

PEOPLE'S TRIBUNE

FEBRUARY/MARCH 2025, VOLUME 52, NO. 1

DONATION \$1

THE PEOPLE MUST STOP THE COUP: ACT NOW

To Defend Immigrants is to Defend Us All

By the People's Tribune

Trump's "shock and awe" campaign against immigrants, that began on day one, keeps expanding: The raids and mass round-ups, the threats to arrest public officials who fail to cooperate, sending military troops to the border, declaring a national emergency at the southern border, the plans to raid schools, hospitals and churches, setting up homeland security task forces in every state that bring together federal, state and local law enforcement – it all adds up to a rapidly developing police state that can be used against anyone.

Thousands across the country, many of whom are youth, are responding with marches and high school walkouts, gathering at public schools to defend immigrants and to keep ICE out, packing public hearings, forming rapid response networks, conducting Know Your Rights campaigns, and more. As one young woman in Chicago observed, "What has been special to witness is how quickly people have responded to protect their neighbors."



L.A. students protest mass deportations.

Photo / Rudy Salgado, Shutterstock

This kind of solidarity in the defense of immigrants is central to successfully resisting the dictatorship that Trump and his billionaire backers are trying to create.

If we normalize isolating and attacking immigrants or any group of people, this robs us of our humanity and em-

pathy and weakens everyone's rights, which in turn allows those in power to eliminate democracy for everyone. All of us are ultimately the target of the anti-immigrant campaign. Stop the Deportations!

For more
faces of the
movement
see inside



Atlanta, GA, protesting legislators' book ban in public schools, 2022. Photo / John Ramspott



Protesting Trump policies, MI State Capitol. Photo / daymonjhartley.com



People's March, Trump Inauguration.

Photo / Georgia de la Garza



Homeless demand 'Sweeps Free Sanctuaries' in San Francisco. Photo / Sarah Menefee



Protesting Trump policies, MI State Capitol.

Photo / daymonjhartley.com

A movement of millions is rising

Welcome to the People's Tribune. We bring you voices of workers standing up for a just America. Since Trump's inauguration, tens of thousands of people from all walks of life are protesting the looming dictatorship of billionaires and corporations. Targets are Trump's programs, Elon's illegally seized power, the cruel attacks on immigrant workers and families, LGBTQ+ people, women, Gaza, the assaults on public education, federal workers, DEI and programs for the poor and unhoused. While billionaires cut families' life lines, enriching themselves with our tax dollars, two homeless children sleeping with their mother in a van in Detroit froze to death. "My God!" wrote someone on social media. "The richest man in the world is going after Medicaid and a family freezes to death. There's money for everything except for those who struggle." Another asked: "What kind of country is this?" Our hope lies in a huge movement of people, armed with a vision of



The People's March protest at Trump's 2025 presidential inauguration in D.C.

PHOTO / MARK CREDICO

a society where our immense resources are used to care for all people, rather than lining the pockets of billionaires. Send us your story! Donate! — *People's Tribune*

Chicagoans Stand Up to Protect Their Undocumented Neighbors

Chicagoans have been quick to stand up for their neighbors against threats from ICE, organizing actions to protect students, blocking a threat to Chicago's Welcoming City Ordinance in City Council, printing "Know Your Rights" flyers, and more. Chicago's Mayor Brandon Johnson, speaking to the importance that Chicago remain a haven for people from around the globe, said in a press conference, ". . . Now, what I do find interesting is when 30,000 Ukrainians sought asylum here in the City of Chicago nobody said a mumbling word. But all of a sudden, indigenous people who are trying to get to a land that was robbed from them through colonization, they want me as a Black man to be mad at them? You got to be out of your freaking mind."



Chicago Mayor Brandon Johnson visits with migrants, May 2023.

PHOTO / E. JASON WAMBSGANS/
CHICAGO TRIBUNE VIA ZUMA PRESS WIRE

California: Organized Homeless Resist Attacks

It's now illegal to be homeless—and now illegal to even help the homeless in Fremont, CA. Homeless-led organizations have strategized for decades to get people housed. Here's a few organizers speaking up for us all.

Pete White, LA CAN (L.A. Community Action Network, on Skid Row): "Our hearts and prayers are with all Angelenos impacted by the devastating fires that ravaged our communities, leaving behind destruction and skies filled with ash. In this crisis, we must also center out

thoughts on our unhoused neighbors, who have no refuge. The health impacts they face are dire."

Keith McHenry, co-founder, Food Not Bombs: "For the city to take people's survival gear knowing it will be 40 degrees or lower is cruel and inhumane. The seaside dampness makes the cold even more miserable and deadly. It is bad enough that people will be suffering, but even more tragic is the possibility that someone may die of the cold. The CHP found a dead man in a tent on Highway 1 this morning."

