

Dissonant Times



April 2025

Vol 1.1



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Dear Editor,

Imagine: Instead of a parking ticket, you get a park and a picnic. Such a world is possible, if only we’re brave enough to create it.

Eugene, there are steps we can take to topple oligarchy right here at home. Across party lines, across creed, class, and other petty differences, I would like to make a truly bipartisan proposal: let’s put the park back in parking lot.

Our enemies have names, and addresses, and financial infrastructure we can fell. We all have a common enemy, and their name is Diamond Parking.

Let’s forge a path more beautiful than concrete. My fellow countrymen, let’s rewild the Diamond Parking lots. Let’s foster a foliage thick with joy and spread vines strengthened by community solidarity. Instead of fumes there could be laughter, instead of fines there could be park benches.

For those of you who aren’t fucked up about forking over \$4.95/hr of your hard earned American dollars over to the most parasitic form of landlord to ever walk the earth, I might suggest that you revisit your corroded morals and take the bus or bike instead. A bus ticket is still cheaper than the minimum rate at any Diamond Parking lot.

Pave paradise, enough with the parking lots!

I rest my case, fuck you, Diamond Parking.

—an angry cyclist



Come to a Work Party!

Location: Solidarity Garden, just west of 642 W. 15th Ave in so-called Eugene

Time: Sundays, 10am-12pm (come when you can and stay as long as you like)

What to bring: If you have work gloves or hand tools you like, bring them. If you don’t have any, we have gloves and tools you can use.

Resistance is Fertile in the Solidarity Garden

By: Rhonda

Grocery prices are about to go up. Again. So now, more than any other time in my 4+ decades on Earth, we need to stop asking permission to do what’s right, start sharing resources and cultivate community care. While the Trump administration accelerates our descent into this late-capitalist hellworld, gardening with comrades brings us much-needed sustenance and connection.

The Solidarity Garden is a verdant oasis on the edge of the Lane County Fairgrounds’ vast expanses of asphalt. In 2023 a group of comrades, energized by our near-victory in getting the NIMBYs of the Jefferson Westside Neighbors executive board voted out of office, decided to steward an overlooked piece of land owned partly by the City of Eugene and partly by Lane County, transforming it into a woodland that will feed visitors for decades to come.

No, we didn’t get a permit or meet with staff from the city and county. (Years earlier I inquired about whether they would have objections if we planted a garden there and the response was apathy, neither organization willing to cop to the fact that they were responsible for stewarding that neglected land). So when the momentum came around we showed up and got to work. Today we have a garden brimming with fruit trees, berry shrubs, medicinal herbs and veggies for anyone who wants to browse the garden. Most Sunday mornings, we gather to tend the garden and greet passersby. Many of us are hungry for community and ritual on top of homegrown fruits and veggies, and the Solidarity Garden offers a generative space for both.

Foodwise, our focus is growing perennial veggies, trees and shrubs, so we’re not having to spend as much energy on the rigors of tending an annual intensive vegetable garden. (Perennials veggies are much less susceptible to pests and diseases than the annuals we are accustomed to at the grocery store.) This year we’re growing a boatload of perennial and annual veggies including a variety of salad greens, tomatoes, beets, peas, kale, broccoli, chives, French sorrel, bush corn, and basil. Blueberries, gooseberries, figs, strawberries, mulberries, plums, raspberries, and cherries are among the fruits you can harvest in the summertime. And for those interested in herbalism, we have chamomile, calendula, motherwort, yarrow among other hardy medicinal herbs.

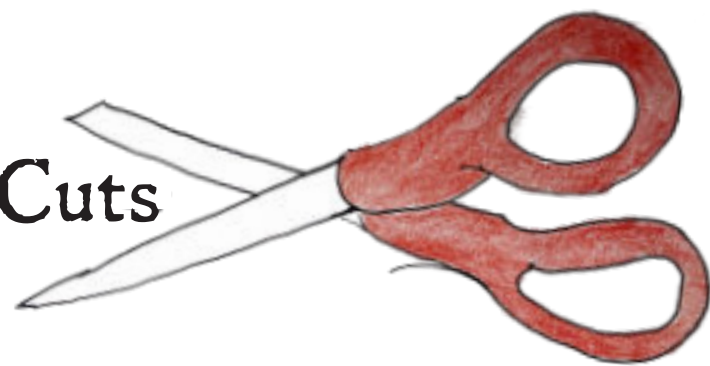
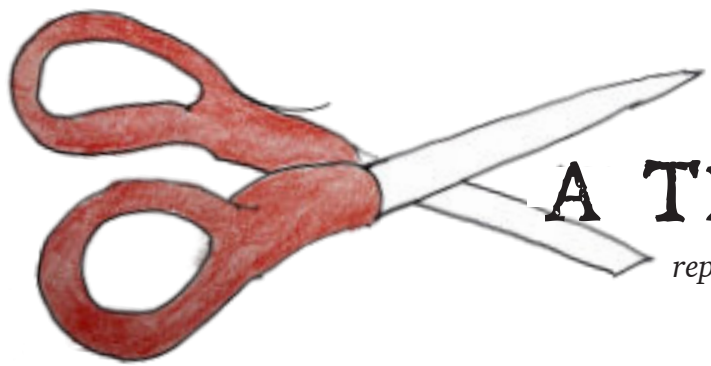
Ecological repair has been a keystone of the garden from the start. When we began working this little plot, it was completely overtaken by quackgrass, a noxious weed brought to the PNW by European colonizers. To eradicate it we excavated the top 6 inches of soil and since then we’ve worked intensively to reinvigorate soil health. Sheet mulching and integrating compost have built nutrients and wood chips help retain moisture, transforming what was an uninviting ecological dead zone to a community garden that’s flourishing with worms, pollinators and beneficial fungi, as well as human visitors.

The principles of mutual aid are foundational to what we do at the Solidarity Garden. When we work together on Sundays, we do so understanding that we are there to provide for our community and to greet passersby without any expectation for reciprocation. Regardless of whether you work in the garden, you are welcome to partake in its gifts. We do this because we know that everyone is better off when people have their basic needs met. We don’t ask anything in return but we believe that the goodwill will get paid forward.

You are invited to visit the Solidarity Garden, 24/7/365. Whether you join in for a work party, give us a high five or forage for some fresh produce on your own schedule, we hope you’ll enjoy the garden. For more info or to join our signal chat, hit us up at eugenesolidaritygarden@gmail.com.

Right now kale leaves, broccoli and kale raab (flower buds), chives, parsley, and winter pea sprouts are ready for harvest. Take what you need!

I love to saute the kale and broccoli with garlic or onions and serve it over pasta with the chives, parsley, pea sprouts, and parmesan or nutritional yeast as garnishes. Bon appetit!



A Thousand Tiny Cuts

reporting on the loss of vital community services & programs

This Must Mean Revolution

By: Cipher

Starting in 1969, White Bird Clinic has been promising dedicated, client-centered care “until the revolution”, an offer that will theoretically expire when our community sheds its dependence on government and nonprofits, and fully invests in providing this comprehensive care for one another. Revolution is born out of struggle and often, the desperation of having no other options. As the city of Eugene grieves the loss of CAHOOTS, yet another blow to our increasingly fragile network of life-saving services, the question must be asked - have we reached the moment for revolution?

The iconic white CAHOOTS vans responded to their final Eugene call in the early hours of Monday, April 5th. A small subset of the same CAHOOTS workers will continue responding to calls in Springfield from 11am to 11pm daily, but 80% of their staff have been laid off, and there is no way to summon them in Eugene. On the same day, the White Bird Crisis Line, which has offered 24/7 compassionate crisis intervention over the phone for over 50 years, reduced their hours to only 8a-8p Monday-Friday.

Eugenians are becoming quite familiar with the abrupt closures of services we depend on. In just a few short years, we’ve seen the closure of Peacehealth University District Hospital (UDH), the only Emergency Room in Eugene and on this side of the Willamette River; Hourglass, the only low-barrier walk-in crisis center accepting patients throughout the night; and Front Rooms, the “heart of and soul” of White Bird. The narratives behind these closures have been opaque and convoluted. Yet to those who are most impacted by the losses, it is obvious that this capitalist system continues to protect the interests of the wealthy by any means necessary: disregarding the needs of the poor and marginalized, busting unionized and collective power, silencing resistance, and manipulating narratives to deflect blame.

All these services primarily existed to serve people who are pushed to the margins of our society - those who are unhoused, poor, disabled, isolated, psychotic, suicidal, etc. These people and therefore the services that meet them in their most challenging moments are invisibilized by a society that centers greed and profits above humanity. In December 2023 Peacehealth explained its decision to close UDH as a necessary money-saving measure, because despite being “heavily utilized” (according to a 2022-2025 Community Health Needs Assessment), UDH was not bringing in the profits needed to satisfy its corporate owners. UDH served as a walk-up service for many people living on the streets in downtown Eugene, who now have to depend on ambulances to transport them 15 minutes to the nearest hospital, and then have to figure out a way back home. With 12 psychiatric stabilization rooms, UDH had been a primary resource for people experiencing acute mental health crises. Following the closure, the Eugene/Springfield metro area only had two such rooms, which resulted in people waiting many hours in the ER lobbies while they were immersed in se-

vere crises that could endanger themselves or others.

