

PEOPLE'S TRIBUNE

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Detroit families line up for free Thanksgiving turkeys. Today, 59% of the children in this former industrial center of the world are in poverty.

PHOTO/JIMWEST.COM

Special Coverage:



Minister imprisoned for speaking out against corporations

See page 12

RICHES FOR THE FEW - POVERTY FOR THE MANY

[Read story on page 3](#)

International Women's Day: Women at the forefront

EDITORIAL

Women today are embedded in every sphere of economic, social and political life. There are 22 nations with women as heads of state, prime ministers, or presidents. Ten on the list of the eighty wealthiest individuals in the world are women. Women are CEO's of giant corporations. Women sit on the Supreme Court and a woman is now chairperson of the Federal Reserve. Indeed, on the surface it would appear that women have finally overcome.

However, another class of women make up over 50% of the workers who have been permanently separated from or thrown to the margins of the new electronic based economy. At the same time as new ways of producing using the computer and robotics are creating poverty wage jobs or permanent unemployment, wealth is becoming more concentrated in fewer and fewer hands (Oxfam projects that by 2016, 1% of the world's population will control 99% of the world's wealth). This wealth disparity disproportionately affects women. In every racial and ethnic category more women are impoverished than their male counterparts.

Women are also subjected to indiscriminate police violence and are now the fastest growing segment of the prison population. Undocumented women fleeing the State sanctioned violence of their home countries with their children in tow are held in virtual concentration camps along the southern U.S. border run by for profit, private corporations. They face almost certain death as they are deported back to their countries of origin.

Like their historical counter-



Protest against police killings in Detroit.

PHOTO/DAYMONJHARTLEY.COM

parts during the era of the expansion of capitalism, this new class of women today are not accepting a subordinate role in the fight for a new society organized around the new laborless means of production. As the dying animal of capitalism becomes more vicious, attacking the very workers who produced the social wealth the owners of private property hold as their own personal property, denying the necessities of life to a growing segment of the population as a whole, women are stepping up and demanding their rightful place in the revolutionary process to secure basic human rights.

We see women leading the fight for equal, quality public education in cities across the nation

and indeed, the world. Women are leading the struggles against police brutality and the growing police State. In places such as Ferguson, Missouri, revolutionaries recognize that there would be no movement if not for the leading role of women. In the fight against the privatization of water in cities such as Detroit and Flint, and against the destruction of the environment upon which all life depends, it is women who are in the forefront in all corners of the earth. In the struggle to house the homeless

and against foreclosures, against war and for peace, women are in the lead.

Today our fight as women is not to secure a place in the present system of private property based on exploitation and inequality. Our place is standing shoulder to shoulder with our class brothers and sisters to abolish all systems of private property and create a new system that makes private corporate property public property to benefit all of society.

Dear People's Tribune,
Please know that you are a constant source of inspiration.
Thank you for your courage. Always with you.
— from a California prisoner

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PEOPLE'S TRIBUNE

An economic system that doesn't feed, clothe and house its people must be and will be overturned and replaced with a system that meets the needs of the people. To that end, this paper is a tribune of those struggling to create such a new economic system. It is a vehicle to bring the movement together, to create a vision of a better world and a strategy to achieve it.

Labor-replacing electronic technology is permanently eliminating jobs and destroying the foundation of the capitalist system. The people's needs can only be met by building a cooperative society where the socially necessary means of production are owned by society, not by the corporations.

We welcome articles and artwork from those who are engaged in the struggle to build a new society that is of, by and for the people. We rely on readers and contributors to fund and distribute this paper.

The People's Tribune, formerly published by the League of Revolutionaries for a New America, is now an independent newspaper with an editorial board based in Chicago.

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Deadlines for articles and art: The deadline for articles, photographs and other art is the first of each month for the issue that comes out at the beginning of the following month. For example, the deadline for the June issue is May 1. Articles should be as short as possible, and no longer than 500 words. We reserve the right to edit articles to conform to space limitations.

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Riches for the few – Poverty for the many

COVER STORY

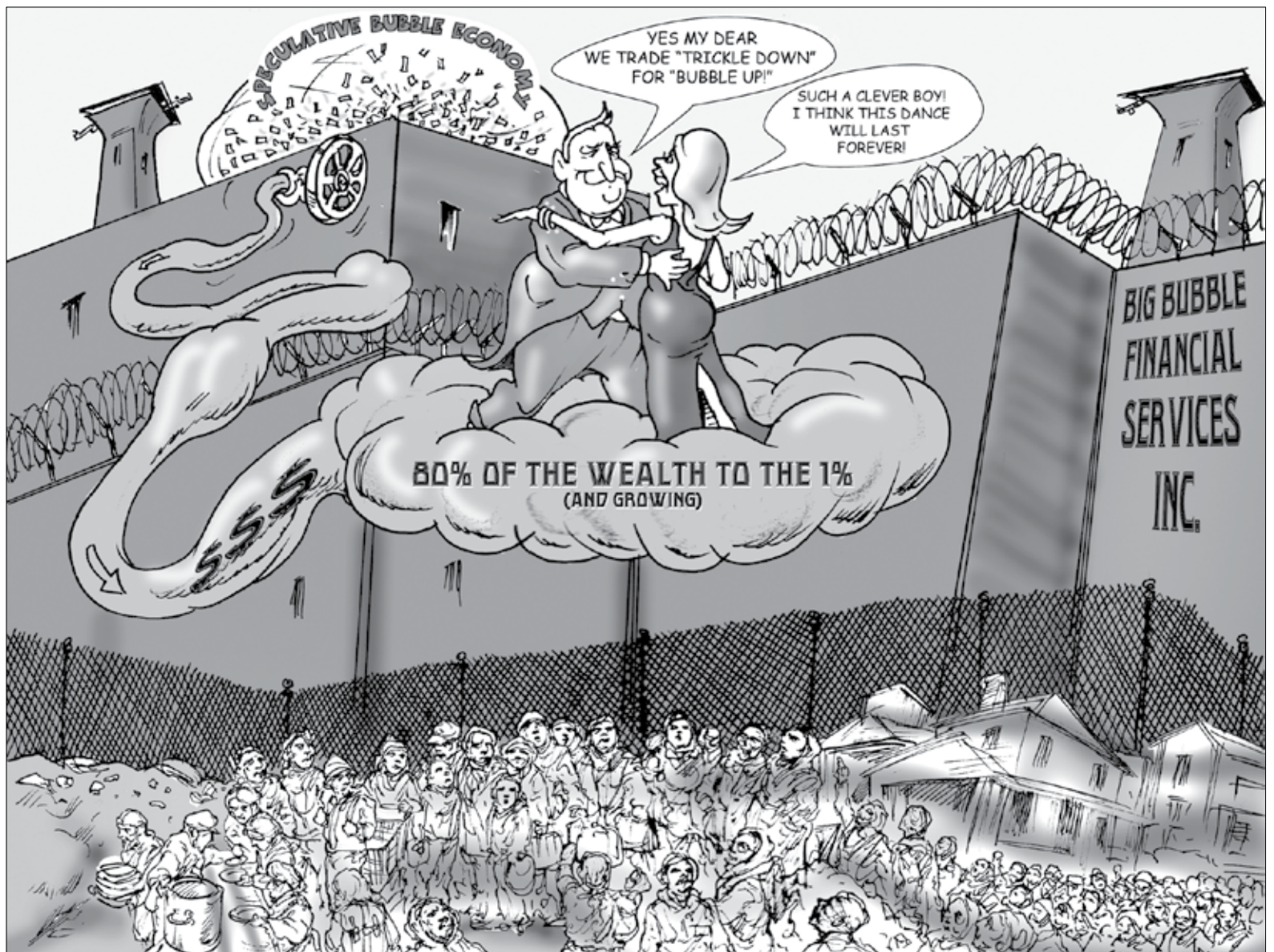
Oxfam reported recently that 80 ultra-wealthy individuals collectively hold the same amount of wealth as the world's 3.6 billion poorest people. At the same time, the wealth of the world's poorest 50 percent has fallen. Oxfam also noted that, if present trends continue, the richest 1 percent of people in the world will have more wealth than the remaining 99 percent by 2016.