A Poem
on Life
and Death
of Homeless
Performer
Jordan Neely
and Acquittal
of His Killer



he cried out!

for Jordan Neely

he cried out as he
boarded the subway car

"I don't have food
I don't have drink! I'm fed up!"
desperate homeless
young and Black

and threw his jacket down
in New York City
that Gotham town

his Michael Jackson routine
delighted and entertained
on the streets and in the trains
(sun and rain)

young artist so full of life
and now he's gone
lynched by a vigilante's chokehold
on the floor of the subway car

who's now been let off free
by the system that set
the whole crime up

there's no justice for
the criminals of hunger
from one that creates
homelessness and hunger

making its victims
the homeless and poor
into its scapegoats

he cried out of bottomless need
in a world that throws
endless riches at the feet
of the few already filthy rich
and starves the rest of us

Justice for Jordan Neely!
No Justice No Peace!

Sarah Menefee, People's Tribune

Crystal Sanchez, California Union of the Homeless, Sacramento: "Disaster response teaches us one thing: We can immediately solve horrific housing situations. If L.A. is going to do it right, they will build housing not only for those who lost housing but for all of their unhoused community! Build housing back for all!"

PEOPLE'S TRIBUNE

The People's Tribune is an independent media platform that informs, educates, and works hand in hand with movements for a society that is truly of, by and for the people. We dedicate our platform to those voices for change not being heard in mainstream media. This paper strives to be a voice of millions of everyday people who are standing up to challenge a system that breeds poverty, injustice and war, and threatens Mother Earth. All people's needs can be met in a society where the abundance we produce is publicly owned and available to all.

We welcome articles and artwork from those who are engaged in the struggle for a society that cares for us all. We rely on readers and contributors to fund and distribute this paper.

EDITORIAL POLICY:

Articles that are unsigned, such as the editorials, reflect the views of the editorial board. Bylined articles reflect the views of the authors, and may or may not reflect the views of the editorial board.

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Design:

Mauricio Rivera

ECONOMIC BOYCOTTS

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April 7-14 Walmart;

April 18 Economic Blackout2;

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Black History Month 2025: Now More Than Ever!

A holiday under attack should be celebrated by all

From the Editors

This year, Black History Month is under attack – and is needed more than ever.

Created in 1926 by the great historian Carter G. Woodson, the celebration each February of African American life and history has been officially recognized since 1976. That year, a Republican President – Gerald Ford – issued a proclamation. This year, the federal government under white nationalist president Donald Trump is moving to end all Black History Month celebrations by federal agencies.

The Association for the Study of African American Life and History has proclaimed this year's theme to be "African Americans and Labor." This theme is especially fitting for 2025.

Black History Month 2025 is taking place in the midst of a vicious, cynical campaign by the Trump administration to incite hatred against African Americans and other people of color.

From the time of slavery until today, Black workers have comprised the heart of the U.S. working class. From colonial times, the attacks on the working class as a whole have

always started as attacks on Black workers. Throughout our history, when Black workers have been pushed backward, everyone ultimately suffered. When Black workers have advanced, everyone has moved forward.

It was only after the abolition of chattel slavery that there was any possibility of a credible trade union movement in the United States. As long as Black workers could be forced to work without any wages whatsoever, it was almost impossible for white workers to significantly increase their own wages.

In the industrial era, many trade unions – especially in the most skilled occupations – refused to admit Black workers, helping to lock Black workers into the most impoverished section of the working class, ensuring privileges for white workers.

Today, vast changes in the economy are destroying the old jobs. This creates the possibility of a common struggle against the tiny handful of billionaires who rule this country – a struggle across color lines.

During this Black History Month 2025, it's time to re-assert the truth that Black workers have always comprised the very heart of the



Protesting Georgia book ban in schools (aimed at books by or about women and people of color). Atlanta, 2022. PHOTO / JOHN RAMSPOTT

most embattled section of the U.S. working class.

The Trump administration's attack is to di-

vide the working class by appealing to the ugliest parts of this country's past. Let's all unite to ensure that this depraved move fails.

The Urgency of Uniting to Tackle Climate Destroyers

By Cathy Talbott

"Trump's reelection is something we need to be radicalized by. Go out and flood the streets . . . use every possible tool [to leverage the urgency of climate change]. As democratic citizens we have an obligation to act..." — Greta Thunberg, world-renowned climate activist.

In the U.S. alone, year 2024 saw 27 weather/climate confirmed disaster events with damages over \$1 billion each, resulting in at least 568 deaths according to NOAA. This is up from an annual average of 9 events from 1980–2024.

