those Republican incumbents who have acted to protect former Majority Leader Tom DeLay, who have flatly reneged on their Contract With America promise in 1994 to restore high standards of ethical behavior in the House and who have combined to prevent investigation of the Cunningham and Abramoff/Pombo/DeLay scandals. These Republican incumbents have brought shame on the House, and have created a wide-spread view in the public at large that Republicans are more interested in obtaining campaign contributions from corporate lobbyists than they are in legislating in the public interest.

At the outset, let me say that in four months of campaigning I have learned that Jerry McNerney is an honorable man and that Richard Pombo is not. Mr. Pombo has

used his position and power to shamelessly enrich his wife and family from campaign funds, has interfered with the federal investigation of men like Michael Hurwitz, he of the Savings & Loan frauds and ruthless clear-cutting of old growth California redwoods. Mr. Pombo has taken more money from Indian gaming lobbyist Jack Abramoff, his associates and Indian tribes interested in gaming than any other Member of Congress, in excess of \$500,000. With his stated intent to gut the Endangered Species and Environmental Protection Acts, to privatize for development millions of acres of public land, including a number of National Parks, to give veto power to the Congress over constitutional decisions of the Supreme Court, his substantial contributions to DeLay's legal defense fund, and most particularly his refusal to investigate the Abramoff involvement in Indian gaming and the exploitation of women labor in the Marianas, both matters within the jurisdiction of his committee, Mr. Pombo in my view represents all that is wrong with the national government in Washington today.

It is clear that the forthcoming campaign will be a vicious one, with Mr. Pombo willing to stretch the truth as he has in the past with respect to the elderberry beetle, levee breaks, his steadfast opposition to veterans' health care, including prosthetics research for amputees from Iraq and other wars, the impact on Marine lives of endangered species protection at Camp Pendleton and other issues. That Mr. Pombo lied in testimony to the Senate in 1994 is an accepted fact. He testified that the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service had designated his farm near Tracy as habitat for the endangered California kit fox. This was untrue, and Pombo admitted to the untruthfulness a few months later when questioned over public television, an agency for which he recently voted to cut federal funds.

Such a man should not be allowed to be in charge of the nation's public lands and waterways, a position to which he was elevated by the now-departed Tom DeLay.

Some 18 months ago, my former law partner, Lewis Butler, an Assistant Secretary of HEW in

the Nixon Administration and subsequently the distinguished Chair of California Tomorrow and the Plowshares Foundation, and I initiated an effort we called The Revolt of the Elders. All of us were retired and in the latter years of Social Security entitlement. Most of us were Republicans who had served in the Congress or in former Republican administrations with men like Gerry Ford, John Rhodes, Bob Michel, Elliot Richardson, Barry Goldwater, Ronald Reagan and the president's father, George H. W. Bush, all men of impeccable integrity and ethics.

We had become appalled at the House Republican leadership's decision in early 2005 to effectively emasculate the House Committee on Standards of Official Conduct by changing the rules to protect Majority Leader Tom DeLay. DeLay had been admonished three times by the Committee for abuse of power and unethical conduct. It was our hope to persuade Speaker Hastert and the Republican leadership, of which Northern California Congressman Richard Pombo and John Doolittle were prominent members, to rescind the rules changes and to act in accord with the promise of high ethical standards contained in Speaker Gingrich's Contract With America which brought the Republicans majority control in 1994. We failed. Letters to the Speaker from an increasing number of former Republican Members were ignored and remained unanswered. Then, only a few weeks ago, the House leadership refused to allow even a vote on what could have become an effective independent ethics monitor. Instead of repudiating the infamous "Pay to Play" program put in place by DeLay to extract maximum corporate campaign contributions to "Retain Our Majority Party" (ROMP), DeLay's successor as Majority Leader called for a continuance of the free luxury airline trips, mammoth campaign contributions to the so-called "Leadership PACs" and the continuing stalemate on the Ethics Committee. Strangely, even after the guilty pleas of Abramoff, Duke Cunningham and a number of former House staffers who had been sent to work for Abramoff and other lobbyists. The Republican House leaders don't see this as



Republican opponents Begnino (left) and McCloskey (right) endorse McNerney (center) over Pombo.

corruption worthy of investigation or change. That their former staff members and Abramoff were granted preference in access to the legislative process is not seen as a problem if it helps Republicans retain control of the House.

I have therefore reluctantly concluded that party loyalty should be set aside, and that it is in the best interests of the nation, and indeed the future of the Republican Party itself, to return control of the House to temporary Democrat control, if only to return the House for a time to the kind of ethics standards practiced by Republicans in former years. I say reluctantly, having no great illusion that Democrats or any other kind of politician will long resist the allure of campaign funds and benefits offered by the richest and most profitable of the Halliburtons, oil companies, tobacco companies, developers and Indian gaming tribes whose contributions so heavily dominate the contributions to Congressmen Pombo and Doolittle.

There is another strong reason, I believe, for Republicans to work this fall for Democrat challengers against the DeLay-type Republicans like Pombo and Doolittle. That is the clear abdication by the House over the past five years of the Congress' constitutional power and duty to exercise oversight over abuses of power, cronyism, incompetence and excessive secrecy on the part of the Executive Branch. When does anyone remember House Committee hearings to examine into the patent failures of the Bush Administration to adhere to laws like the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act of 1978, or to the arrogant refusal of the President to accept the congressionally-enacted limits on torture of prisoners? When can anyone remember the House's use of the subpoena power to compel answers from

Administration officials? Why have there been no oversight hearings into the Cunningham bribery affair or Abramoff's Indian gaming and exploitation of women labor in the Marianas?

When three former congressional staff aides join Abramoff in pleading guilty to attempting to bribe Congressmen, and a fourth takes the 5th Amendment rather than answer Senator McCain's questions about his relationship with Abramoff and Indian gaming, with all five having given substantial campaign contributions to Mr. Pombo, with Indian tribes alone having given more than \$500,000 to Pombo, would it not seem reasonable to ask him to conduct appropriate oversight.

The checks and balances of our Constitution are an essential part of our system of government, as is the public faith that can be obtained only by good ethical conduct on the part of our elected leaders.

If the Republicans in the House won't honor these principles, then the Democrats should be challenged to do so. And if they decline to exercise that privilege, we can turn them out too. I appreciate that I had serious deficiencies as a candidate, and that four months of campaigning and the expenditure of \$500,000 of the funds contributed by old friends and supporters were unsuccessful in convincing Republicans of the 11th District to end the continuing corruption in Washington. I hope to partially redeem my electoral failure by working, as a simple private citizen, to rekindle a Republican sense of civic duty to participate in the electoral process this fall. The goal of The Revolt of the Elders was and is to educate voters to the need for a return of ethics and honesty in Washington. That goal was right 18 months ago, and seems even more worthwhile today.

—Written July 2006

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Measure K: For and Against

Argument Against Measure K

In 1990, when Measure K was placed on the ballot, one of the key features presented to the voters, was that a regional transportation impact fee would be placed on all future developments. It was an integral part of that Measure in ads seeking voter approval. This was not an option!

All of a sudden, hypocritically, 15 years late, C.O.G. is just now implementing this feature, mandated by Measure K in 1990, with a low minimum fee of \$2,500 for every new home built. That means that developers have pocketed and taxpayers have unnecessarily paid, at least 200 million dollars for developments over the last 15 years. If Measure K passes now, the taxpayers in effect, not only have but will continue to subsidize growth for developers. The taxpayers already pay adequate taxes for roads with gas taxes exceeding 40 cents per gallon without this supplemental tax.

On April 27, 1994, C.O.G. noted that I-205 was designed for 53,000 vehicles and had exceeded that number for daily use and should now be widened to at least 6 lanes. It was not! Now, 120,000 vehicles travel I-205 daily. It is now being widened to 6 lanes just to pass this Measure. 6 lanes today is 12 years too late and still wholly inadequate considering the present traffic. C.O.G. is also lending the State, the State's share of the amount needed. That will cost our taxpayers almost 12 million dollars in interest earning alone. C.O.G. will also bear all overrun costs.

The official Technical Report for the renewal of Measure K was prepared by Economic and Planning Systems, and Fehr and Pears Associates Inc. The fees in this report that were justified to be charged for all future development (consistent with AB 1600 and current law) are: \$4,770 per single family unit \$2,928 per multi-family unit \$ 8.83 per commercial square foot \$ 4.05 per industrial square foot These fees would ensure that existing service levels could be maintained for new development. New development would merely pay its fair share - no more, no less. Instead, the

Measure K renewal proposes a \$2,500 fee to developers per single family unit. This would unjustly require the taxpayers to subsidize developers by 2 270 _for evm new home built. Unbelievable!