Why is this happening, and what does it mean? And what is the solution?

The growing inequality of wealth is not simply the result of greed or corruption; it results from the introduction of electronic technology (computers and robots) into the process of producing the things we need. This technology began coming into the production process in a big way in the 1970s, and it has been steadily replacing human labor in production ever since, eliminating millions of jobs permanently and lowering wages for those still employed.

Under capitalism, the publicly necessary means of production—the factories, the banks, the mines, the offices, etc. —are privately owned by capitalists. Their goal is maximum profit, and they will not employ people to do something that can be done faster and cheaper by a machine. This means that this process of technology replacing labor will continue, and it will continue to create growing poverty among the workers as long as the means of production are privately owned.

What accounts for the growing wealth in the hands of a few capitalists? Part of this wealth comes from producing more with fewer people. But today most of it comes from the capi-



CARTOON/ANDY WILLIS

talists speculating in the financial markets—from buying and selling stocks and other financial instruments. This orgy of gambling is fed by the central banks printing money and handing it to the speculators. This creates financial bubbles that eventually have to burst, causing a financial collapse that will bring down the economy as a whole.

We hear of various schemes to remedy the inequality of wealth by having the government redistribute wealth in some way, but this won't solve the underlying problem, which is private ownership of the publicly

necessary means of production.

If the people owned the means of production, we could simply make the things we need and distribute them to people based on need, not money. No one would be poor, homeless or hungry, or do without health care. Labor-replacing technology is not the problem—it's private ownership that's in our way.

Getting rid of private property in the means of production is a long-term goal. To solve the immediate problems of poverty, the government must intervene in the economy to guarantee the

basic necessities of life to all who need them. The capitalists who control the government will fight this effort of course, but the fight will allow the people to put the real issues on the table and force a public debate.

It makes no sense at all for one man—Bill Gates—to have a \$76 billion fortune while 50 million Americans go hungry each month and millions are sleeping in the streets. The working class, employed and unemployed, is the vast majority, and we have the right to organize society in our interests.

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Thousands fight tax foreclosures on their homes



People facing tax foreclosures protested at the tax assessors office in Detroit, Michigan. They submitted demands and held a brief sit in. PHOTO/DAYMONJHARTLEY.COM

By Rebecca Fritz

DETROIT, MI — The war on the poor is in full swing in Detroit. Before the auto show, Mayor Duggan expressed his determination to eject a dozen

citizens from a tent city down the street from the event.

In January, ‘show cause hearings’ at the same location have brought an estimated 15,000 citizens desperate to save their homes from tax foreclosure. So-

called ‘options’ such as ‘Step Forward,’ and agencies offering ‘counseling,’ as well as new laws lauded to ‘help’ those in housing jeopardy, are largely failing.

One by one, as angry Detroiters left, it was easy to see that

little help was available, and no help at all for those needing it most, like a construction worker with congestive heart failure, waiting for disability. Those of us there to help the poorest were banned from the show cause floor, and then the building, for daring to offer alternative options to those with no ability to pay.

The Wayne County Treasurer, David Szymanski, rushed downstairs in a rage to tear up a sign we posted, and we were forcibly escorted out by security and police, despite the fact that our First Amendment rights were supposed to be insured there. Still, we were able to get hundreds of objection forms signed, and invited citizens to join us at the City County Building for an action at the Tax Assessors Office, and also at our Mayor’s ‘State of the City’ address.

There is still much to be done, as we attempt to mobilize thousands of people in certain danger of living in the streets. If the Mayor is concerned about a dozen people living in tents, what plan does he have for 50-100,000?

This winter there have been dozens of cases of amputations at local hospitals due to frost-

bite, and last spring a homeless man was found frozen to death, having slept in a Port-a-Potty on Lake St. Claire, after losing his home to foreclosure.

The good news is, people all over the country are taking steps to house the homeless. In Madison, WI, tiny homes have been built. In Tucson, Arizona, a man named Jon McLane has been fighting in court and winning the right for over 40 homeless citizens to sleep in ‘Dream Pods’ on sidewalks of a park.

Slow progress is being made in a myriad of ways, mostly by those from the Occupy movement, but people are displaced faster than solutions created. We in Detroit are watching closely and working to follow suit. Our focus is on both prevention AND damage control, fighting to keep people in homes and finding ways to shelter those in the cold. Our fight is far from over, and the only long-term solution, we believe, involves acknowledgement by those in power of our Constitutional Rights. We REFUSE to make any more concessions. NOW the system purported to serve us must make concessions and do what’s right.

What is a cooperative society?

From the Editors of the People’s Tribune

As of February, 2015, there are 2,089 billionaires in the world and growing—537 of them live in the US. The Internet and media abounds with their happy faces, subliminally messaging, “this could be you” — each one a poster child for the virtues of private property and the capitalist system.

Less prominent in the news is the fact that there are tens of millions in poverty for each billionaire, and their numbers are growing even faster. The situation is causing people to question the capitalist system.

A case in point is the state of Michigan where automation has destroyed auto industry jobs. Some politicians and their corporate friends schemed up a plan to make billions by privatizing the public water system in Detroit. They doubled and tripled people’s water bills. With high unemployment and 40% of the city in poverty, many had no ability to pay.

The city then paid a private

corporation millions to shut off the water of Detroit’s poorest homes at the rate of 3,000 per week. At the same time, other corporations in Detroit owed \$30 million in water bills collectively, but no one cut off their water.

United Nations investigators called the water shutoffs a violation of human rights and international law and a public health crisis. In spite of all this, and after months of defiant resistance and jailing of protesters, the shut offs continue with 59,000 more homes targeted.