In April 2024 ColumbiaCare closed Hourglass, which was the only low-barrier walk-in space providing immediate, free counseling through the night when other resources were unavailable. Hourglass was one of the only places (aside from jail or an emergency room) that people in extreme crisis could go and receive compassionate support. Like Peacehealth’s statements about the closure of UDH, ColumbiaCare cited a large financial deficit and difficulty staffing as the reasons for the shutdown. At the time of the shutdown, Hourglass employees were not unionized, but ColumbiaCare union spokespeople from other facilities said they intended to include Hourglass employees in unionization efforts in the “near future”. At UDH, the staff had only just settled a four-year contract agreement with the hospital when it announced its closure. According to a statement released by the Oregon Nurses Association, the closure was only announced after the “lengthy and contentious contract negotiations”. Every White Bird Clinic program mentioned above also closed during union contract negotiations or within a year of a finalized union contract. As described in an open letter from the CAHOOTS union, unionization is critical “to prevent the further exploitation of current and future workers of being tasked with the near impossible responsibility of alleviating the harsh realities of racism, homelessness, decreasing access to mental health and medical care, and state violence”. The pattern of swift union busting undermines people’s ability to continue professionalized care work for each other in safe and sustainable ways, and concentrates decision-making power in distant bureaucrats with virtually no experience or knowledge in the kinds of work they oversee.

The moments workers have brought their organizing outside of the workplace, inviting the support of the broader community, they’ve been silenced and criminalized. During a peaceful vigil mourning the Front Rooms closure held outside a White Bird Board meeting on December 17, the Board cancelled the meeting and the venue called for law enforcement to respond, accusing the people gathered of “incidents of vandalism and threats of violence.” After being pressed for details, White Bird leadership could only point to the placement of a few stickers reading “People Over Profit” on the venue’s front window as reasons for their response. White Bird leadership then told its staff that it was investigating, in collaboration with law enforcement, if any staff participated. When White Bird surprised its next wave of employees with layoffs less than three months later, it doubled down on these suppression tactics by explicitly warning employees that the administration wouldn’t hesitate to respond to any “inappropriate behavior” with discipline, including termination.

The loss of CAHOOTS was only possible through the actions (and inactions) of this same White Bird leadership, the Oregon legislature, and Eugene City Council. CA-

HOOTS had as much social and political protections as a humble, grassroots service can ask for, which makes it one of the most baffling pieces of this storyline. CAHOOTS was nationally lauded as the kind of alternate police response that this country demanded following the murders of George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, and many more. Protections were supposedly written into federal law via the CAHOOTS Act proposed by Senator Wyden in February 2021, which provides Medicaid support for states to implement “multidisciplinary mobile crisis teams” modeled after CAHOOTS. Yet less than two years later, Lane County notified CAHOOTS that their contract was ending, and funding would be redirected to a new program, the Mobile Crisis Services of Lane County (MCS). CAHOOTS was told MCS was able to better fulfill the criteria laid out in the 2019 Senate Bill 973, which built on the 30+ year reputation of CAHOOTS. Yet, this legislation failed to capture and replicate some of the most central tenants of CAHOOTS crisis response work, which are lost in the current MCS model. CAHOOTS revolutionized the integrated health model of pairing medical and mental health workers on the vans, but MCS only responds to “behavioral health” calls that don’t require care for related medical issues or for people showing any signs of substance use. MCS will not provide housing support or transportation to services (outside of the hospital) or respond to anyone under the age of 18. MCS has also developed a reputation for quickly involving police in escalated mental health crises and for defaulting to a strategy of forced institutionalization. As best described in a recent letter released by the CAHOOTS union, “the federal legislation created guidelines for insurance-funded programs with an insurance-guided scope of services that include giving crisis responders the dangerous capacity to force involuntary treatment on community members in crisis.” As one former CAHOOTS worker explains at a recent town-hall presentation, CAHOOTS centered the need for clients to maintain as much agency over their own process and recovery as possible, “working with their will, not against their will”. The MCS resulting from bureaucrats’ distorted understanding of what CAHOOTS really is may be filling a necessary service gap in Lane County at large, but is far from an acceptable replacement for Eugene CAHOOTS.

On April 14, at the first city council meeting since Eugene CAHOOTS was defunded, public defenders, firefighters, local business owners, social service workers, parents, librarians, teenagers, and so many more testified about this community’s dependance on CAHOOTS. City councilors unanimously responded that they were convinced of the merits of CAHOOTS, but claimed White Bird had cancelled the contract so there was nothing they could do. Not only does this deception absolve city counselors of the central role they played in CAHOOTS’ closure, it also reveals there will be no initiative from those in power to save a program they claim to understand as essential.

As announced by CAHOOTS workers at

War on the Poor: Money Trails and Escalation

By: dime & screw

When confronted with the disturbing lack of funding for vital programs and shelter, city officials in Eugene, Oregon wax poetic about budget short falls, insisting that they are doing their best, that there simply isn't funding for life-saving aid, such as CAHOOTS (Crisis Assistance Helping Out On the Streets) or actual shelter, and according to councilor Alan Zelenka at the 2:11:40 time stamp of the city council meeting on April 14th, if we "had done our homework", we would realize that.

So let's follow the money. The numbers that follow are drawn from Eugene's own city budget, and what our city is spending our money on for the years 2023-2025:

Sheltering programs: **\$3,054,000 (\$303,000 on youth shelter programs).**

For perspective, the Public Right-of-Way Surface Cleaning Program budget alone is more than twice that: **\$8,718,000.** The bi-annual budget for the Eugene Police patrol: **\$82 million.** The more difficult number to identify: **How much is spent on the sweeps, or "clean up", of unhoused people and their camps instead of providing housing?** To identify a conservative estimate, we combined the funds used for the displacement and cleanup of camps: the **"Illicit Right of Way Activity Program"** (\$1,191,000), the **"Park Safety Program"** (\$3,686,000), the **"Public Right of Way Surface Cleaning"** (\$8,718,000), adding up to a **\$13,595,000 sweep budget, roughly four times the amount spent on shelter programs.**

Last April, a new city ordinance passed that gave EPD carte blanche to repossess any vehicle found parked overnight three times in ninety days. According to a city employee, this has a "complaint-based" application. Cars parked for 3+ days will be impounded when someone calls in a complaint, and/or upon the discretion of EPD, parking control officers, or community service specialists. Consider this in light of the "Parking and Curbside Program" being set at \$8,981,000. These numbers don't account for all of the labor hours put forth by Eugene Police officers and Public Works employees whose jobs entail displacing and citing unhoused people.

**Note: we have reports that the three officers most often spotted at sweeps are Jackson Stramler, Lane Doggett, and Matthew Pizola.*

While on the subject of numbers, let's consider what our local government is NOT investing in, other than the glaring lack of shelter. From 2022-2023, the EPD budget jumped more than \$10 million, an almost 20% increase from the year prior. And yet, CAHOOTS has now been defunded, their contract severed. According to a 2024 NPR article, CAHOOTS received less than 2% of the police budget, but took approximately 17% of the calls from police dispatch.