Hurricane Helene was stronger and wetter because of global warming. In Southern California, hot, dry, windy conditions contributing to the wildfires were 35 percent more likely because of human-caused climate change, says the Climate Science Consortium World Weather Attribution. Fire weather will intensify as the world grows warmer.

First Street, a climate modeling firm, says more than five million people in the U.S. will move from areas affected by climate change

this year. Over 52 million are expected to flee the Atlantic and Gulf coasts and fire-prone areas in the West over the next 30 years.

Millions have nowhere to go. With wealth inequality rising, and nearly half of Americans unable to afford a \$400 emergency, extreme weather events will exacerbate the human crisis.

As thousands remain homeless and vulnerable to the negative effects of global warming, Trump is doubling down on opening new leases to fossil fuel corporations. He has floated the idea to abolish FEMA, forcing each state to deal with the crisis. The billionaires ruling Congress want to cut trillions in social spending, including clean energy, but not their billions in government subsidies.

The urgent need to unite to stop the billionaires from destroying any chance we have for a future could not be clearer.

As the late Mike Davis, author of *Ecology of Fear: Los Angeles and the Imagination of Disaster*, said, "I've seen ordinary people do the most heroic things. When you've had the privilege



Protesters demand Big Oil—the largest source of pollution and global warming in California—pay for the Los Angeles fire damages they caused. PHOTO / LEON KUNSTENAAR

of knowing so many great fighters, you can't lay down the sword... What keeps us going is our love for each other and our refusal to bow

our heads, to accept the verdict... It's what ordinary people have to do... You have to fight."

Stopping the Coup is Just the Start of a Bigger Fight

From the Editors

The Trump coalition is moving fast, trying to impose a dictatorship on the U.S. and the world. The cruel hunting of immigrants and separating families, the assaults on the LG-BTQ+ community, the homeless, Black Americans and others are tactics used to divide and conquer while they rob us. They want us to accept a police-state dictatorship, shredded social programs, and no constitutional rights.

Nonetheless, millions of people are fighting back. Resistance is growing daily.

Why a dictatorship now? In the U.S., 43% of the population lives in poverty. Homelessness is rampant and growing. Prices keep climbing. Jobs continue to be automated or sent overseas, real wages keep falling, and the endless wars kill hundreds of thousands while consuming trillions of dollars that should go for human needs. The working class is demanding real change; people want a society that takes care of everyone. The billionaires and corporations who run the U.S. need a dictatorship to control people and to help them loot the public treas-

ury. It's about maintaining their power and profits under crisis conditions.

Billionaires finance both the Democrats and Republicans, and the attack on democracy and the economic assault on the workers have gone on under both parties. The attack on unions, deindustrialization, destruction of social programs, privatizing things public, deregulation, huge tax cuts for the rich, militarizing the police, weakening voting rights and constitutional protections, tightening immigration controls, the police violence (especially against

people of color), the genocide, etc. – all of it has been a bipartisan affair.

It's not just about Trump or the far right. The real enemy of the people is the billionaires and their system. If we are to stop their motion towards dictatorship, we, the people, must stand up in defense of the entire working class and everyone who faces oppression. Once we accomplish this, we can break the hold of the billionaires and big corporations and begin to build a peaceful society that meets everyone's needs.

LGBTQ+ Rights are Human Rights

By Karel Riley

The massive disruption we have seen since Trump took office is being led by the billionaires behind Project 2025, using Trump to do it. Trump's flurry of executive orders is designed to overwhelm, demoralize, disorient and strike fear into the American People. The immediate attack is aimed primarily at transgender people, immigrants, Black Americans, and other marginalized communities.

With regard to gender issues, one of his first signed orders states: "It is the policy of the United States to recognize two sexes, male and female." It orders federal agencies to "enforce laws governing sex-based rights, protections, opportunities, and accommodations" using this narrow definition of gender, and to "end the Federal funding of gender ideology." Gender-affirming care for minors is threatened. It is being characterized as "child abuse" to sound more empathetic. By refer-

ring to gender affirming care as 'gender ideology' this non-scientific terminology does not recognize the diversity of human biology, but makes it sound like a belief system.

"Some of the most immediate impacts will likely be felt by the more than 2,000 transgender people currently held in federal custody. The order calls for forcing transgender women into men's prisons and detention centers, putting them at a severely heightened risk of sexual assault", says the ACLU. The order also mandates withdrawing trans health care from incarcerated people.

Other effects on trans people include being unable to change gender on documents, and being banned from the military.