People nationwide are asking why something so necessary to life and abundant like water has to be corporate private property. Can’t it be publicly owned and shared by us all? What they are asking about is a cooperative society, communism.

Collins English Dictionary defines communism as, “Advocacy of a classless society in which private ownership has been abolished and the means of production and subsistence belongs to the community.” Cambridge Dictionary of Ameri-



Moral Monday rally in North Carolina drew 30,000 people. People everywhere are struggling for a society where everyone’s needs can be met. PHOTO/ KAITLYN BARLOW

can English further defines it as “An economic system based on public ownership of property and control of the methods of production, and in which no person profits from the work of others.”

To the new class of workers who are under employed, unemployed, destitute, homeless, and being thrown out of society, this is the practical solution to all our problems. However, the profes-

sional pundits of the ruling class will holler, “hold on there, that’s utopian pie in the sky. That doesn’t work.” But isn’t what we are living under now your “utopian pie in the sky that increasingly doesn’t work?” You have never been so rich, and we have never been so poor.

This is not the same old poverty. The electronic automated production of the computer and robot is throwing workers out of

the job market forever. The ruling class will not feed, clothe or house workers it doesn’t need. The only solution for workers permanently thrown out of capitalist society is to build a new cooperative society.

Water struggle is a life or death matter

By Attorney Jerry Goldberg

DETROIT, MI — It is with profound sadness that I report the passing of Ms. Nicole Cannon, one of the chief plaintiffs in the Federal case in front of Judge Rhodes, to institute a temporary moratorium on water shutoffs. [Editor's note: Thousands of Detroit families have had their water shut off for inability to pay the skyrocketing costs.] She has been disabled for years, struggling with a variety of medical conditions as she raised her children. Many might remember her on the bus with the United Nations reps and the rest of us, as we toured neighborhoods where water has been disconnected. We lost her Sunday morning, as many of us celebrated the life and times of Martin Luther King.

The Water Department and capitalism are directly responsible for Ms. Nicole's transition. Because she was low income, because she was disabled and low income, because she was a woman, disabled and low income, she had to fight to stay alive. Her already stressful life was complicated by her water being turned off over and over. In the end, she succumbed to the overpowering powers of poverty. What did she do wrong?

Some folks don't think this water struggle amounts to

much... but they are powerfully wrong as it is truly a life and death matter. Who pays for this murder, the first of probably more to come? How much longer will this treachery go on? Sleep well, Ms. Nicole... you did the best you could as a voice for the voiceless and I promise... we will not forget your brave and selfless sacrifice.

— Maureen D. Taylor, State Chairperson, Michigan Welfare Rights Organization

Ms. Cannon was a Sarcoidosis patient on oxygen 24 hours a day. She was a Section 8 tenant. She was a single mom with one child. Her water bills ran anywhere from \$100-\$300 per month. Her monthly income was \$678 with \$348 in SNAP benefits. Her rent was \$100 per month.

She struggled to keep her water on for years and always wondered if there was a leak because of the high bills and degree of mold in the home. Her landlord, Tim Bankman, said there was not a leak and the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department would not come out for assessment. She recently entered into a payment plan with the Department where she paid \$383 down, and \$143, plus her monthly bill a month for two years. For September, her water bill was \$241.27 which she would have



Protest to turn water back on in Detroit where 30,000 families had their water shut off.

PHOTO/DAYMONJHARTLEY.COM

to pay out of her \$678 income. Her doctor advised her to move from the home because of the effect on her lungs, but she could not because, under HUD rules,

she would be responsible for water bills on two homes which she obviously could not afford. Her child also has sinus problems due to the mold in the home.

She was a great activist. The struggle gave her a sense of purpose and accomplishment in her last months. What a system we live in.

No safe affordable water – No peace in Flint, MI



Water wars in Flint, Michigan. The water contains excessive levels of cancer causing trihalomethanes.

PHOTO/NAYYIRAH SHARIFF

By Claire McClinton

FLINT, MI — Giving new meaning to “Justice Delayed, Justice Denied,” Flint’s Emergency Manager recently announced the formation of a water ‘advisory committee’ to bring “solutions” to the water crisis gripping the city of Flint. Veolia North America, the notorious private water corporation hired as a consultant by the Emergency Manager made the recommendation. Despite the recent DEQ report citing the Flint water as out of compliance with elevated levels of cancer causing trihalomethanes (TTHMs), in violation of the Safe Water Act, we continue to be bombarded with “the water is safe to drink!”

A recent demonstration in downtown Flint was joined by Bob Bowcock, founder of Integrated Resource Management, and a longtime investigator with renowned environmentalist Erin Brockavich. For weeks, various

community groups such as the local Concerned Pastors for Social Action, the Democracy Defense League, the Facebook group—Flint Water Class Action, have called on the Emergency Manager as well as the Governor to return to the Detroit water system and to end Flint River as our water source. If it was good enough for General Motors (ending the Flint River source), who cried foul over rusting engine parts, it's good enough for us.

Politicians' water giveaways and free water test kits and the like has only strengthened our resolve. Even the local TV news station did a special and concluded that the water was “safe to drink.” All these efforts have been an attempt to convince us to live with a health challenged water system that we cannot use or afford.

A Line In The Sand

Skin rashes, foul odors, hair falling out, and rust colored

water are epidemics spreading throughout the city. Meanwhile, the Emergency Manager regime continues to turn off the water of residents who pay the highest rates in the state—with few, if any, arrangements to be made. With political power resting in the hands of an Emergency Manager, the hiring of Veolia gives us great pause. In Pontiac, the Emergency Manager handed over the water system to United Water Services, Inc. Will we, the people, control our water in the interest of humanity or will naked corporate interests win this fight?

In the final analysis, protestor Gladys Williamson summed up the heart of the situation: “I can't believe it. Here I am in Flint, Michigan. I never would have thought I'd be drinking contaminated water surrounded by the Great Lakes!”

From Ferguson to the Rio Grande Valley



Mother, aged 22, and her child, speak to the press after being transported from the Texas border by immigration authorities to California. A massive police force is installed at the border to arrest immigrants who flee U.S. inspired violence and poverty in their country. Upon arrival, they, rather than the corporations, are blamed for America's poverty.

PHOTO/CHUCK PARKER

By Juan Torres and Manuel Torres

WESLACO, TX — National guardsmen, State Police, Border Patrol, FBI and local law enforcement special taskforces

are patrolling a 100-mile strip of land terrorizing the populace! Is this Ferguson, Missouri? No! It's the Rio Grande Valley of south Texas, the poorest area in the United States where the U.S. government, with the excuse to

“secure the borders,” has seen a massive influx of police. It has converted this area into a land under siege and fear.

From San Antonio to Corpus Christi, to Laredo, McAllen and Brownsville, Texas, this land known in historical times as the “Nueces Trace,” was the reason in the 1840's that the U.S. launched its war of aggression against Mexico. This area has seen its share of violence and migrations from Mexico during the 1910 Mexican Revolution, the first and second world wars. Now, with globalization, a massive surge of immigrant refugees from central America are coming to the U.S.