San Joaquin C.O.G., a 26 employee agency with an annual operating budget of 4.3 million spent 6 000 for travel and conferences in 2002. That same year, the Sacramento C.O.G., which employs 50 people and has a 9 million dollars operating budget, spent only 0 000 for travel and conferences. Stanislaus County's C.O.G. has 15 employees and spent only 22 00 for travel and conferences during that same period. Do we really want this to continue for 30 years? These are not monopoly dollars that C.O.G. is spending. These are hard earned taxpayer's dollars! Vote No on Measure K

Dario L. Marengo, County Supervisor, District 2; Steve Gutierrez, County Supervisor, District 1; E. Lela Nelson, Real Estate Broker; Rev. Cornelius E. Taylor, Minister; Ann C. Cerney, Attorney

Sierra Club Endorses Measure K Renewal

The Measure K Renewal will be on the November 7 general election ballot. It will extend the original Measure K that passed in 1990 and expires in 2011 for an additional 30 years.

Measure K is the 1/2-cent sales tax dedicated to transportation projects in San Joaquin County. It has been beneficial in addressing transportation needs in the cities and county and is administered by the San Joaquin Council of Governments (SJCOC). Some of the provisions of the original Measure K the Regional Transportation Impact Fee (RTIF) and growth management actions - did not have penalties for non-compliance and were not enforced.

During the past two years, Delta-Sierra Group and other citizen groups have worked with government staff, business owners and developers on drafting a meaningful Measure K Renewal with penalties for noncompliance. Last year, an RTIF with compliance and penalty requirements was

adopted by all of the local agencies and San Joaquin County. That transportation impact fee is now being collected on all new development in the county. The Measure K Renewal Expenditure Plan calls for 35% of funds to be allocated for local street repairs and roadway safety, 32.5% for congestion relief, 2.5% for railway crossing safety, and 30% for passenger, rail, bus and bicycle projects.

A Regional Congestion Management plan that requires SJCOC review of all environmental documents for projects generating 125 or more peak hour trips is a part of the renewal ordinance. SJCOC will coordinate with Caltrans and comment on each of these developments and recommend appropriate mitigation. Should a local agency fail to comply with the requirements of this section that agency will be suspended from being allocated Congestion Relief funds for new projects until found to be in compliance.

The ordinance includes a Smart Growth Incentive program. A minimum of \$65 million in state and federal transportation funding or Measure K funding will be made available during the life of the Measure K Renewal program for smart growth incentives to local jurisdictions in San Joaquin County. These funds will be made available for infrastructure improvements and planning grants that will assist local agencies in better integrating transportation and land use, such as traffic calming, walk way projects, transit amenities and alternative modes of transportation. These funds will be available to enhance infill development, neighborhood revitalization and downtown improvements.

Sierra Club support of the Measure K Renewal has had some opposition; however, the Delta-Sierra Group and the Mother Lode Chapter Executive Committees both voted to endorse support for the Renewal. The Sierra Club California Local Ballot Measure Review Committee approved endorsing support for the Renewal.

The Sierra Club position is to vote "YES" for the Measure K Renewal on November 7, 2006.

Bush's NLRB moves to make unions extinct

Workers' rights have been severely crippled. Early October, President Bush's National Labor Relations Board (NLRB) - "easily the most anti-worker labor board in history" - issued a decision that will deny the right to organize to as many as 8 million workers in 200 occupations. Under the Taft-Hartley Act, "supervisors" in an organization are prohibited from joining unions. In a party-line vote of the five-member NLRB, the three Bush appointees voted to broadly interpret who can be called a supervisor, extending to someone who "spends as little as 10 percent to 15 percent of his or her time overseeing the work of others." AFL-CIO President John Sweeney noted, "The rights of anyone who spends 7 hours and 10 minutes a day on routine duties and 50 minutes on 'supervisory functions' are at risk." Working Americans' right to organize has suffered under the Bush administration. Currently, 32 million workers—25 percent of the workforce—have no right to form a union under federal, state, or local law. Even though productivity has steadily risen, the restriction on workers' rights has contributed to lower wages and a "middle class in turmoil." This NLRB decision is a defeat for workers everywhere. In a blistering dissent, the two board members appointed by former President Clinton warned that the ruling "threatens to create a new class of workers under Federal labor law: workers who have neither the genuine prerogatives of management, nor the statutory rights of ordinary employees."

The 1947 Taft-Hartley amendments to the National Labor Relations Act were never meant to exclude professional workers who have no power to hire, fire, or discipline employees. But that's exactly what the NLRB ruled. In 2001, the Supreme Court—with Justice Antonin Scalia writing for the majority—forced the board to reexamine the definition of "supervisor," ruling that the definition set by the then-Clinton appointee-dominated board was too strict. But as the AFL-CIO's Stewart Acuff points out,

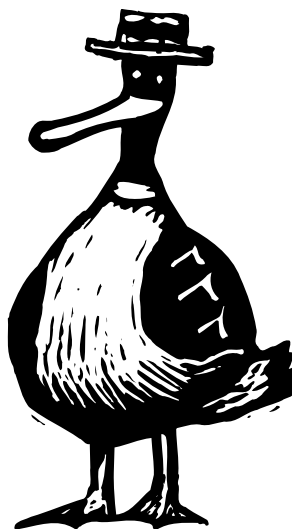
Tuesday's Oakwood Healthcare, Inc. ruling goes "far beyond the clear intent of Congress, far beyond NLRB precedent, far more than necessary to comply with the Supreme Court's 2001 Kentucky River decision that gave rise to the ruling, and far out of step with workplace reality." The majority wrote that a supervisor is now someone who can assign "an employee to a certain department (e.g., housewares) or to a certain shift (e.g., night) or to certain significant overall tasks (e.g., restocking shelves)" or someone who has "men under him" and can decide "what job shall be undertaken next or who shall do it."

The conservative National Association of Manufacturers yesterday applauded the NLRB's Oakwood decision, stating that it "updated a few decades of old 'us vs. them' workplace notions and brought federal labor law closer to the realities of the 21st Century workplace." But the problem with the ruling is precisely that it ignores the realities of the 21st century workforce, which, as Sweeney notes, "is more skilled and educated than those of previous generations. Workplace hierarchies have flattened out. Few employees today are in jobs that don't require them to exercise some independent judgment, to show someone else how to perform a task, to pass assignments on to co-workers. This should not cost them their right to a union voice on the job." By spending as little as 10 percent of the day "supervising" others - even "minor, incidental, or occasional supervisory duties" - an employee will lose the right to union representation. As the New York Times noted, "most of the nation's more than 20 million professional workers could fall into that category because many professionals, like a doctor overseeing nurses or a lawyer overseeing a secretary, could be deemed supervisors under the board's new guidelines." By 2010, this number could jump to 34 million professional workers, accounting for over 23 percent of the workforce.

The NLRB decision was the latest blow to workers in the Bush administration's long record of damaging workers' rights. A July report by Rep. George Miller (D-CA) concluded that the board's rulings have taken away organizing rights for 45,000 disabled workers; 51,000 teaching and research assistants; 2 million temporary workers; another 8 million workers. In July 2004, the NLRB ruled that graduate teaching and research assistants have no right to organize, "arguing that their status as students superseded their role as employees." In Sept. 2004, disabled janitors were told they "were not employees under the National Labor Relations Act (NLRA), even though they were expected to do the same amount of work in return for the same compensation as the non-disabled janitors."

Once again, in a 3-2 party-line vote, the majority argued that the disabled janitors' relationship with the employer was "primarily rehabilitative" rather than economic because the disabled janitors were eligible to receive counseling services and were not subject to the same disciplinary procedures as their non-disabled coworkers. But as the two dissenting members noted, the NLRA "commands that '[t]he term 'employee' shall include any employee.' There is no ambiguity."