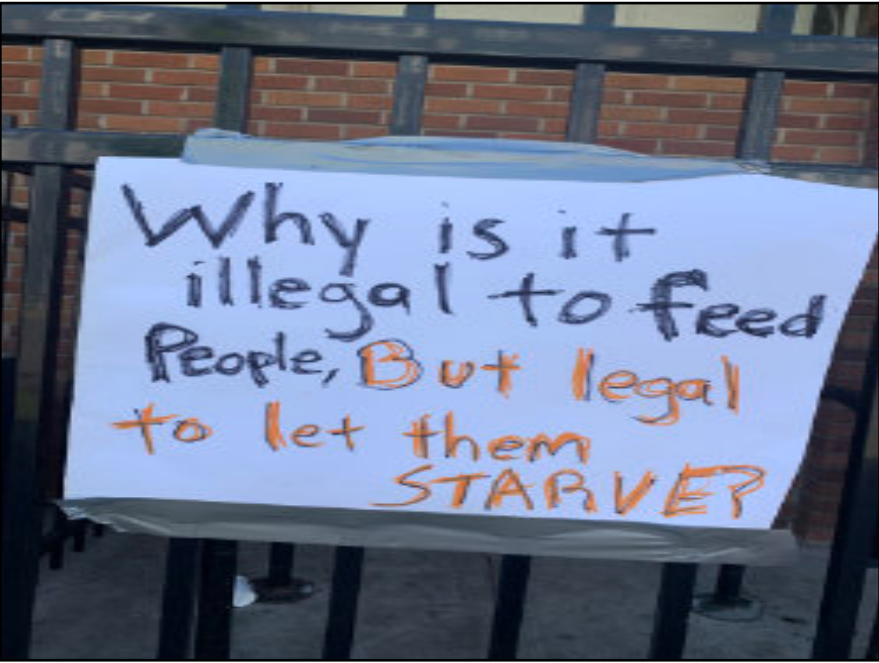
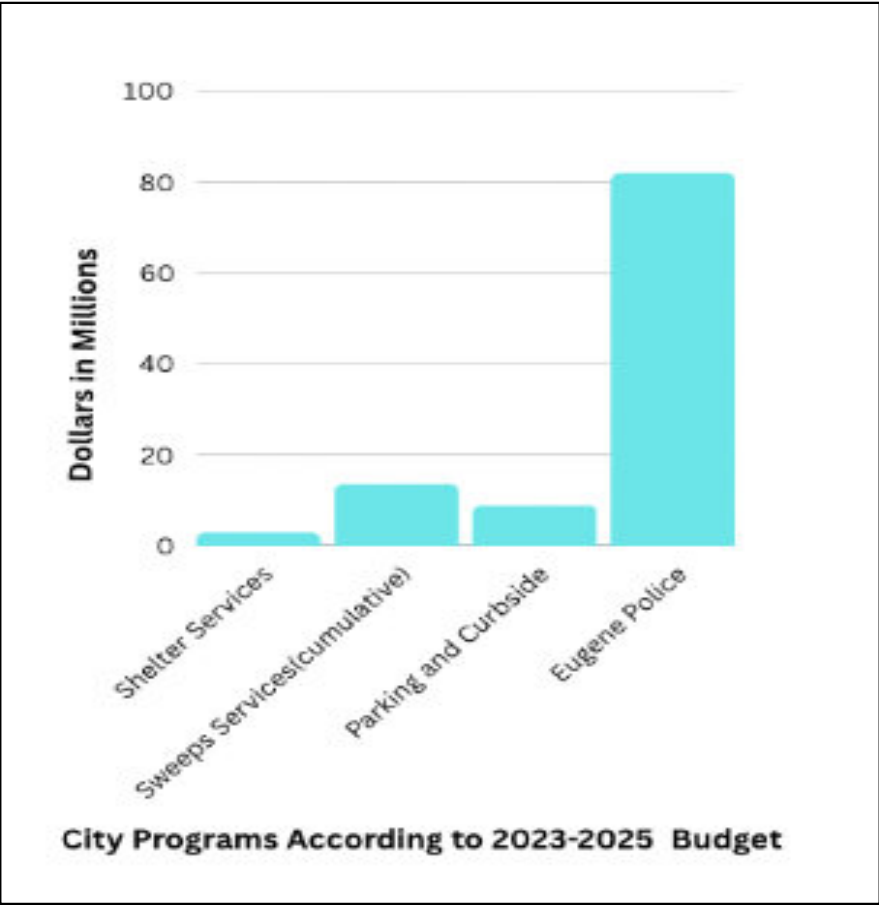
If the city and police department's only crimes were withholding aid and wasting our money, we'd end here. But in the past few years, the maltreatment of people living in extreme

poverty has escalated. There are countless reports of belongings being stolen and destroyed, and there are now criminal citations being doled out en masse, not only to the unhoused but also to those distributing basic aid such as food and clothes.

In the past few months, the Eugene Police has threatened groups such as Neighbors Feeding Neighbors (formerly known as the Breakfast Brigade), and Food Not Bombs that provide free food in public spaces with citations.

Food Not Bombs states:

"Requiring a permit for our grassroots response to the crisis that the city has caused and continues to worsen is a blatant attempt to deflect responsibility for its failures to provide effective aid and assistance. The city has abandoned its constituents in need, instead prioritizing band-aid efforts that criminalize poverty and appease the rich investors, with investment in funds for downtown "security", hostile architecture masked as beautification projects, reduction of life-saving services like CAHOOTS, and increased police harassment of people just trying to survive on the streets.... Food Not Bombs exists because of the state's neglect and unwillingness to address the crisis on our doorstep - we step in where the city has failed."



According to a spokesperson for Stop the Sweeps Eugene, in 2025 alone at least ten community members bringing meals to unhoused camps have been given criminal trespass charges. One defendant facing charges said in a statement that,

"The safety of its unhoused constituents is not a priority to the local government. Those who provide the vital services that the city of Eugene refuses to—groups like Food Not Bombs, Neighbors Feeding Neighbors, and Barefoot Defenders, are tar-

geted by the police and the courts because the city wants the unhoused, poor, and housing unstable to starve. They want them desperate and they want them to commit crimes, get caught, and go to jail."

Between the numbers calculated (current budget allocations, rising criminal charges and sentences, etc.) and those that remain nebulous (worker pay spent on sweeps, public funds used for court and carceral systems, etc.), there are a few reasonable conclusions we can draw:

1. There is always money for what is deemed valuable
2. The criminalization of poverty is escalating and will lead to (more) mass incarceration
3. The state has no intention of coming to the aid of those that need it most

Still Not Bombs

By: Azria Raventhorn

First they came for the covered area. The shelters at Park Blocks – which provided some small respite from the piercing winter rains– were torn down. Eyes in the sky flashing blue lights watched over the excavators tearing the posts out one by one. Since 2018, another group has used those covered areas as well: Eugene’s chapter of Food Not Bombs, which serves food to the people passing through the Park Blocks every week, rain or shine. Then, EPD’s Officer Peckler paid Food Not Bombs a visit, “he said he’d received complaints that we didn’t have a permit, and it was a problem that we were using canopies because of the rain,” which Food Not Bombs had only begun using to replace the torn out shelters to keep food and gear dry.” He said he would let us serve that day, but that we couldn’t be back,” threatening citation or arrest, said L. Posts began circulating before the group’s next serve calling for community support in case of a police response.



I was sitting down with two of the faces behind Eugene's chapter of Food Not Bombs, L and Kim. According to them, "Food Not Bombs is an international decentralized movement. It's a protest against violence inflicted on humans and animals, and saves food from waste and gives it to the hungry," said L. They estimate that Eugene's chapter started sometime around 2010 serving regularly in Kesey Square rather than the Park Blocks, but the city had run the group out of that spot around 2018 in much the same way they're trying to now at Park Blocks. Neither Kim nor L seem particularly surprised by the developments, even though it's the first time it has happened since the group moved locations. "This honestly seems like years in the making," sighed Kim, "It's so much easier to target us as an organization because we're so grassroots- we have no legal protection. The most we can hope for is community support."

And the community did answer the call. The next week, supporters flooded the plaza to defend the group. "We had dozens, maybe more than forty people show up to support and help out," said Kim, but the cops never showed, mirroring a pattern from last year when the Eugene Police Department threatened another food serving group, Neighbors Feeding Neighbors, and failed to make good on the threats when community similarly showed up in support. Kim continued, "I expected there wouldn't be any cop presence. Either way things went smoothly. It was comforting, I did feel safer having that show of support. I hope it continues for the next few weeks." The week after that, a cop tower was placed looking directly over where Food Not Bombs typically serves, still, the group continued to serve despite this display of surveillance.



"The more people we have show up, and the more vocal people are, telling friends, family, sharing about it. Being as vocal as possible and not backing down, when the city sees that people are not only standing up but standing strong with each other, I think that's when they start to worry." - Kim, Eugene Food Not Bombs

The move from Kesey Square to Park Blocks around seven years ago did not constitute a major shift for the group, since the Park Blocks are less then a block away from Kesey square in downtown. Both locations are centrally located, a factor which the group considers extremely important for their serves, as the support in the area has gradually been rolled back more and more over the years. "That's why we have to stay downtown. We represent the failure of the city to take care of it's own constituents. Having that on their front doorstep every week for people to see, I'm sure is a thorn in their side." Kim indicates the group is more than ready to stand firm in their space, as Food Not Bombs is now one of the only groups still regularly serving the unhoused anywhere east of Washington Jefferson Park aside from the Dining Room, which is only open some days of the week. The organizers point to more official non-profits who went through "proper channels" as examples of why that effort is pointless, nowhere is this more clear than with the death of White Bbird (a resource center for unhoused people on the streets), and Cahoots service hours being rolled back to nearly nothing in the wake of budget cuts. The closure of Eugene's only hospital last year which has now been converted into a SWAT training facility according to Eugene Weekly exemplifies this pattern to a disturbing

Top: The rain shelter being torn down at Park Blocks at 8th & Oak

Bottom: A photo of a Eugene Food Not Bombs serve

Photos by author

degree, as social services are rolled back in favor of militarized police across the country.

Food Not Bombs' grassroots nature is far from a flaw that holds the group back with a lack of funding or bureaucratic legitimacy, rather it's an intentional choice that allows the group to focus on what really matters in their perspective "Even if we met the city's demands and had this legal backing, permits and whatever else they asked- we would be less effective." L continues, "We've seen with other orgs like Neighbors Feeding Neighbors, even if you do submit to the city's demands they change the goalposts.

They don't actually care about the rules. It's a tool that they use to push you out." This sentiment seems to be informed by L's personal experiences as well, "In my early adulthood I did a lot of liberal volunteering for high barrier homeless shelters. I wanted to do good work. I wanted to help people." But L said working for these shelters only disillusioned them with these official channels, "They turned away the people with the most need. The barriers in place were; no alcohol, no drugs, they were separated by sex. So the people struggling the most, the people who had addictions or had the hardest time getting off the streets were the ones getting turned away." These sorts of barriers are persistent in shelters across the country. The Lane County shelter website features a handy table to keep track of what local shelters require of those who seek services, there is not a single shelter which doesn't have at least one of these barriers. They also acknowledge that even if every shelter bed was full, "95% of those on the streets still wouldn't have a shelter," underscoring that the city's strategy of removing supports like Food Not Bombs as a losing one.