You may ask, why so much police and military hardware? Are we expecting a war or a foreign invasion? Are these measures designed to protect the public from a foreign enemy? Think again! The U.S. government was not expecting the American people of South Texas to come to the defense of the immigrant children

who are coming here to escape the decades of U.S.-sponsored war, overthrow of democratically elected governments, and the U.S.-backed drug trade and the consequent destabilization, poverty, and crime in their home countries. The U.S. government was expecting all southern border states to reject these poor refugees, deport them instantly, instead of providing assistance and protection. In the face of this, the weapons that are massed at the border can and will be used against workers that stand up and demand a humanitarian response to the border “crises,” instead of more militarization.

Efforts are under way in some border towns to restrict the rights of workers to freely assemble, protest and bring redresses against the US government by initiating ordinances against loud music or “loitering” on public streets. In response, the workers from the Rio Grande Valley are organizing caravans to Austin, Texas, in February to bring

attention to the present crises and devise real solutions instead of more guns and prisons.

This government doesn't care about our brother, sister or children refugees or the unemployed and underemployed America worker, who are being forced into low wage jobs (or none at all) and into dire poverty. The American capitalist class requires a dramatic increase in violence to police this new section of workers. They are afraid, most of all, that we will no longer see ourselves as White, Black, Chicano, Mexican, Central or South American, etc., but as American workers destined to overthrow our chains and establish a new society based on cooperation and equality.

What is happening in Los Angeles, Ferguson, New York and the Rio Grande Valley is no accident, but a coordinated effort to push the American workers back to the days of slavery.

The whole system is guilty: End police violence

By John Slaughter

ATLANTA, GA — The police killings of Michael Brown in Ferguson and Eric Garner in New York cast a spotlight on a systemic problem of police violence, a situation well known by the citizens of Georgia. Atlanta Progressive News reported that Georgia police have killed at least 168 people in the last ten years. The actual number is much higher; many cases of police homicides are not even reported.

In Atlanta alone there have been 208 allegations of excessive use of force by Atlanta police officers since 2011. As the Davis Bozeman law firm reports, “there are just so many incidents of people getting slammed on their face, getting their teeth knocked out.” Attorney Mawuli (Mel) Davis says, “So it doesn't always manifest in a death. Sometimes it is a cussing out, an elbow, a pistol whip. The worst case is death.”

What this all indicates is that police violence is routine, and since almost none of the police perpetrators are found guilty, then more and more are coming to see that the whole system is guilty, and something must be

done about it. Business as usual can no longer be allowed.

New groups of youth such as Generation Y, It's Bigger Than You and ShutDownATL have taken to the streets to show their resistance to a growing police violence. They shut down interstate highways, conducted diens at major shopping malls and even disrupted the Martin Luther King march in order to say that there can be no business as usual, even for the movement.

These new groupings have also joined forces with Moral Monday in Georgia to demand that laws be changed in order to bring the police under control. A Law Enforcement Reform Package has been introduced into the state legislature that includes ending no-knock warrants, demilitarizing the police, repealing the Stand Your Ground law, ending racial profiling and putting body cameras on all of the police. There are also calls for citizen review boards that have real power.

There is a growing awareness that a government that is supposed to care for and secure the people has no intention of doing so. Their answer is that no help is coming, and if you resist your



March Against Police Brutality in Atlanta, GA.

PHOTO/STEVE EBERHARDT

impoverishment, if you demand your rights, if you do what you have to do to survive, the state will move to contain you, to control you by force in order to impose its will.

There is also a growing movement that cannot accept this.

The impoverished conditions in which these communities are forced to fight for survival is the basis for which a systemic police violence has arisen to contain the growing resistance. The only solution is a society in which the material needs, health care,

education and everything that it takes to have a full and happy life are provided for everyone. The people will not be contained or controlled. The people will fight to secure their future.

The underpinning of the rising police state is the changing economy and the mass poverty it produces. As the class aspects of the struggle become clear, the police more and more separate themselves from society and govern solely through force since the precedent has already been set by the attacks against the minorities.

Officer who killed 95-year-old WWII vet found not guilty

By Matt Agoris

MILTON, LA — A Park Forest, Illinois police officer has been acquitted in the death of a 95-year-old WWII veteran. Officer Craig Taylor was acquitted of reckless conduct, the one charge he faced for the negligent killing of another human being.

John Wrana Jr., 95, was killed during an altercation with Park Forest police when they responded to a call at his retirement apartment in June, 2013.

The incident began when the police were called to the Park Forest Assisted Living Center after Wrana refused treatment for what the staff believed to be a urinary tract infection.

Apparently the police are the “go to guys” when you need to force medical treatment on a 95-year-old man.

When the Park Forest cops arrived, predictably the situation then escalated to violence. Wrana did brandish a fileting knife. However, the police mistook a shoehorn for a machete and raid-

ed Wrana’s room.

Instead of waiting for the 95-year-old to simply take a nap and go in peacefully, the police used the only tactic they know, violent escalation.

When a taser was fired by an officer and missed, Taylor fired the beanbag gun from 15 feet away, in clear violation of the manufacturers instructions. He fired five consecutive shots into the 95-year-old in a matter of seconds.

In a Lawsuit filed by the estate of Mr. Wrana, the family alleges that the officers acted “willfully, wantonly, intentionally, knowingly, maliciously, in bad faith and with deliberate disregard.”

“There was nothing criminal about his actions,” the judge said in a Markham courtroom. He cited that the force Taylor used was, “not excessive.”

Unfortunately, many people will look at this situation and feel that justice has been served. However, it was not only Taylor’s actions that led to the death of John Wrana that day, but also



Police fired five consecutive beanbag rounds into this 95-year-old man’s body at an assisted living facility. He died the next day. PHOTO/THEFREETHOUGHTPROJECT.COM

the actions of the entire system; a system who owes its very existence to the monopoly it holds on the use of violence.

When violent force is relied upon to convince an elderly man to get tested for a potential medical problem, we as a society lose out.

An innocent man who only wanted to be left alone had a team of state agents, whose sole purpose is to use violent coercion to force compliance, dispatched to his residence.

These very state agents, ostensibly acting in defense of that man’s life, ended that man’s life

instead—and the system that killed him defends this response. Tis a sad day in the supposed *Land of the Free*.

Read more at www.thefreethoughtproject.com/officer-killed-95-year-old-wwii-vet-refused-medical-treatment-guilty

‘Mother’s love, undying, unwavering, undeniably real’

By Yolanda McNair

DETROIT, MI — On July 08, 2012 ALL hopes, dreams, and expectations for Love, Success, and Children were **stolen** from Adaisha right along with her Life.

Aspirations for her future were solidified in my soul the day I gave birth to her and saw her face for the first time. Only for her death to be treated as if it was something stepped in and wiped off a shoe.