Source: The Center for American Progress release 10/5/06 <http://www.ownwisconsinnow.org/index.php/one_wisconsin/echo/wisconsin_working_families_under_attack/>





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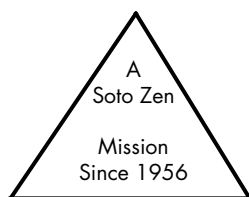
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Eco-notes: warming, logging and trawling

CA sues US carmakers for global warming

California filed a lawsuit against the six largest automakers operating in the United States, contending that car and truck emissions are causing global warming, injuring the state's environment and economy, and endangering public health. The complaint, filed in the U.S. District Court in Oakland, is the latest escalation in an ongoing clash between states and the U.S. auto industry over global warming. The California complaint contends that under federal and state common law the automakers have created a public nuisance by producing millions of vehicles that collectively emit massive quantities of carbon dioxide. The auto industry has sued the state of California in U.S. District Court in Fresno to block implementation of a greenhouse-gas emissions law.

The lawsuit does not seek a specific claim for damages. The complaint said the state is spending millions of dollars on planning, monitoring and making infrastructure changes to address "a large spectrum of current and anticipated impacts." The complaint blames global warming for raising sea levels along the state's coastline, increasing ozone pollution in big cities, increasing the threat of wildfires and reducing the fresh water flowing from mountain snow packs.

CA to cap greenhouse gas emissions

Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger signed into law a sweeping global warming initiative that imposes the nation's first cap on greenhouse gas emissions, saying the effort kicks off "a bold new era of environmental protection." California's efforts on global warming have been in the spotlight since Schwarzenegger and the state's legislative Democrats reached an accord last month on the Democrat-authored bill to cut greenhouse gases. It imposes a first-in-the-nation cap on emissions from utilities, refineries, and manufacturing

plants to help curb the gases that scientists blame for warming the Earth. Two years ago, a state board adopted tight regulations on automobile tailpipe emissions, an initiative that is being challenged in federal court by automakers.

Bush calls for global ban on bottom trawling

President Bush called for a worldwide ban on deep sea bottom trawling and other environmentally destructive fishing practices, as the United Nations (UN) prepares to vote on fishing recommendations for international waters. Bush issued a memorandum telling the secretaries of State and Commerce to work with international organizations to stop "unregulated destructive fishing practices that jeopardize fish stocks and the habitats that support them." Bush's directive comes as the United States hosts the U.N. meeting, at which a fisheries working group is drawing up recommendations this week on ocean fishing practices.

The full United Nations is expected to vote on the recommendations at the beginning of November. A U.N. ban on bottom trawling "would be the single most significant act of marine habitat protection in history," said Josh Reichert of the Pew Charitable Trust. No U.S. boats use bottom trawling gear on the high seas; most boats that do come from the European Union; 40 percent are from Spain. Bush's memo sets forth a goal to eliminate fishing practices that jeopardize marine life and their habitats or provide an unfair commercial advantage. It targets "unregulated bottom trawling, explosives and chemicals that destroy the long-term productivity of ecosystems such as seamounts, corals and sponge fields."

Biscuit salvage logging projects lose money

The Forest Service stands to lose about \$2 million in its effort to salvage timber from the 2002 Biscuit Fire in an Oregon national forest, the Government Accountability Office (GAO)

said. The GAO report comes the day after President Bush plugged legislation that would accelerate the planning process for salvage logging and forest recovery projects after wildfires. But the Forest Service is facing problems funding such recovery projects, GAO found.

According to GAO, the Forest Service has spent or plans to spend \$10.7 million on Biscuit Fire logging but will collect only \$8.8 million. In addition "lack of specific funding and schedules" may inhibit wildlife habitat rehabilitation, fuel management zone monitoring and other recovery work, GAO said. The report adds that litigation played no role in delaying the Biscuit fire salvage projects. Supporters of H.R. 4200, which would accelerate and increase salvage logging in national forests, say the Forest Service planning process for salvage projects often cause the trees to lose value to the point where projects are not cost effective. In California yesterday, President Bush attempted to raise the heat on Congress to pass H.R. 4200 after visiting with Forest Service firefighters.

Aside from H.R. 4200, the Bush administration is pushing its "Healthy Forests Partnership Act," a bill that would allow the federal government to enter partnerships with state, local and tribal governments to reduce wildfire risks and conduct restoration projects on adjacent federal lands.

In January, a report by an Oregon State University graduate student published in the journal *Sciencexpress* said salvage logging following the Biscuit Fire destroyed nearly three-fourths of seedlings that had regenerated naturally and increased the risk of future wildfires. The report, which received widespread positive media coverage after its release, implies that forests are better off without intervention from forest managers, either for salvage logging or replanting.

Source: Policy News from ESA's Public Affairs Office 10/6/06 www.esa.org

US population hits 300 million

Lester R. Brown

No cause for celebration.

Sometime this month, the US population is projected to reach 300 million. In times past, reaching such a demographic milestone might have been a cause for celebration. In 2006, it is not. Population growth is the ever expanding denominator that gives each person a shrinking share of the resource pie. It contributes to water shortages, cropland conversion to non-farm uses, traffic congestion, more garbage, overfishing, crowding in national parks, a growing dependence on imported oil, and other conditions that diminish the quality of our daily lives.

With births exceeding deaths by nearly two to one, the US population grows by almost 1.8 million each year, or 0.6 percent. Adding nearly 1 million immigrants per year brings the annual growth rate up to 0.9 percent, raising the total addition to 2.7 million. As things now stand, we are headed for 400 million Americans by 2043.

US population growth contrasts with the situation in other industrial countries such as France, the United Kingdom, Germany, Italy, and Japan, where populations are either essentially stable or declining slightly. In virtually every industrial society where women are well educated and have ready access to jobs, they have on average two children or fewer.

More people require more of everything, including water. In our highly urbanized society, we fail to recognize how much water one person uses. While we drink close to a gallon of water each day as water, juice, pop, coffee, tea, beer, or wine, it takes some 500 gallons a day to produce the food we consume.

The US annual population growth of nearly 3 million contributes to the water shortages that are plaguing the western half of the country and many areas in the East as well. Water tables are now falling throughout most of the Great Plains and in the US Southwest. Lakes are disappearing and rivers are running dry. It has been years since the Colorado River, the largest river in the US

Southwest, reached the Gulf of Mexico.

As water supplies tighten, the competition between farmers and cities intensifies. In this contest, farmers almost always lose. Scarcely a day goes by in the western United States without another farmer or an entire irrigation district selling their water rights to cities like Denver, Las Vegas, Phoenix, Los Angeles, or San Diego.

The seafood appetite of 300 million Americans is also outgrowing the sustainable yield of its coastal fisheries. Long-time seafood staples such as cod off the New England coast, red snapper in the Gulf of Mexico, and salmon in the US Northwest are threatened by overfishing.

In the United States, more people means more cars. And that in turn means paving more land for roads and parking lots. Each US car requires nearly one fifth of an acre of paved land for roads and parking space. For every five cars added to the US fleet, an area the size of a football field is covered with asphalt.

More often than not, this land being paved is cropland simply because the flat, well-drained soils that are good for farming are also ideal for building roads and parking lots. Once paved, land is not easily reclaimed. As environmentalist Rupert Cutler once noted, "Asphalt is the land's last crop."

The United States, with its 226 million motor vehicles, has paved some 4 million miles of roads—enough to circle the Earth at the equator 157 times. In addition to roads, cars require parking space. Imagine a parking lot for 226 million cars and trucks. If that is too difficult, try visualizing a parking lot for 1,000 cars and then imagine what 226,000 of these would look like.

More cars also translates into more traffic congestion. Americans are spending more and more time sitting in their cars going nowhere as freeways and streets become, in effect, parking lots. As cities sprawl, commuter distance lengthens.

Longer commuting distances and more congestion en route

combine to increase the time spent in automobiles. In 1982 the average motorist experienced 16 hours of delay; by 2003 this had virtually tripled to 47 hours. Car commuting time is increasing in nearly every US metropolitan area. "Rush hour" everywhere is becoming longer as commuters attempt to beat it by leaving work early or delaying their commute until traffic eventually wanes.

The costs of increasing congestion and longer commuting times are high. Traffic congestion in the United States in 2003 caused 3.7 billion hours of travel delay and wasted 2.3 billion gallons of fuel. The total bill for all of this was \$63 billion.

More people also usually means more garbage. New York City, for example, generates 12,000 tons of garbage a day, a flow that requires 600 tractor-trailers—fully loaded—to leave the city each day headed for remote landfills in New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Virginia, and Ohio. Trucking garbage to ever more distant landfills makes us more dependent on distant sources of oil.

As population grows, so does energy consumption. The United States, richly endowed with oil, has largely depleted its petroleum reserves within two generations. The use of oil has exceeded new discoveries in the United States for some 25 years. As reserves shrink, US production falls and imports climb, helping to drive up world oil prices. And as population increases, so do the emissions of the Earth-warming gas carbon dioxide.