"If you were lucky enough to get in they were regularly breathalyzing people and doing random searches of people's rooms and would confiscate people's things and "lose" them, conveniently. They said they were helping people but really they were shaming people and stealing their shit," L recollects with disdain.

Food Not Bombs represents a no-barrier resource to the community in the heart of Lane County. In the same plaza as the famous Saturday Market, directly in front of the circuit court, and not two blocks from the city's darling, Kesey Square and the "bar-muda triangle" that is Broadway street. The group isn't going anywhere as long as people continue to show up and support them at a time when people doing outreach to those on the streets are increasingly being targeted, from Barefoot Defenders to Neighbors Feeding Neighbors, and beyond. "My goal is what it's been since it started, which is to make a fuck ton of food, bring it to the park blocks and feed whoever comes," emphasizes L, as they ask the city to either give them money or get out of the way. "We’ve been doing more than just food - still not bombs- but at this point we regularly have hygiene products, we have survival gear, we try to have pet food every week. I want to see us continue to provide these things." But the city shows no sign of backing down. An open records request with the city of Eugene yielded no results for Food Not Bombs, most likely because the city considers this matter to be ongoing and all records are therefore not available to the public for the time being. For their part, Eugene Food Not Bombs doesn't intend to back down either, stating they will continue to serve, no matter what, for as long as there are people to do the work.

"There are people who depend on us to eat on Fridays. I've had regulars come up and tell me if it wasn't for us, they wouldn't eat that day. Multiple people have come up and told me that they haven't eaten in days.... One of the reasons they're targeting us is that we're doing shit they should be taking care of. Even with how grassroots we are, we feed a lot of people. We're a pillar in the community. We don't need them, and they don't want us to know that, so they're impeding our ability to take care of each other." - L, Eugene Food Not Bombs

THE PEOPLE’S BLOTTER

Submissions from the public documenting abuses of institutional power

I am walking along West 4th Avenue towards the Washington/Jefferson bridge on Wednesday, April 2, 2025 at about 11:00am, crossing Jefferson through the underpass and there is a Eugene police vehicle, #281832, a 4-door pick up truck parked on the cement walkway facing me! Two Eugene police officers were sitting inside this pick up truck.

There is a man on the ground with his belongings. There is another man standing on the other side of the cement structure which holds the freeway up. This man has his belongings bungeed to a wheeled carrier.

I did not want the Eugene police to hassle, arrest, or take away the man's belongings that were spread out on the ground so, I stood

there facing the Eugene police car. I did move a little bit to not face the Eugene police car the entire time the police were parked there. The Eugene police were there for about an hour. I wasn't planning on moving since I have witnessed many times when I have walked across and through the Washington/Jefferson underpass Eugene police gathered along with City of Eugene employees confiscating belongings of individuals. Placing everything one owns in their large plastic bags, then placing all their belongings in the back of the City of Eugene pickup truck.

I have lived in Eugene for over 25 years and I see more injustice and violations of peoples' human and civil rights happen here daily and throughout the city. At least yesterday morning, the police finally went away. I wish I had a peaceful solution for all the human rights violations I witness?



Still Against Genocide

By: anonymous

In the early hours of April 15th, 2025, a banner reading "FREE PALESTINE" was hung off the Harlow Road bridge over the I-5 interstate. This was done in protest of the u.s. backing of the genocide in Gaza, timed on u.s. tax day in acknowledgement of u.s. taxpayer's role as the largest backer of the israeli military. The banner faced the southbound lanes of the traffic, the exact location where a year ago on this day, over 50 people blockaded the highway. That highway blockade was part of a global day of action obstructing the flows of money and materials fueling the genocide in Gaza. The action was followed by a mass arrest of everyone on and next to the highway and nearly a year of court cases and trials. The banner that was hung today is a testament that repression will not stop the movement for a free Palestine.



This banner was removed before the break of dawn. In this country, it isn't enough for the state to enable genocide by supplying the money and weapons used to snuff out the dreams and lives of an entire ethnic group - they also want to erase all evidence of solidarity and resistance from its own people.

On April 15th 2024, 127 officers were deployed to mass arrest 62 people protesting the genocide in Palestine, because they are terrified of what happens when the people realize their own power and rise up.

But resistance can not be erased. We see through their shows of force, both in Eugene and in Gaza, as the

desperation it is, and solidarity will win.

from the river to the sea, Palestine will be free.

This Must Mean Revolution continued from pg. 3

the townhall presentation the week prior, Eugene hasn't increased the money it spends on CAHOOTS for years, despite the demands of inflation and newly instated living wages. In their last contract negotiations, the city of Eugene only agreed to pay 40% of CAHOOTS' operating costs, while the city of Springfield agreed to pay 100%. It's not hard to understand why Springfield, not Eugene, is the remaining city with CAHOOTS. CAHOOTS diverts an average of 17% of all dispatch calls and prevents immeasurably more crises from ever escalating to a point of involving law enforcement. In 2024, CAHOOTS saw over 10,000 individuals who otherwise would have received police or paramedic contact, a visit to the ER, or a night in jail with a court date in the morning. All these other pieces of the public safety web cost the city far more than two employees riding around in a van. And still, the city of Eugene increases its 80+ million dollar police budget annually - the last available data revealing a 20% budget increase in 2023 - and doesn't question the efficiency of this spending. The city's argument that there is no money for CAHOOTS is a denial of this broader financial picture. As

posed at the townhall, the question is truly, "can this city afford not to have CAHOOTS?" Redirecting funds away from police and towards CAHOOTS is completely within the power of the city council, and we should refuse to accept any other narrative from them.

We are embedded in a capitalist system that prioritizes wealth accumulation for the elite few over all forms of community well-being, and those in financial and political power cannot be relied on to fund or regulate systems of care. We must take control of our own care - fighting for the services we deserve, redefining them into what we most need, and developing our own skills to show up for each other in times of crisis. We can find inspiration in a new grassroots group, Raven, founded by former Front Rooms workers continuing the work they love. There is also a strong team of CAHOOTS workers exploring the possibility of other fiscal sponsors in order to formally break away from White Bird, a confine that has clearly deprioritized and discarded them. These former CAHOOTS workers are asking the city council to meet with them to discuss addi-

tional collaboration and funding, and they are asking the community to keep up the pressure. In this moment of transition, we can together imagine a CAHOOTS that is more shaped by and responsive to community than to the corporations and governments that fund it.

As former CAHOOTS workers call on us to fight for their funding, they have also been reminding us to take care of each other. The loss of these formal programs reveals that the expertise of these CAHOOTians and other crisis and care workers is not owned by and should no longer be controlled by the bureaucracy that chewed them up and spit them out. There is immense skill and knowledge living on in the former workers and the community that forged them into the comprehensive crisis responders they've become. In decentralizing this care work and redistributing the responsibility to a broader community, we are not just meeting the momentary needs of our neighbors in times of crisis, we are increasing our capacity and resiliency for the revolutionary moment that is upon us.

Queen King

By: somebody’s mom

In honor of a friend, comrade, and guiding light - her power, love and influence will be with us always.

The following are excerpts from a eulogy written for Candice King (1984-2025).

I know it isn’t lost on anyone that someone who dedicated so much of her time to strategically and incrementally fight for land back for black, indigenous, and people of color, for disabled people, for the working poor in Eugene, died two years after her land, the land her husband died on, the land they raised her kids on, the land so many of us fought alongside her to keep, was stolen from her. Our love for her and our rage at a system built to extinguish fires like Candice’s is palpable. I know everyone is struggling with this and, I want to use this opportunity to remind everyone that, despite its goal, this system will never, cannot, put out her fire because, lucky for us, she dedicated her life to embedding that fire in each and every person she met, regardless of politics, affinities, status... In Candice’s honor, we must continue her legacy of rejoicing in togetherness through tragedy. We must carry that torch she heralded for all of us. We must love and support each other in our fight to win.

Within Candice’s unwavering commitment to revolution was an unwavering

commitment to love each and everyone of us wholly, through all the ups and downs, through staunch disagreement, through despair and pessimism, and through celebration and unwavering optimism. She’d tell me, tell us, to fuck right off with self-blame, to trust and believe in ourselves and our ability to carry on her work, and more than anything else, to be kind to ourselves. She was in her heart the kindest person, AND she was the first to throw a punch at anyone of us who needed it. Candice was also a mother, wife, friend, comrade, housing navigator, and the best hustler of social capital I’ve ever met. And by social capital, I mean intentional community, the only capital we’ve got.

The loss of Candice King leaves gaping holes, not only in our lives, but in the housing justice movement here in Eugene and more broadly. We need to hold onto and honor the community Candice built, her revolutionary vision, the work she started, and the values she embodied. Candice’s revolutionary movement work was creating the future we want in the present, with a focus on community care, connection, interdependence, and empowerment of folks. Instead of focusing her organizing energy fighting against all the shit that is wrong in this world, Candice’s movement and organizing work was opportunistic and focused on positive action she could take, which often resulted in material changes in

the lives of her community. She helped house, shelter, feed, and provide safety for so many people, thousands of people. Candice(in the legacy of black feminists) taught us that, “Those of us who stand outside the circle of this society’s definition of acceptable...those of use who have been forged in the crucibles of difference...know that survival is not an academic skill. It is learning how to stand alone, unpopular and sometimes reviled, and how to make common cause with those others identified as outside the structures in order to define and seek a world in which we can all flourish. It is learning how to take our differences and make them strengths. For the master’s tools will never dismantle the master’s house. They may allow us temporarily to beat him at his own game, but they will never enable us to bring about genuine change.” - Audre Lorde

May Candice’s vision and work be our compass and rally cry. The state and the fascists are relying on us being overwhelmed, and decimated, and depressed, and absolutely energetically spent....And we are. And also, I am ready to get up and go. We can be both things. May we gather ourselves, gather our forces, gather our energy, gather our love, gather our joy, gather our reasons for living, for celebrating, for loving, and for fighting, and may we move forward with those.