Officer Parrish owes a debt of Responsibility for his Choices, Actions and the Consequences of those Actions.

On July 08, 2012, Adaisha’s celebration of life ended in her death, one day before her 25th birthday. Adaisha loved life and people, she was a very kind person and friend to everyone she met. She was never a person who would be bothered with a married man. She held fast to respecting marriage and she was not ever a dancer. Her friends told anyone she never danced.

The circumstances of her shooting are both mysterious, and peculiar. The Detroit Police

Department changed their account of how Adaisha was shot five times before her funeral. Yet no one has been able to recreate the so-called accident or explain how it happened. Not even the homeowner’s insurance company believed Officer Isaac Parrish.

Adaisha was shot by off-duty Detroit Police Officer Isaac L. Parrish’s service weapon, at his home during his party he and his wife were having.

The pain and loss of Adaisha, the great absence of her smile, laughter, caring and generous nature is audible to us, her family and friends. No apologies ever came from Officer Parrish, the police department, nor would it have done anything for us. But the Blatant disrespect of Adaisha’s Life and Death from Police and Prosecutor is unacceptable and requires being dealt with.

Adaisha was the one person that many would turn to first for advise, help, understanding, a shoulder to lean on and she never held back. She told you the truth whether you wanted to hear it or not. She never tried to hurt any-

one but she was honest.

Writing poetry, music, art, and writing short stories were Adaisha’s hobbies and passions, giving her peace and joy from being creative. Children gravitated to DaiDai with ease. She loved showing them things, watching them learn. Her four nephews meant the world to her and she was looking forward to meeting her only niece.

Our family creed is “My Family, My Life” —and we live and breathe it. Adaisha’s name is said every day. She is and always will be part of our lives. The love we have for her cannot be changed, or diminished by time or separation. We will go to our graves fighting for Adaisha’s Justice. She deserves respect; her life had value to her and to those who love her. No one is **above the law**; Police are people with a badge doing a job, Not GODS!

Death Requires Responsibility!

Contact information is Justice For Adaisha, P.O. Box 4682, Detroit, Michigan 48204 or call 313.338.8958.



Adaisha Miller, a young woman who was shot and killed by an off-duty police officer’s weapon during a party at the officer’s home. PHOTO DONATED BY FAMILY

As we go to print, two more widely protested and publicized police killings have taken place in Denver and Pasco, Washington. We will have stories on these cases, and others, next month.

Please send your story! Visit us on the web at peopletribune.org — People’s Tribune

The homeless are human beings, too!

Editor's Note: Cathy Talbott of the People's Tribune interviewed Tina Chappell, a homeless mother in Carbondale, IL.

People's Tribune: When did you become homeless?

Tina Chappell: In 2011. After the kids' father died in a car crash I went town to town looking for work. I had to go into the shelter system (you can only stay 30 days at each shelter) after my house was condemned and torn down. The kids were put into foster care.

PT: What is the job situation like in southern Illinois?

Tina: I'm 49 years old. Carbondale is a college town so I'm competing with college students for part-time, mostly minimum wage jobs. After three years, I still haven't found stable employment. I've had to survive by panhandling. I did marry a man who was also homeless and we were able to survive this way. We made enough to pay for a motel room and eat for about a year. We still looked for work and got some day jobs.

PT: Carbondale is cracking down on panhandlers. What happened?

Tina: We weren't bothered for about six months and then the

city decided it needed to do something about its "vagrant" problem. Panhandlers were fined \$75 even though we weren't bothering anybody, just standing on corners with signs. The \$75 turns into \$220 with court costs, etc. Then they decided that wasn't high enough and now it's \$725. We got fined and also charged for trespassing while standing with our signs.

PT: Why did you stay in Carbondale?

Tina: We were going to leave for a place we heard treats the homeless better and tries to help them with housing and jobs. But my husband, who is an ex-offender, was given a 3-year sentence for retail theft. He needed cough syrup but we hadn't been able to pay for it since the crack-down and when he offered to make restitution, they said no. Now I'm back out on the streets and going from shelter to shelter again.

PT: What happened to the others who were panhandling here?

Tina: One guy was arrested and had \$4000 in fines. He was given the choice to leave the city or stay in jail. He left. Another woman had \$1000 in fines and was allowed to leave.



Tina Chappell, a homeless mother, says the solution to homelessness is for the government to provide housing and a basic income for those who cannot find work at a livable wage.

PHOTO/CATHY TALBOTT

PT: What happens to you if you can't find a job and get permanent housing?

Tina: I have two weeks left at the shelter then back on the streets. If I panhandle I risk going to jail. There aren't sufficient resources for the homeless and destitute.

And for those who've been incarcerated, it is doubly hard. But we are human beings trying to do the best we can under extremely difficult circumstances. We just want to live our lives with dignity. As humans we should have that basic right! There is a solu-

tion: the government should provide housing and a basic income for those who cannot find work at a livable wage.

'I am being drove out!'

Millions face eviction by landlords demanding higher rents

By Dave Ransom

SANTA ROSA, CA — "I am being drove out of the county," Marie Leal told the Santa Rosa Press Democrat as she struggled with being turned out of her apartment by a landlord who wants to rent it to higher-paying tenants.

Once on the street in Santa Rosa, she would face rapidly rising rents and the tightest housing market in decades. She might indeed have to move an hour or more away out of Sonoma County.

The management agent is a faceless partnership named FF Properties. But the company hiding behind that name is Brookfield Asset Management, an international conglomerate that oversees \$200 billion in real estate. Over the last decade, Brookfield has delivered to its wealthy investors an average profit of almost 20 percent per year—including the rent paid by Leal and her neighbors.

Leal and the 30 other low-

income families told to get out of their apartments were among Brookfield's newest targets. But as real estate is increasingly concentrated in the hands of the capitalist oligarchy, there will be many more.

Since 2007, 7.5 million families in the United States have lost their homes to foreclosure and short sales—forced out largely by the five biggest U.S. banks. Now economists predict that millions more people will be kicked out of rented homes and apartments. Real-estate conglomerates like Brookfield are raising rents and buying up even more properties to renovate and rent out at higher rates.

Nationwide, rents rose more than seven percent last year alone. But wages have not kept pace, and a quarter of renters say they are at the end of their rope financially. Half of them say they couldn't come up with extra money to cover an emergency. Estimates of how much of their income is getting

eaten up by rent run from 30 to 40 percent, with many paying 50 percent or more.

The situation is worst in California, which contains seven of the 10 metropolitan areas where real-estate moguls take the biggest bite of renters' incomes.

Rents are also going up faster in the Bay Area than elsewhere. In Santa Rosa, landlords pushed rents up more rapidly than almost anywhere else in the U.S.—more than 30 percent over the past three years, 12 percent last year alone. Rents in San Francisco, the East Bay, and the Peninsula were up by nearly as much.