Given the negative effects of continuing population growth on our daily lives, it may be time to establish a national population policy, one that would lead toward population stabilization sooner rather than later. As noted earlier, almost all other industrial countries now have stable or declining populations. Perhaps it's time for us to stabilize the US population as well, so that we never have to ask whether 400 million Americans is a cause for celebration.

Source: *Earth Policy Institute update, 10/4/06* <http://www.earth-policy.org/Updates/2006/Update59.htm>



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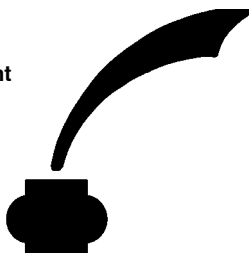
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9/11: it's a crime—not a war

Five years ago, right after 9/11, I sent out a Metaphor Project post entitled "U.S. moral integrity demands crime metaphor, not war." Two failed U.S. wars later, now more than ever, we need better, more successful ideas about how to counter terrorism, not the "Islamofascism" war con Bush is trying to pull. Making full scale war in response to terrorist acts falls right into the terrorists' trap. They seek this response, because they know modern state warfare produces more unjust injury to more people than terrorism does. Insulting a whole religion and people by lumping them in together with small gangs of megalomaniac murderers makes enemies where we should be working to make new friends. The only conceivable reason leaders in their right mind would make obvious mistakes like these is that they profit from the resulting outrage and from making war.

Five years later, terrorism is still just a crime, not war. Calling it crime means being tough on crime, not "appeasing" anybody. Calling it "war" gives it too much dignity. Killing innocent men, women, and children who have done no harm to the terrorists is nothing but cold-blooded murder. It should have the effect of discrediting any lofty goals the terrorists use to rationalize their actions. If they are the only ones murdering civilians in cold blood,

they will lose ground on today's world media stage, as well as on their home turf.

Murderers need to be caught, tried, and penalized, if found guilty. If they are being protected by unfriendly countries, international police work and cooperation is required and is the only thing that works. Diplomacy, negotiation, and political persuasion must be used to increase cooperation. But all this is after the fact.

What matters even more is terrorist crime prevention. As Nicholas Kristof pointed out in his recent July 23rd New York Times op ed, the British and the Spaniards have succeeded in reducing homegrown terrorism by being smart. Moreover, the British foiled the most recent international terrorist airliner plot by using the nonviolent community policing model of prevention described in detail in the *New York Times Magazine* of June 25th, "Counterterrorism in the U.K; After Londonistan."

Community police make friends with people in the neighborhood and encourage community members to act in the best interests of everyone. Even in hostage crises, responsible police avoid killing innocent people in order to free hostages.

The community policing model has already proven effective even in tough, unfriendly neighborhoods. Across national

boundries, the same skills of diplomacy, negotiation, political persuasion and cooperation are required to increase success in prevention.

But the crime model itself only applies after trouble has started. Terrorism is often described using disease metaphors as well—it's a virus, or it's a cancer, metastasizing through whole populations. Today both terrorism and modern state warfare are deadly social plagues of epidemic proportions. They will both kill us, not cure us. It's time for preventative medicine too, not just crime prevention.

For an inspiring look at how to apply counter-epidemic thinking to the problem of terrorism, see the report, "Rethinking the War on Terror," pp. 10-11, in *PeaceWatch*, April/May, 2006, Vol. XII, #2, the journal of The United States Institute of Peace, downloadable at www.usip.org. Some samples: "immunize (protect) the most susceptible by means of an antidote," and "remedy the key environmental factors that foster the spread." Modern public health professionals have succeeded in stopping most of the world's deadly plagues. We can and must learn a lot from them about how to stem terrorism's social contagion.

Source: *The Metaphor Project* release 9/8/06 P.O. 892, Orinda, CA 94563. www.metaphorproject.org

Feedback

McNerney worth supporting

Editor,

Ever since the murderous (and illegal) contra war against Nicaragua in the 1980s, San Joaquin county has been saddled with warmongers in Congress: Norman Shumway, John Doolittle, Richard Pombo.

Now at last we have a great candidate. Modest, clear-headed Democrat Jerry McNerney. All his adult life Jerry has been a professional wind-power engineer and entrepreneur, he's one of the people responsible for the windmills on the Altamont and he says, let's make our area a center

of alternative energy research and production, with all the good jobs that will bring. I've walked several picket lines with him for health care workers. Repeal the Bush super-rich tax cuts, he says. Jerry's son Michael joined the U.S. military after 9/11, to defend our country—and it was Michael who urged his father to run against Pombo. Jerry says, ask the UN to manage the Iraq oil reserves and reconstruction contracts.

Two years ago, McNerney mortgaged his house to pay for a recount of primary write-in votes, to become the Democrat on the November ballot; this man puts his money where his convictions are.

McNerney is endorsed by the California Teachers Association, and by every Democrat and every Republican who opposed Pombo in the June primary.

Polls show McNerney ahead, 48-46%. Pombo is running scared. Not content with vast slippery contributions from Big Oil, Pombo brought oily George W. to Stockton, to raise money.

So I'm spending my evenings phoning voters for Jerry McNerney. Just imagine! an honest, peace-loving, thoughtful congressman from Stockton.

John Morearty

Iraq killing must stop—write a letter

Study Claims Iraq's Death Toll at 655,000

—Washington Post on new study of civilian deaths in Iraq since U.S. invasion 10/11/06

Yesterday's headlines focused attention on the real consequences of the U.S. war in Iraq and the occupation. Any policy that creates a humanitarian crisis resulting in 420,000 to 790,000 Iraqi deaths, as suggested by the John Hopkins School of Public Health survey, is unacceptable and must end now. This policy needs to be the focus of the debate around the country in the weeks before the mid-term congressional elections.

Members of Congress have taken some steps to call for a change in U.S. policy, but yesterday's headlines highlight that they need to act. In the last three weeks, Congress has voted to increase military spending for the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan and to approve the torture of some U.S. detainees. These actions are sending the U.S. on a path toward continued violent conflict and rights violations that will only lead to more Iraqi and U.S. casualties. Citizen voices are key to changing the course of U.S. policy.

Candidates will be in their home district and listening to voters for the next four weeks. Make your vote count as more than just a number. Now is the crucial time to engage in dialogue with candidates in your area. Your local newspaper is a key resource. The

"letters-to-the-editor" page is a popular section of any newspaper. This page draws the attention of candidates, who monitor the opinion pages of newspapers in their districts to better gauge the views and concerns of voters. Letters-to-the-editor are also read widely by other people in your community who pay attention to the issues you raise.

Respond to your newspaper's coverage of Iraq, and write about the need for a new direction in U.S. policy. Your letter will make your perspective a part of the pre-election dialogue between candidates and voters and could help to influence the path taken by the next Congress.

ACTION: Write a letter-to-the-editor about Iraq. Keep your letter short, and focus it on your response to one article or issue that recently appeared in the paper. Personalize your letter by explaining how U.S. war policies affect you or your local community, or by grounding your position in your personal experience and beliefs. For added impact, mention the position of your elected officials and candidates for office. You can use FCNL's website to send a letter to the editors of your local newspapers.

Find out how your members of Congress voted on key issues.

Source: FCNL Legislative Action Message 10/12/06, Friends Committee on National Legislation, 245 Second St. NE, Washington, DC 20002-5795 <http://www.fcnl.org> (800)630-1330

Bush legacy: losing two wars

William Rivers Pitt

There are some kinds of history presidents just don't want to make. Nixon sure didn't want to be the first president to resign the office in disgrace. Johnson didn't enjoy being forced to fold his hand. Hoover couldn't understand why so many laid the depth of the Depression at his feet. The list goes on.

George W. Bush is making some history of his own these days. When all is said and done, he will go into the books as the first American president to lose two wars at the same time.

As to the first war, Senate Majority Leader Bill Frist pretty much unilaterally surrendered to the Taliban last week after a quick tour of Afghanistan. Granted, Mr. Frist is not a noted military tactician by any measure, but the writing is on the wall over there for just about anyone to read. Frist read it, and ran up the white flag. "U.S. Senate Majority Leader Bill Frist said Monday that the Afghan war against Taliban guerrillas can never be won militarily," reported the Associated Press after Frist's visit, "and called for efforts to bring the Islamic militia and its supporters into the Afghan government. The Tennessee Republican said he learned from briefings that Taliban fighters were too numerous and had too much popular support to be defeated on the battlefield." Once upon a time, the war was being fought to get the Taliban out of the Afghan government. Somewhere along the line, however, Saddam became the single greatest threat

in the history of the world, and the military resources being used in Afghanistan were funneled into Iraq. Not long afterwards, the Taliban surged back into prominence.