Failure at The Daily Emerald

By: James Croxton

I have declared that I wouldn't write for a while every-single-time I have gotten involved with a newly formed, or forming, outlet, without fail. It's not that I don't want to write but rather that I enjoy watching these things blossom from behind-the-scenes while helping with whatever I can. Unfortunately for me—but fortunately for the editors—something inevitably upsets me to the point that I have to “put pen to paper.”

Now is that time.

I am immensely disappointed in the Daily Emerald, the newspaper of record on the University of Oregon campus for which I was a reporter from 2019 through 2020

That is because on April 2, around 5 p.m., news broke—but certainly not from any Eugene-based outlet—that an international student at the university had been charged with a currently unconfirmed crime and, subsequently, had their visa revoked by the Department of Homeland Security.

Since then, three additional international students have had their visas revoked and are facing possible deportation.

Why the Daily Emerald took until the morning of April 10 to report on any of them is beyond my comprehension. In fact, they published two articles the same morning: one about the initial revocation and another about the additional three.

They didn't even report on the initial instance of a student's visa being revoked. The paper only did so after three more visa revocations brought the total to four and, apparently, the thought process was, “Hey, we can get more content out of this than just one article.”

This is beyond disappointing—it's reprehensible.

Was this the result of administrative string-pulling in light of the current U.S. Department of Education investigation into UO and 44 other colleges nationwide? Is it the result of an absentee “breaking news shift” on the news desk? Or is this the result of pure cowardice?

I wish I knew the answer and, ultimately, I am calling for the following individuals to explain to the UO community why the newspaper of record on campus was silent

on this for more than 10 days:

Editor-in-Chief Tristin Hoffman;

Digital and Print Managing Editors Alicia Santiago and Mathias Lehman-Winters, respectively;

Campus News Editor Jasmine Saboorian;

Publisher and President Eric Henry;

and Vice President of Operations Kathy Carbone

If the answer truly was politics, I encourage those who made and supported the decision to be silent to resign immediately and allow those who want to report on campus news to timely do so and lead by example. If the silence was because the outlet was investigating the visa revocations and planned to report about them, they should have said as much.

But absolute silence was, and is, unacceptable; it is complicity.

Trans Day Letter to the Mayor

By: Laura-Marie Strawberry Nopales

I met the mayor at the Lavender Network and Transponder art show on March 30th 2025. I had three pieces in the art show, and I was glad to be part of the whole experience.

The next morning I wrote a letter to the mayor because of the Transgender Day of Visibility Eugene she declared. I'd like to share the letter because it talks about what's most important to me, my spouse Ming, and the people we love here.

letter to the mayor

Dear Mayor,

It was great to meet you yesterday at the transgender queer art show. I'm glad my spouse Ming introduced us. Thank you for attending the art show and caring about your trans and queer constituents. I was happy with the whole experience, grateful the three pieces I had in the show were displayed beautifully.

Thank you for the Transgender Day of Visibility you declared. I'm glad Eugene cares about trans people like me. Something that stood out while I heard you read the declaration is that many trans people are houseless, poor, and disabled. I am heartbroken about the many people who live on the streets, by the train tracks, and in undeveloped areas. I know that with all our wealth, we could care for our most vulnerable here in Eugene.

Many trans people are disabled like I am, and many have spent significant time houseless, like Ming and I have. It's good to make declarations of support and protection for trans employees. But the truth is that many trans people are disabled, spend significant time unemployed and in poverty, and are struggling to survive houselessness.

I'm glad you visited the community where Ming and I live, and met Ming as well as our friends here—thank you for caring about low income housing.

asks

Please support all the ways of caring for all the people of Eugene, including trans queer people.

Please ensure an indoor home for all people, support us once we are housed so we can stay housed, and stop the sweeps where government employees brutally destroy encampments and take away what little the people have. Please abundantly fund Cahoots and other no barrier / low-barrier ways of caring for the most vulnerable, and stop the persecution of Food Not Bombs and other groups that respectfully feed hungry people.

Recently the police threatened Food Not Bombs at the weekly food serving at Park Blocks. Ming and I enjoy feeding hungry people with Food Not Bombs; I'm a good cook. All people deserve delicious food in our bellies and a warm, safe home. Please ask the police to leave Food Not Bombs alone.

Also, Cahoots is facing major funding cuts. This service is a model of care to the entire nation, showing that it works to peacefully, directly address the needs of people who are neglected by our culture and the most in danger. What a sadness, that this famous alternative to calling the police might soon be no longer. Please support Cahoots so this valuable service will continue robustly.

Please stand for all trans queer and disabled people, including the poor and unhoused. Not just the professional trans queer people who can get by in mainstream culture.

Thank you for caring about what all your constituents need!

Good wishes,

Laura-Marie Strawberry Nopales, disabled artist





Jailbreak is an abolitionist column broadly devoted to supporting political prisoners & all who resist the prison world. No revolutionary movement will ever succeed that doesn't fight state repression & support all who face it. We have so much to learn from our imprisoned comrades inside & so much support to give in our collective struggle for liberation that will be stopped by no prison wall. None are free until all are free! Write to a prisoner today!

Rattling The Cages & Editing the Pages:

an interview with Josh Davidson and Eric King

By: Joy Santiago

Note from the editor: I love breaking rules. And one rule I was taught at another publication was to never let an interview for a feature exceed 20-30 minutes. Well, I couldn't resist and I ended up talking to Josh and Eric for over an hour and a half. So, this interview will be published in smaller parts over the next few issues. You can read and listen to the whole interview on our website, dissonanttimes.org/jailbreak.

Josh Davidson is an abolitionist and member of the Certain Days collective, an educational fundraiser raising awareness about North American political prisoners. Eric King is a political prisoner who was incarcerated from 2014-2023 for an attempted firebombing of a (vacant) congressman's office in Kansas City, MO in solidarity with the Ferguson Uprising of 2014. The pair co-edited Rattling the Cages, an anthology of oral histories from political prisoners that spans movements and decades. In our interview, we discuss the process of publishing the book, life in prison, and abolition.

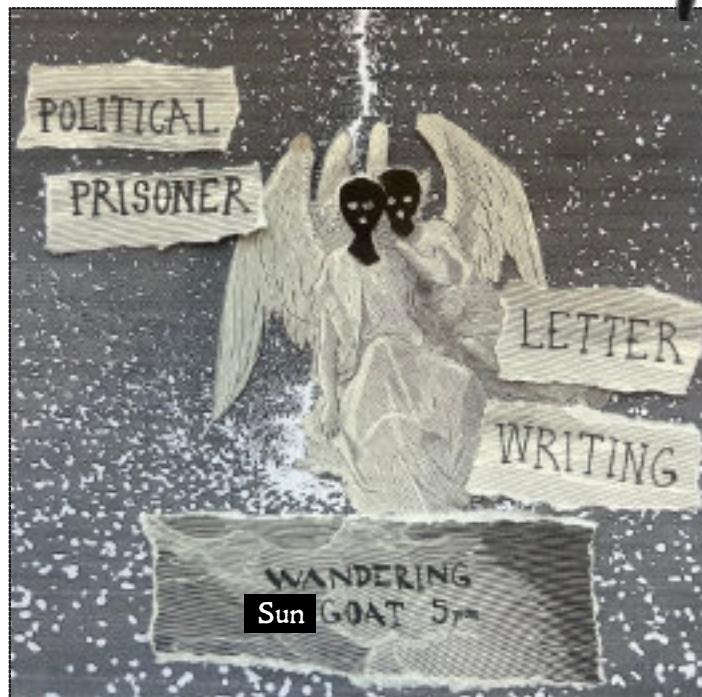
DISSONANT TIMES: Tell me about the process of developing this book, from start to finish. How/when did the idea for creating something like Rattling the Cages first develop? What were some initial challenges in getting this project off the ground? How was it trying to find a publisher and when/how did you get a deal to publish through AK Press? How did you come up with a list of folks to talk to?

ERIC KING: I was...waiting to get prosecuted for the second case, and I was feeling really powerless and kept trying to think of ideas of what I could do to give back to the political prisoner movement and abolitionist movement and like at one point, I wrote Josh about starting a political prisoner museum and shit like that...And I don't know if I came up with it, if Josh came up with it or whatever. But from my recollection, it was like originally a zine and it was just going to feature Elder black prisoners that I thought maybe didn't have the same level of support... And then over time, like it became like maybe an online project...And then a combination of Josh and Rochelle [Eric's partner] I believe, like, popped up with the "Maybe it should be a book," and then that was the end of my contributions, really. Everything else was Josh.