When a reporter for the Press Democrat contacted Brookfield about Marie Leal's pending expulsion, the company did an about-face and said that she and the other low-income tenants could stay on. "Boy, that's huge," she told the reporter. "At least we know we're not going to be out on the street."

That lasts as long as it lasts. And the other millions facing po-



Millions have lost their homes to foreclosure and millions more are going to lose their homes as real estate conglomerates buy up properties and raise rents. (This is a photo illustration; not an actual photo.)

PHOTO/FREEGOOGLEIMAGES

tential eviction are not likely to be so lucky. With robotic technology undermining jobs and wages—and cash-hungry capi-

talists driving up rents—only the political unity of We, the People, will guarantee that we have a roof over our heads.

Homeless people lead the fight for the commons

By Mike Zint

BERKELEY, CA — The defense of the commons is entering its eighth month. Our commons are under attack. On June 1, 2014, we started occupying Staples in San Francisco. The purpose was to bring awareness about the privatization of our Post Office, the installation of postal kiosks in Staples where low-wage employees are doing the jobs of union postal workers, and the systematic destruction of critical Post Office infrastructure. The post office is not broken, they are breaking it and selling it off for profit.

The occupation has changed targets several times. Last June we went from San Francisco's only Staples store to outside Senator Dianne Feinstein's office. Her billionaire financier husband Richard Blum stands to profit from the privatization of the post office, and is also involved with Bain Capital, which is invested in Staples.

Because of the police abuse of the homeless in San Francisco, we moved to Berkeley and occupied Staples here. At the end of October we found out that the historic downtown Berkeley

Post Office was under contract to be sold to a local developer. On November 1, we moved the occupation to the post office. The occupation and its tent structure has withstood over a dozen raids by the postal police, heavy rains, and gale force winds. We have installed a community garden, a free store, a book exchange, and a community info table.

While occupying, a new fight developed. Gentrification and privatization of policing through the use of 'Community Ambassadors', who represent the Business Improvement District [BID], has been leading to harassment of homeless people in downtown Berkeley. The Berkeley BID reportedly wrote a letter to the businesses on Shattuck Ave. that they should stop giving water to the homeless. The Papa John's Pizza franchise took it one step further and refused to serve the homeless entirely. The manager and/or owner believed that a sign saying "we reserve the right to reserve service" applies to a whole class of people.

An immediate, direct response was called for. Using chalk to message, the homeless fought back. Under threat of arrest, they promoted a boycott



Mike Zint of 'First They Came for the Homeless' talks to some Berkeley, CA street kids after their chalking action defending their right to sleep. PHOTO/SARAH MENEFFEE

and did good outreach, messaging their rights in front of Papa John's. Since chalking on a public sidewalk is not illegal, and because of our cameras, the police stopped trying to intimidate us. Over three days we chalking and raised hell, until the manager was forced to extend an olive

branch. He negotiated a truce: he would serve the homeless again and the homeless would stop the chalking and the boycott.

This immediate action against gentrification took three days, a dozen people, and a few pieces of chalk. A small group with limited resources took a stand. They

were directly affected by the decision that they would not be served. And they did something about it.

A small group of determined people really can make a difference. Injustice and discrimination cannot be tolerated by our society. And we must say *no more*.

Skid Row from a woman's perspective

By Suzette Shaw

LOS ANGELES, CA — International, educated, articulate and proud, yet she is also living in a mission in Skid Row—downtown Los Angeles. This proud euro-Black queen defined herself as a community ambassador, and advocate for women's needs through Downtown Women's Action Coalition (DWAC).

Today, this proud euro-Black woman has an aristocratic demeanor about herself. She tells me, "I began healing and discovered my authentic self, I truly feel whole now." But she reveals that "she dealt with early childhood abuse, at the age of four she was told to say to herself... You are ugly."

At the age of 16 she was put into the system, in Europe. Someone who suffers from PTSD, due to her early life trauma, she says... "I just wanted to go far away because I did not want to be reminded of anyone from my past." Consequently, she ended up in the United States. Once here, opportunities were coming about, however, because of her PTSD, she was afraid to take any legitimate opportunities; "I was more familiar with abusive situ-

ations, abusers and unsafe people," she confesses, "that's what I knew". Therefore, she lost everything, ended up on Skid Row; "I was told resources/agencies are available here; that I could get food, help and shelter."

According to a DWAC Assessment, in the 2013 demographic, fifty percent of the female population in Skid Row is African American. The Hispanic/Latino population is just over 14 percent, non-Hispanic white just under 12 percent. "Racial demographics show that African-American women have been consistently over-represented in the homeless population. African-American women also make-up the majority of women sleeping most frequently in shelters (60.7%) and in the streets (40.6%)."

Of the 2013 DWAC Assessment, a large majority of women surveyed (85.4%) were born in the United States; an additional 6.5% were born in Latin American countries. The number of women surveyed who were born outside of the United States exceeded 10% for the first time, since 2001.

According to my source, case management administrators report how challenging it is to



Tent on Skid Row, downtown Los Angeles. More than a thousand people in Los Angeles sleep on the streets in cardboard boxes and tents while billionaires in the city sleep in multi-million dollar mansions. PHOTO/LYNN ROSSI

place women who are sleeping in the tents with their spouses/significant others; some homeless men humorlessly refer to them as their "tent wives", a possession. However, when these women endure domestic violence, their situation is looked at differently, simply because they dwell in a tent. My source informed me that domestic violence shelters have

a challenging time placing homeless women of abuse. She said the law does not always consider them domestic violence victims, due to sleeping in tents, as opposed to a physical residence/private property. Instead, the assault is considered a simple battery. Thus, often placing the victim back into the general population (i.e.: "the streets") rather than a

domestic violence safe house environment.

Why are there so many homeless Black women? No one should be homeless. End the homelessness of every man, woman and child. There appears to be an "elephant in the room" that the system is over-looking when you take the above information into account.

Living on the edge of Silicon Valley

By Katherine Bock

SAN JOSE, CA — It is clear to us who struggle to live and work in San Jose that the high tech industry we helped build no longer has any use for us. Although we once assembled mother boards in our homes and worked in computer component factories, we, the working class of San Jose, have become redundant. These jobs were offshored or robotized. Even security guards at Apple, Google, Facebook, etc, must fight hard for living wages.

The Low-Income Self-Help Center's Stone Soup Dinner and "Living on the Edge of Silicon Valley", a People's Movement Assembly, was full to bursting with children, music, spoken word, great food and a lot of love. We gathered to share our stories of struggle and survival—and to plan a better world and how to win it.

Shirley Stager, nearing retirement age, testified, "I'm working two jobs, seven days a week, and still struggling to make it. Since my son lost his place and can't find another, he is staying with me with his baby son even though he is working full-time—

it's a crowded, stressful situation. Many in my neighborhood have three generations living in their small condos, also causing overcrowding and tension." Joy Miller shared that people are renting couches and floors in shifts. Barbara Daniels told of "sleeping in her car, not living in it", working part-time jobs and constantly updating her resume seeking to return to her profession. She talked of keeping folded dollars handy to give to others who need help.