As to the Iraq war, it's also going poorly. 2,748 American soldiers are dead, with 34 killed in the first ten days of October. Somewhere around 20,000 more are grievously wounded or permanently maimed. Every day, bombs go off and bodies drop. Piles of tortured and bullet-riddled corpses turn up all over Baghdad; 60 more were found on Tuesday, with their hands and feet bound and their bodies beaten to jelly. The Bush administration would have us believe there is no civil war in Iraq, and that we're still dealing with "insurgents," but few people are buying that line anymore. After three and a half years of this, we have bought ourselves front-row seats to a blood feud that we cannot even begin to calm down or control. The price tag for those seats, by the way, stands in the hundreds and hundreds of billions of dollars.

But we're safer, right? Wrong.

"The U.S. Army is showing growing signs of strain as it tries to sustain troop levels in Iraq and Afghanistan," reported Reuters several days ago, "including stress on soldiers, lower unit readiness, equipment shortfalls and money worries. Many soldiers are facing second and third deployments. U.S. military leaders had expected lower U.S. troop levels in Iraq by now, but have been scrambling to sustain higher totals because of sectarian violence that has raised fears of a civil war. No significant cuts are expected until at least the

middle of next year."

"The real question is: Can the Army do its job?" asked Reagan-era Assistant Secretary of Defense for manpower issues Lawrence Korb in the same Reuters article. "The Army is not going to be what it should be. There are going to be more deaths and longer wars because you're not at your peak readiness."

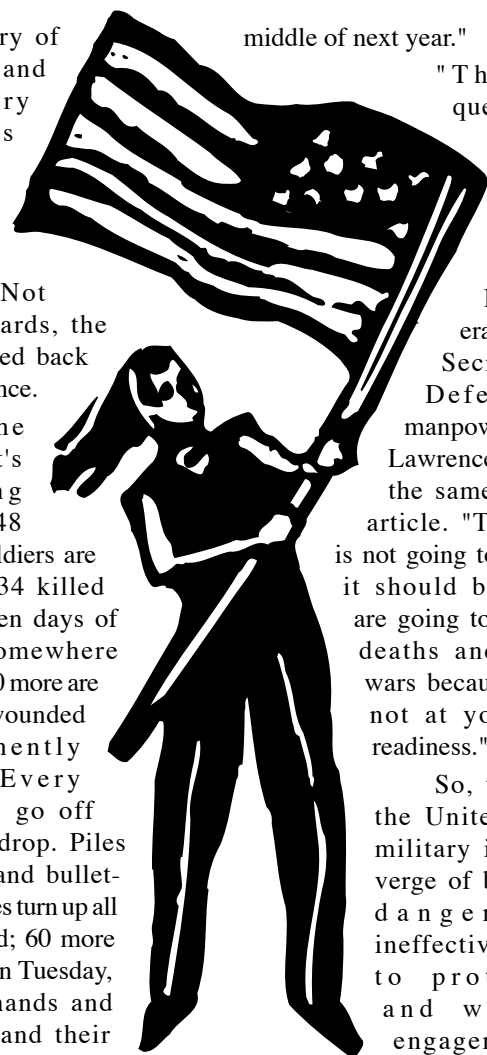
So, to recap: the United States military is on the verge of becoming dangerously ineffective thanks to protracted and wasteful engagements in Iraq and Afghanistan, both of which promise to continue unabated because "victory" in any real sense has moved beyond reach, but no one in government dares to say this out loud.

And now North Korea is popping off nuclear weapons.

"Nearly five years after President Bush introduced the concept of an 'axis of evil' comprising Iraq, Iran and North Korea," reported the Washington Post on Tuesday, "the administration has reached a crisis point with each nation: North Korea has claimed it conducted its first nuclear test, Iran refuses to halt its uranium-enrichment program, and Iraq appears to be tipping into a civil war 3 1/2 years after the U.S.-led invasion. Each problem appears to feed on the others, making the stakes higher and requiring Bush and his advisers to make difficult calculations, analysts and U.S. officials said."

Difficult calculations. Right.

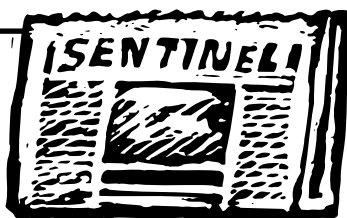
Source: truthout | Perspective 10/11/06 <http://www.truthout.org/docs_2006/willpitt.shtml>



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Yes, we are going to be selling coffee... and possibly other items in the future, such as those we sell at the Peaceful Holiday Fair.



MSM = truth? Check out the alternatives & decide for yourself

If you tap in to some of the alternative media, you will get a very different perspective on events. Especially now, when the mainstream media often acts as a cheerleader for whatever the administration does, it's necessary to go a little further to get your news. An internet connection is helpful.

KPFA (94.1 FM) provides the best coverage around for many issues. You can listen on the internet at <http://www.kpfa.org>

Democracy Now! on KPFA, 94.1 FM at 9am, on KVMR, 89.5 at 7pm or on the web at: <http://www.democracynow.org>

<http://www.firedoglake.blogspot.com>

<http://www.wampum.wabanaki.net>

<http://www.thinkprogress.com>

Huffington Post <http://www.huffingtonpost.com>

OpEdNews.com <http://www.opednews.com>

Common Dreams News: <http://www.commondreams.org/>

Truth Out: <http://www.truthout.org/>

AlterNet.org: <http://www.alternet.org/>

Free Press <http://freepress.net>

<http://www.reclaimthemedias.org>

Media Tank, <http://www.mediatank.org>

Counter Punch <http://www.counterpunch.org>

MediaChannel: <http://www.mediachannel.org/>

Independent Media Center: <http://www.indymedia.org>

Black Voices for Peace: <http://www.bvfp.org/>

The Nation—<http://www.thenation.com/>

Hightower News — <http://www.webactive.com/hightower/>

Mother Jones—<http://www.motherjones.com/>

In These Times — <http://inthesetimes.com/>

Tom Paine.common sense — <http://www.tompaine.com/>

Global Alliance Against Weapons & Nuclear Power in Space — <http://www.space4peace.org>

The Guardian: <http://www.guardian.co.uk/worldlatest/>

Angry Arab News Service—<http://www.angryarab.blogspot.com/>

Corporate Watch—<http://www.corpwatch.org/home/PHH.jsp>

We're on the web too!

The Peace & Justice Network of San Joaquin County (pjnsjc) website has information, calendar, media links, and more. Under construction and growing. Share your ideas on how the website should evolve.

<http://www.pjnsjc.org>

Solving the Korean stalemate

Jimmy Carter

In 1994 the North Koreans expelled inspectors of the International Atomic Energy Agency and were threatening to process spent nuclear fuel into plutonium, giving them the ability to produce nuclear weapons. With the risk of war on the Korean Peninsula, there was a consensus that the forces of South Korea and the United States could overwhelmingly defeat North Korea. But it was also known that North Korea could quickly launch more than 20,000 shells and missiles into nearby Seoul. The American commander in South Korea, Gen. Gary Luck, estimated that total casualties would far exceed those of the Korean War.

Responding to an invitation from President Kim Il-sung of North Korea, and with the approval of President Bill Clinton, I went to Pyongyang and negotiated an agreement under which North Korea would cease its nuclear program at Yongbyon and permit inspectors from the atomic agency to return to the site to assure that the spent fuel was not reprocessed. It was also agreed that direct talks would be held between the two Koreas.

The spent fuel (estimated to be adequate for a half-dozen bombs) continued to be monitored, and extensive bilateral discussions were held. The United States assured the North Koreans that there would be no military threat to them, that it would supply fuel oil to replace the lost nuclear power and that it would help build two modern atomic power plants, with their fuel rods and operation to be monitored by international inspectors. The summit talks resulted in South Korean President Kim Dae-jung earning the 2000 Nobel Peace Prize for his successful efforts to ease tensions on the peninsula.

But beginning in 2002, the United States branded North Korea as part of an axis of evil, threatened military action, ended the shipments of fuel oil and the construction of nuclear power plants and refused to consider further bilateral talks. In their discussions with me at this time, North Korean spokesmen seemed convinced that the American positions posed a serious danger to their country and to its political regime.