JOSH DAVIDSON: It took us many years to come up with this book. And Eric did more than he than he suggested. He did come up with a lot of the questions. There were like 25 questions that Eric came up with, and my partner Danielle and I kind of modified and changed around. And then Rochelle, Eric's partner, helped as well. And I sent those 25 questions to as many political prisoners as I could, current or former. And I had the benefit of being a member of the Certain Days Collective ¹, so through that calendar project, I had a lot of connections with current and former political prisoners. But once Eric and I realized that we were getting not just the responses from like older black radicals, but from people from different movements and different generations and different parts of the struggle, I think then is when we realized there was more to it and then we could create this book. I was living in Baltimore at the time, was friends with a member of AK Press and pitched the idea to them and they loved it. It went from there.

EK: The big thing...was finding out about the actual lives of the people. Because there are so many books that we read that talk about their politics, like has essays by them about whatever, and I think we both wanted to know like what drama did they have? What did they do on a daily basis? What are their lives like? And Tom Manning died in either late July or early August 2018. And... Thinking about like the history that he took with him. Like what was what was left behind

¹"The Certain Days: Freedom for Political Prisoners Calendar is a joint fundraising and educational project between outside organizers across North America and current and former political prisoners" –www.certaindays.org/



from that like we'll never know what his life was like. We'll never know the friendships he made or what he was feeling if he was angry, happy, whatever. And so for me and I think, Josh, too... That was crucial, knowing who the actual people are, not the tokenized image of them. And I think it turned out really beautifully.

...

I felt tokenized a lot and I wasn't like a big name. I'm not Leonard or David or one of these guys...And like, if I felt it, like in my moderate like amount of support, then I had to imagine that those dudes like were objects and I don't know how often they got to talk about their actual feelings or experiences.

DT: That's what's so interesting too because...I first found out about you a few years ago ... [through] the free Eric King campaign, [and] I mean, it was really incredible to see like all this support for you. But.. .you [were always] talked about it in this kind of abstract way, I'm like, okay, I know the name Eric King. I know the face Eric King. I know what Eric King is going through as a political prisoner, but I don't know anything about Eric King really aside from what's accessible via zine...so..that's what's cool about you being out now man is like there's like a lot more opportunity for you to just share about yourself.

EK: That's the best part is just being able to talk about me all day. That's partially what I respected so much about Josh early on, he humanized me very quickly. And instead of just... talking to me about bullshit, like he would respond back quickly and then we're like send things to keep my mind fresh about those topics...Josh would take the time not only to type or write long-ass letters, but to also print things off that will engage my brain and that was such a kind gesture to send me things I actually wanted to read. As opposed to just the same bullshit from eight different people like whatever the latest zine or book was...And that made it even easier to become a friend and trust them.

DT: Were there any other ways that you came up with all the folks that you wanted to reach out or was it just kind of like sending [questions] out blindly like to every political prisoner you could think of? Or what was the process there?

EK: So I don't know if you know this about our bro [Josh], but he has like an encyclopedic knowledge of essentially every person ever to be locked up for ethical charges...It doesn't matter the movement. It doesn't matter whether it's 1892 in Haymarket or...

Or yesterday, Josh knows them, knows what they're into and knows someone who actually knows that person. So I'll let you [Josh] answer the rest because you actually did it, but... His depth of knowledge about prisoners and like who they are as people is astounding.

JD: Well, I appreciate that. But no, we were wide ranging like we did cast a wide net with the request, but we were also pointed and deliberate about who we asked. And we wanted a wide range but we also wanted to avoid having a bunch of white men explaining what it was like...

I tried really hard to get trans people and luckily we got two of them to participate. Initially, we casted an international net, I reached out to IRA people, I sent a letter to Carlos the Jackal, two or three letters him actually...We tried to invite Ted Kaczynski to participate, not necessarily because we agreed with his politics, but because we thought he had a unique perspective to share. But...also a lot of it came from... like one SLA member participating and then telling other former SLA members like, hey, this is a worthwhile endeavor. You might want to check this out. Probably the most difficult...person that we got to contribute was Oscar Lopez Rivera. I never wrote to him while he was in prison. I didn't have a lot of contacts in the Puerto Rican independentista movement. But we found someone who was an original supporter of theirs during their time in prison in the 80s and 90s. And he agreed to interview Oscar for us and we included that. So that was really great to be able to include him there.

EK: Josh touched on this, but what we don't want is the same goddamn monolith from 12 or 13 different people, and then like people that fought and gave their lives to the movement are all of a sudden like left out of a project...But there was also pieces of shit that are considered political prisoners that I kind of, I don't want to say boycotted but said, like, I don't want this motherfucker in this project...

Read the rest online or in the next issue!



Brian “Hakiym” Simpson is a Black father, firefighter, community leader, and poet who is wrongfully in prison for defending himself against a racially motivated physical attack. Wildland firefighters in Oregon and beyond have come together to share in Hakiym’s fight for freedom, now it’s your turn to help break down the walls.

Write to Hakiym:

Brian Simpson* #27433390
Snake River Correctional Institution
777 Stanton Boulevard
Ontario, Oregon 97914-8335

Hakiym would greatly appreciate financial help for himself and his four children while he’s in prison: Venmo @siskiyoumutualaid with “Justice 4 Hakiym” in the description.

Are you a wildland firefighter or worker in the fire & forestry industry who is disgusted by this racist injustice?

Share why it is important for you to demand Hakiym’s freedom with us by email (firefightersagainstracism@gmail.com), via the petition (bit.ly/FreeHakiym), or on social media with the hashtag #FreeHakiym.

To get involved with the campaign to free Hakiym or ask any questions, please email justiceforhakiym@gmail.com!

Send a Happy Birthday to...

April 20 Roy Brown Roy Brown #1310047 C/O Digital Mail Center-Missouri DOC PO Box 25678 Tampa, FL 33622-5678	May 12 Xinachtli* #255735 W.G. McConnell Unit, 3001 Emily Drive, Beeville, Texas 78102 *Address envelope to Alvaro Luna Hernandez.
April 24 Mumia Abu-Jamal Smart Communications/PADOC Mumia Abu-Jamal AM 8335 SCI Mahanoy PO Box 33028 St Petersburg, FL 33733	May 27 Kojo Bomani Sababu* #39384-066 FMC Butner P. O. Box 1600 Butner, NC 27509 United States *Address envelope to Grailing Brown
Casey Goonan #UMF227 Santa Rita Jail 5325 Broder Blvd. Dublin, CA 94568	June 8 Jesse Cannon #BX4822 Sierra Conservation Center 5150 O’Byrnes Ferry Road Dorm 27, Upper Tier 7U Jamestown, CA 95327

Free Hakiym! Free Them All!

“A Fight for Freedom”

My struggle for freedom is woven tight
In the fabric of the Constitution's might.
Where is my due process, my equal protection?
The verdict in my case, a stark reflection
Of the Dred Scott decision from years gone by-
Do my rights go unnoticed, do they wither and die?

The 14th Amendment stands for equal grace,
Yet I faced an assault, a vile disgrace.
A coworker's slurs, a racial tirade,
I defended myself, my rights displayed.

Not with a weapon, but with my own hands,
An admission of truth by the aggressor stands.

I write to hold the court to its founding creed,
To expose the disenfranchisement, the systemic need.
How can freedom be lauded, yet so restricted?
This hypocrisy, volatile, cannot be evicted.
Like baking soda and vinegar, my soul ignites,
In the face of suppression, a revolution alights.

Systemic oppression fuels my fight,
Change is not a destination, but a journey in light.
My literary musings, a powerful quest,
For true liberation, justice, and equality's best.
Oppression is worse than the grasp of death,
I battle through fires, with unity as my breath.

From car fires to forest flames, I've braved it all,
Now I fight for educational, economic, and social change's
call.

With love and unity as my foundation strong,
I champion the cause, where all rights belong.

Dear Friends,

I want to take a moment to express my heartfelt gratitude for your unwavering support as allies in my fight for social justice. Thank you for being there and for your commitment to standing alongside me in the struggle for equality across race, class, and gender. This is one of the most important intersections we can - and have-met at. Each of us is different, so there is no correct way to be an ally!

In our growth and development, being an ally is a continued strategic undertaking across the intersections of race, gender, and class in the realms of economic, educational, social, and political dialogue and change, all grounded in love and unity.

Oppression is worse than death.

Thank you for putting your energy and time toward shedding light not only on my case but also on the repressive laws of Oregon and the Pacific Northwest. I deeply appreciate those who are highlighting patterns of blatant racism and seeing my case beyond an isolated event. Our voices will not be minimized or diminished. I am but one small voice, but together, we create a mighty chorus!

Thank you once again for your solidarity and support.