Saline Chandler introduced her spoken word performance by talking of finding herself homeless in the break of her school year at San Jose State University—wondering if her fellow students knew—and how her experience deepened her understanding of sociology.

Grace talked about losing her community and everything she had when the Jungle, the largest homeless encampment in the US, was tossed and fenced in December. Now we all see people chased out of every encampment they try to create.

We know that the few of us who have housing subsidies are in danger. We fear that more low-income mobile home parks and neighborhoods could be

razed and gentrified. Average market rents are \$2500. We are forced to continually fight for shrinking social services, and depend on food pantries/kitchens to eat. We vigilantly seek programs for our children, to prepare them for a good life and not to be fodder for the violent forces of the corporate military/police complex.

Together we creatively re-imagined society around the values we want and the institutions needed for them to exist—a society that throws nobody away, which values caring, sharing and humility and assures that the plenty that exists is shared by all; in which our work is valued and contributes to the common good, and we all receive a basic livable income, housing, free education, free and accessible healthcare, transportation and a living planet. And time for art, dancing, laughter, and joy! We know to win this new society we must unite across movements and fight for a political party that represents us, the people.

Join us June 24-27 in San Jose, CA at the US Social Forum. Contact lowincomeseffhelp@sbc-global.net or ussocialforum.net



Grace Hilliard attempts to salvage her belongings during her eviction from the "Jungle," a homeless encampment in San Jose, CA destroyed by the city. One tenth of one percent of Silicon Valley's corporate cash reserves would end homelessness here forever. PHOTO/SANDY PERRY

Another world is possible, another system is necessary

By Rachel Mazzaro and Galen Tyler

PHILADELPHIA, PA — Mark your calendars! The Third US Social Forum (USSF) will be taking place from June 24 to 28, 2015. This year, organizations and activists will convene in Philadelphia, PA, Jackson, MS, and San Jose, CA to build stronger relationships, collaborations, and social movements across fronts of struggle for political understanding and strategic direction as a powerful political force.

The USSF is an opportunity for regional and issue-specific social justice projects to work toward broader unity. The goal is to map out action plans for a cohesive movement and to organize to create a better world for all of us.

The Philadelphia USSF will take place June 25-28, 2015 and is anchored by the Poor People's Economic Human Rights Campaign and Disabled In Action. It will be rooted in the themes of immigration, po-

litical democracy, disability, and poverty. As a movement, we will create spaces for strategy discussions, political education, People's Movement Assemblies, local actions, art and culture, convergences, movement schools, marches, housing takeovers, community building, healing, and collective empowerment.

The Philadelphia USSF will occur throughout the Kensington community and North Philly along American Street and at Temple University. It will embody the festival feeling of the World Social Forums and many of the social forums that have been held in the global south. There will be large outdoor gatherings, massive tents, and outdoor stages that will be seen and felt by ordinary Philadelphians. Neighboring churches, halls, organizational headquarters, schools, and underutilized buildings will complement the outdoor venues.

We believe that part of demonstrating that "another world is possible," is showing what can

be done to transform areas of abandonment and neglect into new forms of social organization—less commodified, more humanizing, creative, vibrant and serving human needs.

As organizers, we understand that a "better world" requires a huge and unified social movement in the U.S. with millions of politically conscious people to ensure victory for the arising social motion in the interests of the oppressed, exploited, and dispossessed – to protect the earth and affirm life.

The USSF can play a role in pushing forward strategic US movement development through the dynamic interrelation of local and regional struggles, and the emergence of a national movement in relation to global movements. The USSF process is striving to step up and take its place in history by advancing the interests of working class, low-income, and grassroots struggles. The moment is urgent and the opportunities are great and we need your support!



Protest around a trial for the right to public education in Philadelphia. PHOTO/CHERI HONKALA

Learn more on how you can get involved by visiting the Philadelphia USSF website at ussfphilly.org, emailing us at outreach@ussfphilly.org or calling 215-869-4753 for more information.

'Service Please'

Don't ask me why I took it there
Because I didn't
This capitalist system put me
In this predicament
At the bottom of the pyramid
A second to last class citizen
Where my only hope lies in the eyes
of a white man
Who will never see me in a position
to excel higher than.
Oprah's worth 3 billion-she did it
Why can't I?
Because I'm 1 in 3 billion
My chances aren't that high
Plus why does privilege get you further
than playing your cards right
and working harder.
Is it even fair to collect millions
without paying taxes for the starving?
The 1% holds all the dinero
like a game of Hungry Hungry Hippo
There's only so much to go around
Lift the working class off the ground
So don't ask me why I took it there,
Because I didn't
This capitalist system put me
In this predicament
At the bottom of the pyramid
A second to last class citizen
I QUIT!
It's time to occupy this shit
Who's with me?

— Saline Chandler, San Jose

3.5 MILLION HOMELESS
18.5 MILLION FORECLOSED HOMES
10,000 MORE EVICTED PER DAY

Source: U.S. Census Bureau and Amnesty International. <http://bit.ly/1n7t1ta>

OCCUPY

Image: Reuters. www.gettyimages.com

Veteran freezes to death while utility company profits

From the Editors of the
People's Tribune

What kind of society allows a human being to freeze to death because they cannot pay a gas bill? John Skelley, 69—a Vietnam veteran—suffered a horrible and unnecessary death. He froze to death in his Michigan home after the utility company cut off his heat. His death was caused by capitalism, a system where the socially necessary means of life—water, energy, food, healthcare, etc.—are

privately owned by billionaire corporations. The billionaires, part of America's ruling class, care only about their profits, and nothing about the lives of "Our Vets", or any other discarded worker they no longer need.

What happened to John Skelley could happen to any of us. Jobs are now low wage or automated. How are people to survive? We, the people, must begin asking: Is it right that anyone should privately own the resources that people need to survive? Isn't the only solution to

build a movement that demands that water, energy, food, and other necessities become public not private property? This is a step toward creating a new society where the people have the power to insure that everyone has their necessities and where each person can lead a happy, healthy, life.

The People's Tribune is your paper! It speaks the truth. Write for it. Order copies to distribute. Call 800-691-6888 or email info@peopletribune.org.

Community saves school

By Dr. Darnell B.
Bell, Principal

NORTH LITTLE ROCK, AK — Nestled cozily just outside of the city of North Little Rock, is the unincorporated community of McAlmont. Primarily, the area is populated by socially and economically deprived citizens. Several viable churches of different denominations are scattered throughout the community. However, for decades the unifying entity has been, and is, the historical public school. Designated to educate the underprivileged, the school has been a beacon lighting the pathway to a better life for many.

Community stakeholders are continuing to provide valuable resources for Harris Elementary School in Pulaski County Special School District. In 2014, the school and St. Luke Baptist Church formed a partnership to write a 21st Century grant for an after school program at Harris Elementary. The church is providing opportunities for the staff to be hired, enrichment activities for the students, and transportation services.