What must be avoided is to leave a beleaguered nuclear nation convinced that it is permanently excluded from the international community, its existence threatened, its people suffering horrible deprivation and its hard-liners in total control of military and political policy.

Responding in its ill-advised but predictable way, Pyongyang withdrew from the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty, expelled atomic energy agency inspectors, resumed processing fuel rods and began developing nuclear explosive devices. Six-nation talks finally concluded in an agreement last September that called for North Korea to abandon all nuclear weapons and existing nuclear programs and for the United States and North Korea to respect each other's sovereignty, exist peacefully together and take steps to normalize relations. Each side subsequently claimed that the other had violated the agreement. The United States imposed severe financial sanctions and Pyongyang adopted the deeply troubling nuclear option.

The current military situation is similar but worse than it was a decade ago: we can still destroy North Korea's army, but if we do it is likely to result in many more than a million South Korean and American casualties. If and when it is confirmed that the recent explosion in North Korea was nuclear, the international community will once again be faced with difficult choices.

One option, the most likely one, is to try to force Pyongyang's leaders to abandon their nuclear program with military threats and a further tightening of the embargoes, increasing the suffering of its already starving people. Two important facts must be faced: Kim Jong-il and his military leaders have proven themselves almost impervious to outside pressure, and both China and South Korea have shown that they are reluctant to destabilize the regime. This approach is also more likely to

stimulate further nuclear weapons activity.

The other option is to make an effort to put into effect the September denuclearization agreement, which the North Koreans still maintain is feasible. The simple framework for a step-by-step agreement exists, with the United States giving a firm and direct statement of no hostile intent, and moving toward normal relations if North Korea forgoes any further nuclear weapons program and remains at peace with its neighbors. Each element would have to be confirmed by mutual actions combined with unimpeded international inspections.

Although a small nuclear test is a far cry from even a crude deliverable bomb, this second option has become even more difficult now, but it is unlikely that the North Koreans will back down unless the United States meets this basic demand. Washington's pledge of no direct talks could be finessed through secret discussions with a trusted emissary like former Secretary of State Jim Baker, who earlier this week said, "It's not appeasement to talk to your enemies."

What must be avoided is to leave a beleaguered nuclear nation convinced that it is permanently excluded from the international community, its existence threatened, its people suffering horrible deprivation and its hard-liners in total control of military and political policy.

Jimmy Carter, the 39th US president, is the founder of the Carter Center and the winner of the 2002 Nobel Peace Prize.

Source: NY Times 10/11/06 <http://www.nytimes.com/2006/10/11/opinion/11carter.html>

Grand old pastime

Dave Waldon

Hey, guess what time it is? It's time for the Joe show. Joe Palooka, that is. Mid-term elections are a less than a month away and I gotta tell ya, Joe's palms are a little sweaty. Has America finally caught on to the charade of democracy enacted by the Bush Administration and their Republican lackeys in Congress? Oh, how Joe wishes the Democrats would take control once again in Washington, with their first order of business to bring impeachment charges against you-know-who. In any event, Joe encourages everybody who can drag their carcass into the voting booth to do so. If Diebold will allow us, let's pencil out the G.O.P.

The next thing you can do is to stay informed as to the true nature being perpetuated upon us. Read Connections, by all means, but also look at a variety of other news sources. Talk to friends, neighbors, anybody who will listen —especially those who believe that his or her vote doesn't mean anything. Tyranny flourishes in the fertile beds of apathetic minds which are often intoxicated by the never-ending supply of fruit found on the trees of capitalism. Mr. Bush and his subordinates are right about one thing: our way of life in the U.S. is threatened.

Franklin Delano Roosevelt once said, "We have nothing to fear but fear itself." Joe Palooka, renowned and astute observer of American politics, would like to update that statement. In 2006, we have nothing to fear but a continuation of Republican leadership that has failed to lead, divided our country, inflamed a volatile and dangerous area of the world, and left many of us wondering about our future and our children's future. Large scale military operations in the Middle East have done nothing to quell the violence and have merely acted as recruiting incentives for the descendents of the victims of Western Imperialism. Even a guy like Joe Palooka can figure that out. Why can't our President?

But to constantly dwell on the problems of the world often leaves Joe cryin' in his beer. And to tell ya the truth, I'd rather have peanuts. Or how about a hot dog

like you get at the ball game? So as another summer comes to an end and the playoffs are about to begin, let's talk about the grand old game of baseball. It does seem appropriate. Heck, during World War II, FDR (our greatest President) made one of his best decisions. Despite the tumultuous times of war, the President felt that the relaxation and release afforded by watching great athletes play a great American game was worthwhile. Immersing oneself in a well-played game of baseball is a wonderful way to escape the realities of today's chaotic and often dangerous world. Joe's been known to immerse himself in a few beers while barking dugout commands from the living room chair or the bar room rail. And that's the beauty of it. We can all be Casey Stengel wanna-be's, secure in the fact that our knowledge is vastly superior to those bums on the field or the TV screen.

Joe would love to travel back in time to see some of the players and games of the past. While acknowledging the talent of the current crop of players, days gone by seem to have had more colorful characters. Take for instance the Brooklyn Dodgers in the 1930s. Da bums had a pitcher by the name of —now get this —Van Lingle Mungo. Geez, does Joe love dat name! Fellow Dodger Leo "The Lip" Durocher said Mungo talked like, "Edgar Bergen doing Mortimer Snerd from the bottom of a well ... and he drank a bit. Anything, including..." Leo insisted, "hair tonic." Joe's been a St. Louis Cardinals fan for over forty years. Two really funny baseball stories concern the Cardinals. During the 1934 World Series, the Cards (the infamous "Gas House Gang") had great fun tormenting Detroit Tigers pitching ace, Schoolboy Rowe. It started when Schoolboy, in a national radio interview, turned to his wife and unaware that the mike was still on, asked, "How'm I doing, Edna?" During the series, the Cardinals bombarded Rowe with the same question from the bench whenever he was on the mound.

The other story involves the great Dizzy Dean. In the early 1930s, Dizzy, whose hat was frequently too small for his head,

was convinced that he was the best pitcher in the game. From 1932 through 1935, he convinced a lot of hitters. In that same '34 series that Schoolboy Rowe took a verbal beating, the Diz took a real beaning. After singling in the 7th inning of game number four, Dizzy stood on first base. Pepper Martin stepped in the batter's box and slapped a sharp grounder to second — a custom made double-play. Leave it to Dizzy to break it up —the hard way. The Tiger second baseman scoops up the ball and flips it to the shortstop covering second base. One out. The shortstop then fires the ball on toward first to complete the twin killing. There's only one thing in the way ... Dizzy's head. In full stride halfway between first and second, the ball careens squarely off the Cardinal ace's noggin. Carried off the field, Diz is taken to a nearby hospital for X-rays. Cardinal fans are nervous —the meal ticket is down. The next day, the St. Louis Post Dispatch greets understandably anxious readers with this headline, "X-rays of Deans Head Show Nothing." Kinda makes Joe wonder if George W. Bush ever played any ball. If Dubya played on the Palooka's, Joe knows what position he'd have him playing. Left out.

If all this talk of baseball seems trivial while the world goes to hell around us, you have Joe's apologies. All of us —you, me, and the guy at the other end of the bar —need to take time off, step out of the batter's box, and put life into perspective now and then. Although many of us would like to solve the world's problems, it's a pretty impossible thing to do. We must try in our own fashion to make a difference, no matter how small that difference may seem. For many of us, that means we must recharge ourselves to do battle in the days ahead. The simplicity of baseball or other relaxing pastimes can help achieve this. Well, the games are about to begin. The Cardinals are on the field. The beer's cold and Joe's ready to give Glem hell. Hopefully the next time I see ya, the Republicans will be out of Congress and the Cardinals will be standing in the winner's circle, World Series Champions. Until then ... play ball!

*All that is necessary for evil to triumph
is for good people to do nothing.*

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ACLU-School of International Studies Freedom Series

Oct. 18—The Patriot Act
John Sims, Mc George School of Law

Nov. 1—Voting Rights
Julie Davies, Mc George School of Law

Dec. 6—Gay & Lesbian Rights
Becky Beal, Sports Science, COP

The Local Stockton Chapter of the ACLU and the School of International Studies are proud to sponsor eight monthly programs based upon the Freedom Files, a series of DVDs, focused on significant current issues. With the exception of the first in the

series, the remainder will be held on the first Wednesday of each month from November through May. The series will be held in Wendell Phillips Center, Room 140, on the University of Pacific campus. The format of each meeting will begin with a showing of the relevant DVD, remarks by the Moderator, followed by a discussion. Members of the Pacific community, students and faculty, and members of the larger Stockton community are invited to attend. With the exception of the October 18th meeting which is set for 7:30 p.m., the remainder of the series will begin at 7:00 p.m. Attendance is free.