Rep. Sarah McBride, the first openly trans member of Congress, has stated, "When they're going after trans people, with their right hand they're picking the pocket of American workers, they're fleecing seniors, they're undermining unions. And this is all part of



Transgender kids and parents from across Texas protested against laws denying gender-affirming care for minors at the state Capitol. SCREEN SHOT, VICE VIDEO.

that politics of misdirection and distraction and division."

Andrea Ritchie, the co-founder of Interrupting Criminalization, said, "We owe it to trans youth and communities to push back with all our might, to refuse to deny care, to

challenge administrators who try to shut it down, to support providers under attack, and to contribute to mutual aid efforts that will ensure continuity of care." We all need to see that defending LGBTQ+ people from harm is in the best interests of all of us.

'We Will Not Leave Gaza Whatsoever,' says Gaza Resident

By Mark Credico

U.S. President Donald Trump proposed that the U.S. take control of and redevelop the Gaza Strip, forcing the residents into surrounding countries, less than a month after a ceasefire deal.

Trump's suggestion sparked criticism across the world – and was met with disbelief and outrage among Gazans.

Israel has killed over 46,000 Palestinians since Oct. 7, 2023, according to the Gazan Health Ministry. Israel claims the continued mass killing was retaliation against Hamas for the over 1,100 Israelis killed and over 200 hostages taken on Oct. 7, 2023.

But Palestinian communities knew since 2023 that the genocide by the Israeli government was never about Hamas or the attack on Oct. 7.

"They use Hamas as an excuse to wipe out the whole state of Palestine, the whole country, because of a very small minority," Palestinian activist Hanna Khalaf said in October 2023.

In August 2023 Human Rights Watch declared that 2022 was the "deadliest year for Palestinian children," and that 2023 was on pace to match that number even before the genocide began.

"Regardless if Hamas is a thing or not, if we resist, we're always going to be labeled as ter-

rorists," Khalaf said. "No person is ever going to look at our side and see the years of occupation, the use of genocide, the years of oppression going on to the Palestinians."

But even as Trump promises to take their land after their homes were destroyed by Israel, the Gazan people still stand in resistance.

"We will not leave Gaza whatsoever," Gazan resident Iyam Jahjouh told CNN on Feb. 5, 2024, "even though the great destruction and everything and even the weather we are staying here in our destroyed homes, we are steadfast in our land and we are not giving a damn to his (Trump's) statements."



"We will not leave our land or homes, despite the great destruction ... we are here and will remain here," Gazan resident Iyam Jahjouh told CNN. SCREEN SHOT, CNN VIDEO.

Attack on Birthright Citizenship Pathways of Indigenous Prophecy

By Georgia de la Garza

In this time of shock and awe from executive orders flying off Trump's desk, there has been no greater confusion for most Americans than the attack on birthright citizenship for Indigenous in the United States.

More confusing in the last few weeks are the ICE roundups of Navajo citizens at their homes and workplaces. Following these invasions, letters from other Nations were immediately being shared all over social media warning their people to know their rights and to carry their identification with them at all times.

Don't be baffled by the challenge of Indigenous citizenship. The Oligarchy only sees the land they stand on. The sacred, sovereign

land. The land that is rich in oil, natural gas, and many other resources.

The Trump administration will continue the plan that he attempted in his first presidency with Chaco Canyon, to steal sacred lands for resource exploitation. He has to keep his supporters, the destructionists, satisfied.

As in his first term, Trump is going after the 14th Amendment questioning birthright citizenship, not only to continue ethnic cleansing as he terrorizes immigrants, but to create a pathway to gain access to Tribal lands.

In the time of the 14th Amendment, Indigenous were not subject to the jurisdiction of the U.S. They were not allowed to become citizens until 1924. If birthright citizenship were stripped, how would treaties stand?

With a bit of relief, U.S. District Judge Deb-

orah Boardman recently rejected Trump's order to reinterpret birthright citizenship stating, "In fact, no court in the country has ever endorsed the president's interpretation. This court will not be the first."

Tribal nations know who they are and what path they have inherited. There are prophecies like the Seventh Generations preparing the first peoples for these times. They know the land where their feet belong. They don't live in the illusion of colonization or need to be told who they are. They are organized. They are ready.

The People's Tribune stories below, plus many more, are online at www.peoplestribune.org:

Pledge to Keep Organizing, Pledge to Keep Marching: People's March 2025

Doctor Says People Fearing Deportation Defer Life-Saving Care

L.A. Fires: Climate Campaigners Say 'Big Oil Did This'

City of Chicago Unwaveringly Defends its Undocumented Residents

Homeless, Low-Income People, Rely on Schools. Public Schools Are Under Attack

MLK Day Rally in DC Pledges to Fight Trump Policies with Boycotts and Unity