Local community organizations such as the McAlmont Community Crime Watch and Improvement Committee, have provided landscape services to clear off debris from the campus and community, increased PTA membership, and are keeping a watchful eye on the school by establishing a neighborhood watch program. As of today, Harris has not had a break-in in two years. Currently, Raymond Smith, the president of the committee, and Simuel Ramey, the chairman of the fundraising and promotions committee, are soliciting donations to refurbish the school's non-functional outdoor basketball court.

Dr. Darnell B. Bell, the current principal, has provided much needed leadership for the school. With a renewed focus on making Harris Elementary School the most innovative school in the state, he is constantly bridging relationships with the community, local business leaders, and parents. Harris Elementary was selected to become an Apple 1:1 Initiative School which began in the 2014 school year. School staff

members Larry Scaife, Dean of Students, and Scotty Herekamp, campus maintenance man are introducing gardening to students by having them participant in planting, nurturing and watching vegetables grow in fertile plots on campus. Community Crimewatch members are encouraging residents to clear vacant lots and plant vegetables as well. These are actions that will yield a bountiful harvest. Future projects include an outdoor tennis court and a walking track.

It is hard to believe that a few years ago the powers that be were proposing to close Harris Elementary School. Previous school district and county government officials failed to provide adequate support. With stability in leadership and collaboration with community stakeholders, there is now no doubt that Harris will become one of the top elementary schools in the state of Arkansas. The campus is located at 4424 Highway 161, North Little Rock, Arkansas 72117. Phone number: (501) 955-3550. Fax number: (501) 955-3555.

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People's Tribune Radio podcasts are available at peopletribune.org. Hear from people at the forefront of the struggles for a new America.



Rev. Pinkney (center) at a protest against corporate redevelopment of Benton Harbor, MI, which is creating greater poverty. PHOTO/BRETT JELINEK

Free Rev. Pinkney!

By the Central Coordinating Committee for the Freeing Of Rev. Edward Pinkney, pinkneycentral.weebly.com

As a result of ongoing efforts to promote awareness of the struggle of Rev. Edward Pinkney and that of the people in Benton Harbor, Michigan, and elsewhere, the Central Coordinating Committee (CCC) for the Freeing Of Rev. Edward Pinkney, has been formed. The CCC is also in the process of establishing an official presence on the Internet, via a web site and/or facebook, wherein persons can learn about the struggle of Rev. Pinkney and the various specific ways that they can assist in this struggle, etc.

Meanwhile, please continue to get regular updates on Rev. Edward Pinkney and the concomitant struggle thereto, at bh-banco.org.

The Mission Statement of the CCC is shown below:

The mission of the Central Coordinating Committee (CCC) is to coordinate, engage in, and encourage broad based national and international efforts to publicize, organize and disseminate information pertaining to the wrongful conviction and imprisonment of Benton Harbor, Michigan, political activist Rev. Edward Pinkney. Further, in line with coordinating efforts to "Free Rev. Edward Pinkney," it is the mission of the CCC to provide for his legal support by seeking donations.

Rev. Edward Pinkney speaks out from prison

Editor's note: Rev. Pinkney, a community leader who takes on corporate power, was convicted of vote fraud charges without any evidence in a recall campaign in Benton Harbor, MI. He was sentenced to up to ten years. He is currently in prison.

By Rev. Edward Pinkney

MARQUETTE, MI — It is our constitutional duty as American citizens to hold our elected officials accountable for their work, action and inaction of wrongdoing, which includes judges.

Corruption and deceitfulness continues in the Berrien County Courthouse in Michigan. We must fight for justice everywhere and for all.

The Berrien County Courthouse does not provide a just

legal system. It is so blatantly corrupt that even the legal establishment has been forced to recognize it. The corruption starts at the top—with the Whirlpool Corporation as the driving force, unified with government on all levels, the police and court system. The corporate controlled news media is part of it too. Never once did they mention that there was absolutely no evidence against me. We live in a society controlled by the corporations, government and the corporate media.

In my motion for a new trial, I will argue that 1) there was absolutely no evidence to convict me; 2) a juror, Gail Freehling, concealed information during jury selection, lying under oath; and 3) the illegal sentencing and for an appeal bond.

The case of Rev. Edward Pinkney is a concentrated expression of this process of the corporate takeover of America and of the criminalization of a generation of people. They customarily, and regularly deprive poor Blacks, Hispanics, and whites of due process. When are the people going to take a stand? The challenge is clear.

This is not a Black issue nor it is just an issue of people of color. In this prison, there are way more whites than Blacks. When they throw race into it they divide us. It is rich against poor, haves against the have nots, us against them. It is a whole country issue.

We can win. There is more of us than them. We must say enough is enough.

Community leader jailed for challenging corporate rule

From the editors of the People's Tribune

The ruling class has always gone after the leaders of the movement. But we must remember that when they first tried to arrest Rev. Edward Pinkney they surrounded the block where he

lives, blocked off his street to traffic and sent in a SWAT team. Why did they need that kind of force? Did they intend to kill him? Luckily they just missed him. He had taken his wife out for her birthday.

The fact is no one charged with something as small as pe-

tion fraud gets that kind of response. Rev. Pinkney's constant challenging of Whirlpool's corporate rule in his town, and his pointing out the class nature of that rule, makes him the kind of threat they want to silence forever.

His message that it's not just

Voices from Benton Harbor, MI

The quotes below from Benton Harbor residents, and those in previous editions of the People's Tribune, show that despite the government's attempt to make it appear that Rev. Edward Pinkney was the sole voice for change in Benton Harbor, there is a movement growing in the town. Many of the participants are deeply concerned about the railroading of Rev. Pinkney for his political activities, but they continue to fight for him and for their city. — The People's Tribune

"I was subpoenaed by the Prosecutor, but I flipped the script on them and I defended Rev. Pinkney. In early February, I took part in a march organized by Andrews University with 300 people from City Hall in Benton Harbor to the Court House in St. Joseph with signs saying, 'Rev. Pinkney stood for us now we must stand for him,' and 'No Justice No Peace.' The higher the mountain, the tougher the climb. We got to keep climbing."
— George Moon, Benton Harbor

"There's a lot of police officers doing a lot of corrupted things. The people see it and they're quiet. Rev. Pinkney was our voice. We could tell him and he would do something about it. That's why he has so many supporters. I am a supporter. I believe in God and in what's right. I hope that people can open their eyes. We need to stand for people and fight for righteousness."
— Kerry Krause, Benton Harbor

simply "Black against white, but the haves against the have nots," and that we "as an oppressed class must take a stand," is gaining support around the country. People are getting it— if it can happen in Benton Harbor it can happen in any town, even yours.

To the ruling class, successfully challenging corporate rule is a crime. Rev. Pinkney's entire case must be seen in this light.

Order bundles of *People's Tribunes* to distribute. Go to peopletribune.org.