ABOUT OUR MODERATORS:

John Sims is a professor of law at McGeorge School of Law. He has extensive experience with the civil liberties issues related to U.S. policies in the fields of intelligence, military affairs, and law enforcement. Much of his academic research and writing has also been in the national security field, including an analysis of the Pentagon Papers case in which the Supreme Court rebuffed the efforts of the Nixon Administration to suppress the Defense Department's official history of the war in Vietnam.

Julie Davies is a graduate of the UCLA School of Law. She teaches civil rights litigation, federal anti-discrimination law, and Torts. She has written a number of articles about civil rights issues.

Becky Beal is a professor of Sport Sciences and the Director of Gender Studies at the University of the Pacific. She teaches courses in the sociology and philosophy of sport, has served on the editorial board of the *Sociology of Sport Journal*, and has published on gender relations in sport.

Oct 28

Sustainability and health forum

Citizens for Community Health and Sustainability is hosting a forum on October 28th from 10am-1pm, at the Seifert Community Center, 128 West Benjamin Holt Drive Stockton, CA. The goal of our forum is to help create a thriving network among the various community, public health, land use, sustainability, economic, and environmental groups and organizations throughout the 11th Congressional District. Three separate panels will be held on air toxics and related health risks, water quality and flood planning, and land use. There will be a \$10 materials fee. More information on these three topics can be found at our website: www.healthandsustainability.org

Author series starts with Katrina

Columnist Jon Carroll and former reporter Julie Smith of the *San Francisco Chronicle*—she is now a noted mystery novelist—will appear October 25 on the Marian Jacobs Literary Forum of the Stockton Arts Commission.

The pair are longtime friends who worked right through two natural disasters—he, the Loma Prieta earthquake in the Bay Area; she, Hurricane Katrina in New Orleans, where she lives and writes.

“The evening is a first step in reviving the popular series of Mystery Writers workshops once sponsored by the Friends,” said Friends President Vince Perrin. Smith will talk about her experiences before, during and

after Katrina devastated “the big easy,” where she lives with her husband in the Faubourg Marigny section of the city.

Carroll and Smith will be “in conversation” at 7:30 p.m. in the Pacific Theatre of the McCaffrey Center. Open seating tickets at \$10 (\$5 students) will be sold at the door. Smith, author of 22 books, also was a reporter for the *New Orleans Times-Picayune*. Mystery Writers of America awarded New Orleans Mourning, her first book about female detective Skip Langdon, the 1991 Edgar Award for Best Novel.

Forum Chair Bill Maxwell will introduce the pair and field questions to them from the audience.

Lawn signs, peace pins, mugs, and T-shirts



Beautiful PJN mugs!

“War is NOT the answer” lawn signs come from the Friends Committee on National Legislation (FCNL). We are requesting a \$5 donation to cover costs (sorry, we can't ship lawn signs). We also have elegant pins made of pewter in the shape of the peace symbol for \$10. Also, handsome PJN T-shirts in many colors, and more. Come by the P&J Center to see these items, plus buttons and bumperstickers galore, 231 Bedford Rd, Stockton CA 95204. Call 467-4455.



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November Calendar

[Editor's note: if your event isn't listed, let us know. Send all copy to: bgiudici@caltel.com by the 7th of every month.]

Oct 2 - Nov 4

Lou Bakalian oil paintings. M-F 10-5, Sat 11-3 Tidewater Gallery, 223 E. Weber Ave, Stockton. 463-4033

Nov 6 - Dec 2

Gay Lynn Saunders jeweler. M-F 10-5, Sat 11-3 Tidewater Gallery, 223 E. Weber Ave, Stockton. 463-4033

Oct 5 - Nov 2

Kristy Deetz: Waxing Poetic; Heidi Khatami: Life Text Messaging & Susan Palmisano: Sweet Dreams. Tu 11-4, W-Th 11-6:30, Fri 11-1. DCA/Horton Gallery, SJ Delta College, 5151 Pacific Ave, Stockton. 954-5507.

Nov 24 - Dec 17

Stockton Civic Theatre presents A Year with Frog & Toad. Thurs 7:30 pm, Fri/Sat 8 pm, Sun 2:30 pm. 2312 Rose Marie Lane, Stockton. \$22 adult, \$18 senior, \$15 student. 473-2424.

Thur, Oct 19

"Iraq For Sale: The War Profiteers," Robert Greenwald's hot new film at 7 pm, followed by discussion led by Mario D'Angeli and Jim Walsh. Peace & Justice Center, 231 Bedford Rd, Stockton. Space is limited to 35 attendees; go the website at: <http://iraqforsale.bravenewtheaters.com/screening/show/6712> for more information and to RSVP.

Fri, Oct 20

UOP Jazz Ensemble concert. 7:30 pm, Faye Spanos Concert Hall, UOP campus.

Sun, Oct 22

Pacific Singers concert. Time Travel: 500 years in 50 minutes. 2:30 pm, Faye Spanos Concert Hall, UOP campus.

Capital Jazz Project and SJ Delta College Jazz Ensemble Concert featuring the music of Woody Shaw. Warren Gale Jr. guest artist. 7 pm, Tillie Lewis Theatre, SJ Delta College, 5151 Pacific Ave, Stockton. adult \$12, student \$8. 954-5110 Free clinic 4:30 pm at Lewis Theatre.

Tarde de Flor y Canto with Richard Rios & Rodolfo Garcia, an afternoon of bi-lingual music and poetry. 2:30-4 pm. Haggin Museum, 1201 N Pershing Ave, Stockton. \$5 adult, \$2.50 10-17 & 65+, free under 10. 940-6315.

Tue, Oct 24

Candlelight prayer vigil for peace, Annunciation Catholic cathedral, Lincoln/Rose, 7 PM sharp. Bring a candle, bring a friend. All are welcome! Sponsored by Pax Christi. Info: 462-3340, 464-3326.

Thur, Oct 26

Peace demonstration, Delta College lawn by Pacific Avenue, just north of stop light at Yokuts. 5-6:30. Bring signs, banners, flags etc. Sponsored by Freedom from War and Peace and Justice Network. Info: Jim Walsh, 981-0544.

"Bowling for Columbine," film by Michael Moore, 7 pm, followed by discussion led by Mario D'Angeli and Jim Walsh. Peace & Justice Center, 231 Bedford Rd, Stockton. Space is limited to 35 attendees; RSVP at <http://iraqforsale.bravenewtheaters.com/screening/show/6712>.

Fri, Oct 28

Readings from Ibsen's Hedda Gabler, as Stockton Civic Theatre celebrates Ibsen Year 2006. 1 pm, Cesar Chavez Central Library, 605 N El Dorado St, Stockton. 937-8221.

Oct 28 - Nov 4

UOP Opera Theatre presents A Little Night Music. Fri-Sat 8 pm, Sun 2 pm. Stockton Empire Theatre, 1825 Pacific Ave, Stockton. \$12

Thur, Nov 2

Peace & Justice Network board meeting, Peace & Justice Center, 231 Bedford Rd, Stockton. 7 pm. All welcome. 467-4455

Fri-Sun, Nov 3-5

SJ Potters Guild annual sale, Fri 4-9 pm, Sat 10-5, Sun 10-4. Scottish Rite Masonic Center, 33 W Alpine, St, Stockton. 403-3018 Free admission.

November 3, 4 5

Sandhill Crane Festival Hutchins St. Square, Lodi 367-7840 <http://www.cranefestival.com/>

Fri, Nov 3

Black Irish Band performs at Pub Night, 7-9 pm. Haggin Museum, 1201 N Pershing Ave, Stockton. \$5 adult includes pub grub; beer, wine and soft drinks also available. 940-6324.

Mon, Nov 6

Walter Cronkite speaks at UOP Faye Spanos Concert Hall, 3 pm. Free admission, with ticket release to be announced.

Tues, Nov 7

Come watch the elections at the P&J Center. After the French Film, 8:30-10 pm.