Sincerely,

Hakiym Sha'ir



stories from people living outside

Eugene Public Works, in collaboration with EPD and the City of Eugene, stole and threw away all of the belongings of a man named David, AKA Buddha, trying to survive on the streets of Eugene. We spoke with Buddha about this incident, and have his permission to share this story. “I left the camp in the morning to go to HIV, and when I got back, they had taken everything I owned. Food, clothes, medications... tools...cobalt wagon....basically my whole life right there.” The workers(from Public Works) were still there, so Buddha asked them where his things were. “They threw it in the garbage because they claimed it was a biohazard....the only needles were in the narcan kits.” Buddha keeps narcan kits as treatment, in case of an emergency

overdose. “If they seen those, they had to violate my personal space and dump my bags to find them.” This is illegal. Buddha’s things were the only ones targeted and taken, and he still doesn’t understand why. “It’s really hard(to replace). The wagon was almost 300 dollars. To total everything I lost, it was close to 1500 in value. Power tools to do my work, medications.”“What can I say? They have no compassion whatsoever. I just had surgery four months ago and had hernias repaired, and now I’m having complications from the surgery. I can’t walk sometimes...I was in so much pain when I got home, and when I got home I didn’t have any(medication) and it depresses me a little bit. They didn’t even care. They threw away my medications, and then lied about it.”

Dear Darling,

Darling's outlook on life, relationships, conflict, and crime can best be described as whimsical. She values care for self and community, feeling good, looking good, and fucking s@! up. There are no questions too bold, topics too old, and anything you're thinking is conversation gold.*

Send your ponderings, your questions, and your deepest darkest fears and desires to our dear Darling ;)

For social relationships, organizing and tactical tips. Poly-drama? Poly-saturation? Ask darling.

Dear Darling,

I am writing because I am struggling too understand how we can all take care of each other at a time rife with so much struggle, of the political, personal, and economic nature.

I want to believe that the thing that will get us through is care from our friends, neighbors, family, and that systems of collective care will save us. But, the energy and resources can feel really scarce. How can I have a mental or emotional breakdown when half of my friends are taking their turn? How can I take the time to rest and nourish myself when there is so much need in the community to be materially and emotionally cared for?

I know these are impossible questions, but I would be grateful for any ideas or tools you can think of.

– bobosa

Hello, my dear bobosa!

Oh, these are truly horrifying times that we are living in, and it seems like everybody is really going through it these days (myself included, if we're being honest). From deeply personal struggles like grief, loss, belonging, and safety, all the way up to the global horrors we are forced to bear witness to (genocide, unmitigated climate disasters, explicit fascism on the rise), it is absolutely too much. How can we manage to hold such weight? How do we not just immediately shut down, dissociate, or worse? Honestly, these questions have been swirling around in my mind for a while now, and, while I don't think that I have "the answer," I'll gladly tell you what's helping me to get through this waking nightmare.

I've been thinking a lot about that thing they tell you on airplanes, where they're like, "put your own oxygen mask on before helping others to put on their own masks." So many of us in radical community are driven by a desire to help, a desire to be useful, a desire to change the things we cannot abide, and this is truly a gift. It is a blessing to share community with those committed to building a better world. However, I think that we frequently move directly into helping others without taking stock of our own needs or ensuring that we are resourced enough to undertake the challenges we see in front of us. As a result, we frequently burn out, communication stalls, projects falter, and sometimes we even get our feelings hurt in the process, adding to the monumental piles of stress we need to sort through. To respond to your question about taking the time to nourish yourself when there's so much to be done, I would urge you to think about

how you can best show up for the work you're trying to do. If you aren't giving yourself the opportunity to recuperate, the space to just exist, how is that going to bleed into your ability to show up for others?

Another concept that I think may help us navigate the big overwhelming feelings of this moment is to think about scale. When we look at the atrocities occurring globally, it can easily feel like there's just nothing we can do. If this is happening to you, I would encourage you to reduce your scale. Start with the things that you know you can make a difference in. As the Trump administration unleashes attacks from all angles on our personal freedoms and our right to exist, it can feel like we need to do everything, to stop everything. Frequently, this train of thought leads to overwhelm and shutdown, which is what they want from us. If we stay focused on the things we know we can handle, bite off only what we can actually chew, we'll be able to show up more fully for ourselves, each other, and the movement for collective liberation. Hope these ramblings are helpful, my dear. Sending you warmth and comfort in these dark times.

Love and rage,

Darling Tonia

low tech eco friendly

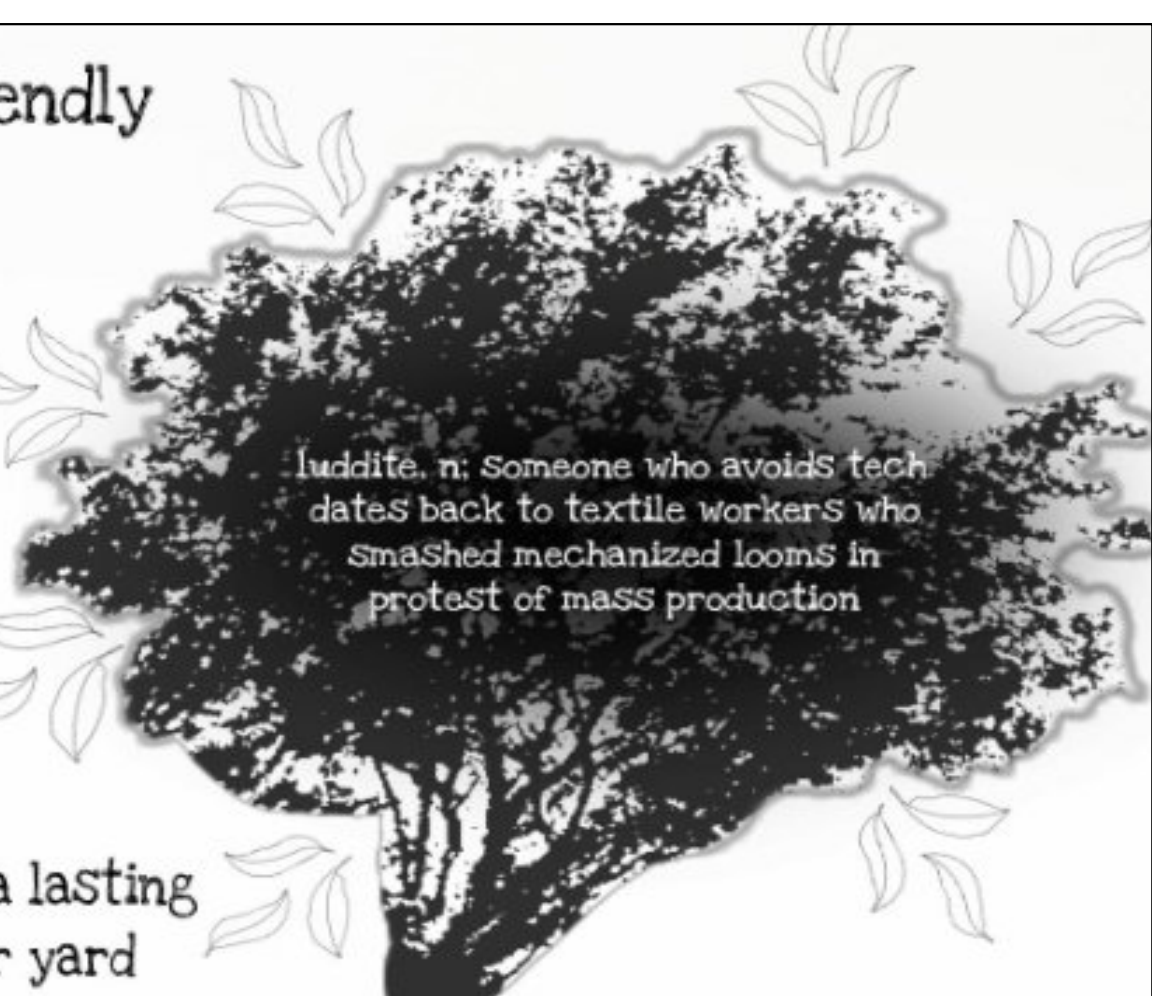
we offer

- garden maintenance,
- planting and watering
- gutter cleaning,
- design consultations

call or text 541-900-3579
ludditegardenservices@gmail.com

we strive to help you create a lasting
beautiful healthy garden or yard

Luddite Garden Services
professional horticulture



living creatively

a love poem

By: Stella

if i die before i say "i love you"

i made sure you'll find out

i told everyone else,

everyone who would listen,

to make sure

its not time yet

i'm not brave yet

to tell you myself

but the chance that you would never know

is too risky to bear

so i told the baker

and I told my therapist

and my roommate

and my sister

my cousin and their cat

you're in my thoughts

in my life

in my bones

i feel the truth of you everywhere

so if i die before i say "i love you"

they will tell you

everyone will

that I was deeply

hopelessly

irrevocably

in love with only you

Mel's Hovel, Part 1

By: Zeb Perkins

Water droplets seemed to freeze in the air as Mel's paws splashed through the puddles marking her way home. The last rain left, much to her delight, several more than usual scattered over the well worn path through the woods. Well worth the worry ignited by the strong winds of the previous night. She had thought, at the time, that she might not see that magnificent oak still standing come morning.

Stopping in front of her hovel, feet still resting in a pool of murky water, her eyes were drawn toward the now parted clouds. Golden rays, as deliciously appetizing as honey, poured down onto long branches that desperately reached out to meet them. Drops of rain littered across the new buds practically begging to be freed from within. Proof of new life and new beginnings.

The bruised door screamed with effort as she pressed in, the swollen floorboards halting its progress but leaving just enough space for her small body. The familiar, comforting, and slightly musty smell acted as a welcome as well as permission to leave the door ajar.

"A bit of fresh air couldn't hurt."