Wed, Nov 8

SJDC Small Business Development Center presents Starting & Financing a Business. 4:30 - 6:30 pm. 56 S Lincoln St, Stockton. \$20. 954-5089

Thur, Nov 9

Health Care for All San Joaquin group meeting, 6-8 pm. 231 Bedford Rd, Stockton. Second Thursdays.

Sat, Nov 11

UOP University Symphony Orchestra and the UC Davis Symphony Orchestra performing Stravinsky. 7:30 pm, Faye Spanos Concert Hall, UOP campus.

Sun, Nov 12

San Joaquin Vegans monthly potluck, 5:30 pm. Peace and Justice Center 231 Bedford Rd. Stockton Menu Theme: Autumn Harvest. Donation: \$2 with food contribution; \$9 without food. Tableware and beverages will be provided—or bring your own. To RSVP or for more information, email sjvegans@hotmail.com. Next vegan potluck Dec. 10.

November 16-19

Central Valley Birding Symposium Stockton Radisson Hotel 369-2010. <http://www.cvbs.org>

Thur, Nov 16

Stockton Symphony with William Bennett, oboe, 8 pm, Atherton Auditorium, 5151 Pacific Ave, Stockton. \$15-44. 951-0196

Pacific Theater 2006 Fall Film Schedule

Oct. 26, 27—Scary Movie 4

Oct. 28—Night of the Living Dead (8:00pm)

Oct. 28—Silent Hill (10:00pm)

Oct. 28—Rocky Horror Picture Show (12:00 midnight)

Nov. 2 —Breakfast on Pluto (Foreign, Irish)

Nov. 3, 4—Click

Nov. 9—Cache (Foreign, French)

Nov. 10, 11—Brick

Nov. 10—A Clockwork Orange (Late Movie, 10:00pm)

Nov. 16, 17, 18—Superman Returns

Nov. 30—Untold Scandal (Foreign, South Korea)

Dec. 1, 2—X-Men 3

Dec. 7, 8, 9—Talladega Nights

Dec. 14, 15, 16—Pirates of the Caribbean: Dead Men's Chest

Dec. 15—TBA (Tiger Nights Late Movie, 10:00pm)

Showtime: 8:00pm unless noted; doors open 7:30

Pacific Students: FREE

Pacific Staff / Faculty / Alumni: \$3

General Admission: \$5

Call (209) 946-2025 for show recording

Pacific Theatre, UOP, 3601 Pacific Ave., Stockton

"Uncovered: The War On Iraq,"

Robert Greenwald's 2003 film. 7 pm. Peace & Justice Center, 231 Bedford Rd, Stockton. 467-4455

Fri, Nov 17

UOP Jazz Ensemble concert. 7:30 pm, Faye Spanos Concert Hall, UOP.

Sat, Nov 18

Stockton Symphony with William Bennett, oboe, 6 pm Atherton Auditorium, 5151 Pacific Ave, Stockton. \$15-44. 951-0196

Thur, Nov 23

Run and Walk against Hunger benefitting the Emergency Food Bank. 8:30 pm start, Begins and ends at the Stockton Ports Baseball Park, Lincoln & Fremont St, Stockton. \$20 before 11/15, \$25 after. 464-7369

Tue, Nov 28

Candlelight prayer vigil for peace and against the death penalty, Annunciation Catholic cathedral, Lincoln/Rose. 7 PM. Bring a candle. All are welcome! Sponsored by Pax Christi. 462-3340, 462-8114.

Fri, Dec 1

Pacific Singers concert. Christmas at the Cathedral. Mozart and Finzi, 7:30 pm, Cathedral of the Annunciation.

Fri & Sat, Dec 1 & 2

Peaceful Holiday Gift Fair, Friday afternoon and evening, Saturday during the day; exact times TBA, Central United Methodist Church, 3700 Pacific Ave, Stockton. For information call 467-4455.

Sun, Dec 10

San Joaquin Vegans monthly potluck, 5:30, Peace & Justice Center, 231 Bedford Rd, Stockton. \$2 with food, \$9 without. Please bring your own table service and enough food for 8. All are welcome. To RSVP, for more information, or to receive email announcements about other events, contact sjvegans@hotmail.com.

Second Sundays

Vegan potluck, Peace & Justice Center, 231 Bedford Rd, Stockton. 5:30 pm \$2 donation bringing food, \$9 without. Info: sjvegans@hotmail.com.

Third Mondays

Hispanics for Political Action - HEPA meets 6 pm at Archie's Café, 334 S. Hwy. 99. (near Arch Road) For info, call Louis Gonzales 464-9205

Talking It Through

Talking It Through is now two half-hour shows.

The Real Show hosted by Margee Ensign is on Monday at 6pm

Talking It Through is hosted by Adrian Nichols and Sammy Nunez every Monday evening at 6:30pm

SJTV: Stockton, Lodi and Manteca cable channel 26

EDUCATION • ENVIRONMENT • POLITICS • CULTURE

Sponsored by the Peace & Justice Network, InterFaith Council of San Joaquin County, Pacific Complementary Medicine Center

Check the TV page of Wednesday's Record for latest info.

Studio volunteers wanted! All ages...we'll train. Call 467-4455.



It's All Happening At the P&J Center

⚡⚙️❄️ Party Party Party ⚡⚙️❄️
November 7 from 8:30-10 pm.
Celebrate democracy at work!

Anti-war films at the Center

Antiwarshc working group will change meeting format and scheduled events in the following months. Our 3rd Thursday meetings will be replaced by Thursday Antiwarshc Movie Night at the Peace and Justice Center 231 Bedford Rd. Stockton starting with a Thursday, October 19th screening of Robert Greenwald's "Iraq For Sale: The War Profiteers" at 7:00 p.m. This screening will be followed by discussion led by Mario D'Angeli and Jim Walsh. Space is limited to 35 attendees so go the website at: <http://iraqforsale.bravenewtheaters.com/screening/show/6712> for more information and to RSVP.

Thursday October 26th (4th Thursday) will be the final regular demonstration before the time change in front of Delta College at 5:00 p.m. This will be followed at 7:00 p.m. with a

special screening of Bowling For Columbine at the Peace and Justice Center 231 Bedford Rd. Stockton. This screening will be followed by discussion about school yard safety and recent school shootings.

Thursday November 16th movie night will feature Robert Greenwald's "Uncovered: The War On Iraq". Originally released in November of 2003 this documentary exposed the Bush administration's deceitful case for war by simply listening to the experts when no one else would: U.S. intelligence and defense officials, foreign service experts, and U.N. weapons inspectors. This recent re-release of the Brave New Films documentary includes an uncensored interview with Dr. David Kay who led a 1400 member U.S. weapons search team in Iraq following the U.S. invasion and failed to

find any evidence of any weapons program in Iraq.

Thursday November 23rd (4th Thursday) is the Thanksgiving holiday; no film is scheduled.

Thursday December 21st movie night will feature the film "Sir, No Sir," the suppressed story of the GI movement to end the war in Viet Nam. See: <http://sirnosir.com/>

These dates and times are subject to change: for up to date information, sign up on the e-mail listserv by sending an e-mail to: antiwarshc@lists.riseup.net and put "subscribe" in the subject line.

We will continue our association with Freedom From War and will relay information about events and meetings there. For more information on Freedom From War go to <http://www.freedomfromwar.org> on the web.



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Looking for a project?

Creative people are needed for the P&J Center Committee to help develop a plan to keep our Center viable. This great community resource is still precarious because of the great amount of time, money, and organizational effort necessary to keep it going. New ideas and energy will help ensure we have a Center in the future. For information, call Maria at 467-4455.

French Films at 6:30

October 24: "L'Atalante" (aka "La Chaland Qui Passe" The Passing Barge); directed by Jean Vigo, 1934.

November 7: "Touchez Pas au Grisbi" (Hands Off The Loot); directed by Jacques Becker, 1954.

November 14: "La Gloire de Mon Père" (My Father's Glory); directed by Yves Robert, 1990.

November 21: "Monsieur Klein" (Mr. Klein); directed by Joseph Losey, 1976.

November 28: "Pickpocket"; directed by Robert Bresson, 1959.

December 5: "Les Quatre Cents Coups" (The 400 Blows); directed by François Truffaut, 1959.

December 12: "Hiroshima Mon Amour" (Hiroshima My Love); directed by Alain Resnais, 1959.

December 19: "Y aura-t-il de la Neige à Noël?" (Will It Snow for Christmas?); directed by Sandrine Veysset, 1996.