Although it was very sweet of Duncan and Flora to let them stay when confronted by the surprising change in weather, as her eyes passed over the dimly lit space filled with piles of books, paints, and two Ladder-back rocking chairs, a familiar warmth spread from her toes up to the tip of her long, floppy ears. In all of its old, musty, I'll-get-around-to-fixing-that-eventually glory...this was hers.

"Hello, home."

She waited the appropriate time for an inanimate object to respond before walking to the other end of her one-room home, setting down the small bag on the kitchen table, and examining the contents. Two cabbages, seven carrots and a pouch of dried cranberries. Mel's nose twitched as the beginnings of a small smile reached the corners of her mouth and her eyes, alert yet gentle piles of onyx, searched for a place to hide the unexpected treat.

Mel would not normally accept charity from another. Although, in her mind, she knew that everyone came upon days where they felt the impossibility of the world pressing around them. In her heart, she never wanted to believe that to be true for her. Thankfully, Flora was equally stubborn in their generosity as Mel was in her pride. If not more so. Flora's unrelenting voice played through her mind, "You started with your family, found your friends, and then met your partner. You've never been independent! It's absolutely nonsensical to pretend to be now."

A tall shelf, barely even accessible to herself, proved a perfect spot for the treat. Mel took a deep breath and released it as slowly as she could. A moment of surrender. Something she required more and more often with each passing week. She looked up at the clock then down at herself, immediately finding a need for yet another moment.

Mud. Lots of mud.

Doing her best to clean just enough not to embarrass Alis, Mel kissed her fingers and laid them gently on the photo hung beside the door. She left. Closing her stubborn companion with the same resistance as when she opened.

This was another day.

Solidarity Share Fair

A REALLY FREE MARKET!

Saturday, May 31st

12-4pm

Masks required from 12-1pm!

First United Methodist Church

'Toaster Church'

1376 Olive Street

Volunteer | Donate

Provide a Service

Build Community

SOLIDARITYSHAREFAIR.ORG

it's all free

yep, really free!

I sit on the log, *i* do - it's me.

I invite you to be me



ACROSS

- 1 Letters for some anti-profiling activists: Abbr.
- 4 Sites for rites
- 10 HDTV brand
- 13 Bollywood actress Aishwarya ____
- 14 ____ on (do research)
- 15 Where people awaiting trial are held if they can't afford to pay their bail
- 16 One of eight on an octopus
- 17 Actress Jena of "Donnie Darko" and the "Hunger Games" movies
- 18 Milky gemstone
- 19 With 21-Across, Vivaldi's "The Four Seasons," for example
- 21 See 19-Across
- 23 Watering hole in the desert
- 24 Brand new
- 27 Domesticate, as a wild horse
- 28 Spanish for "month"
- 29 Participated in Cupid's Chase 5K, for instance
- 33 Singer who tweeted "Patience is needed to create a peaceful world"
- 35 Biological classification system
- 37 With 40- and 42-Across, tangy dessert option
- 40 See 37-Across
- 42 See 37-Across
- 43 Star of "Devious Maids" and "Ugly Betty"
- 46 Plasma screen alternative: Abbr.
- 49 Astronaut Cooper's nickname, or Spanish for "fat"
- 50 Magazine that won the Utne Media Award for General Excellence in 2013
- 52 Word on a pair of heteronormative towels
- 55 Teflon developer
- 57 Change, as the Constitution
- 59 With 62-Across, CEO, for example
- 62 See 59-Across
- 64 Give off, as light
- 65 Mayflower passenger, for one
- 68 Small battery size
- 69 ____ houses (compact living options)
- 70 Word before profiling or equality
- 71 Go downhill fast?
- 72 "Men in Black" creatures, briefly
- 73 Halloween staples
- 74 QVC alternative

DOWN

- 1 Opera house shout
- 2 Lasso
- 3 Brunch beverage, perhaps
- 4 Fred of "Portlandia"
- 5 Far from fatty
- 6 ____ powder (substance that may increase the risk of ovarian cancer)
- 7 Fuss
- 8 She Should ____ (organization committed to getting at least 250,000 women seeking an elected office by 2030)
- 9 Glasses, slangily
- 10 Riveted
- 11 "See ya," in Pisa
- 12 "____ Well That Ends Well"
- 15 Michael who is a five-time NBA MVP
- 20 Prom night rental, briefly
- 22 Saarinen who designed the Gateway Arch
- 25 Web surfer
- 26 American military branch: Abbr.
- 30 Police force member
- 31 Former UK record giant that becomes actress Moore if you add a D to the front
- 32 Color, as Easter eggs
- 34 LGBT History Month: Abbr.
- 36 Sports org. that lasted only one season (2001) but has a comeback planned (2020)
- 37 Video feed problem
- 38 "Music for Airports" composer Brian
- 39 National Women's History Month: Abbr.
- 41 "____ Silver, away!"
- 44 Something strange
- 45 Blowout victory
- 47 Hitching posts?
- 48 Promotional recording
- 51 Prop for George Burns, slangily
- 53 Clean again
- 54 Moves stealthily
- 56 Docking locales
- 58 Sink hole
- 59 Seeger who sang "We Shall Overcome"
- 60 Leave out
- 61 Moral misdeeds
- 63 Greek house, for short
- 66 Big mouth
- 67 "It's Time to Abolish ____" (2018 headline in The Nation)

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MEET PRAISE

Hallo! I am so very pleased to offer you the first Dissonant Weather column for Dissonant Times. I bring a raised-poor, working class, and Native raised-white perspective to this work. I am Chickasaw and Cherokee and feel a deep love for animals, plants, trees, clouds, the night sky, gurgling brooks, the ocean, and our exquisite, unique, precious, irreplaceable planet Earth.

Though I have no formal climate science education, I studied astrophysics as a young person. I became interested in ecology in 1977, then moved close to Glacier National Park, Montana in 1980 and fell in love with cryospheric science. I became active in the environmental movement in 1990–91. I've been a climate activist since the mid-1990s and also bring that perspective to the amateur weather forecasts for the Eugene area I've been posting on social media for many years.

Developing a global perspective on how the atmosphere works and interacts with the Sun, the oceans, the continents, and the Earth itself has allowed me to develop some intuitive theories about how climate change is affecting different parts of the world, including the Pacific Northwest, and I hope to share some of these insights with you from time to time.

Given the increasing attacks on the climate sciences, it's perhaps no surprise that I am beginning to see myself as something of a dissident amateur meteorologist and that has probably helped me get connected to this project.

EARLY SPRING SYNOPSIS

With that, please dive in with me to think about what weather might grace us in the next few weeks. Quite a lot has been going on lately, which is typical for early-to-mid Spring as increasing sunshine causes warmer air masses to battle with pools of cold air ejected from the polar regions in late Winter and early Spring. But this Spring has been quite unusual and I will try to delve into the primary reasons below.

Increased instability also causes springtime to be more unpredictable than the other seasons, especially looking long-term. Thus, while I've also added some peeks into what late Spring through late Summer might look like, please keep this "Spring predictability barrier" in mind, though it's already breaking down to some degree.

THREE-WEEK FORECAST

Although April 14 marked a temporary shift towards warmer, drier weather, that's also helping to prime April 20–27 for increasing atmospheric instability.

The 2025 winter polar vortex is also refusing to depart peacefully. Due to the downstream effects of the March 5–15 polar vortex disruption, the next eight days should generally be on the cool side, with mostly cloudy skies.

(That disruption, known as the "Final Warming", was the second earliest such event of the past several decades and has prevented us from having a significant heat wave, so far.)

Temperatures this weekend should be relatively mild compared to the last several cold spells, with overnight lows in the 39–42° range. But Monday and Tuesday night could reach 36–38°.

Wed. afternoon April 23 could reach 67–72°.Then, the chance of precipitation increases significantly Thursday night into Saturday April 24–26 just as tropical convection activity increases and sends a frontal system towards Oregon, and the (likely) final impact of the aforementioned polar vortex disruption arrives here, dropping our temperatures *well below average for this time period.

This should be followed by a generally normal period, but still with some potential for precipitation as we head towards early May.

After about May 3–4 there are signs of an extended warming trend, particularly around May 9–11.

LATE SPRING INTO LATE SUMMER SEASONAL TRENDS

As of April 19, the El Niño Southern Oscillation Index (ENSO) is slowly moving into cool neutral conditions which are expected to persist into Autumn, with the possibility of an early 2026 El Niño.

The C3S Met Office (UK) seasonal precipitation model posted April 1 predicted a 40%+ above average rainfall for parts of western Oregon in May-June-July.

But most seasonal prediction models are then pointing towards unusually hot and dry conditions in the Northwest by mid-July, through August, and possibly much of September.

GUERRILLA GARDENING

How to : MAKE a SEED BOMB!

MATERIALS

- meadow flower seeds OR NATIVE/ NON INVASIVE SEED of your choice
- PEAT FREE COMPOST
- H₂O
- powdered CLAY from ur local craft store (clay soil can work)
- MIXING BOWL

STEPS

- ① In a bowl: mix 1C of seeds w/ 5C of compost + 2-3 C of clay
- ② Add H₂O (slowly!), mix w/ hands until everything STICKS TOGETHER
↳ MAKE BALLS!
- ③ CHUCK 'EM! Pick an under used patch of grass, parking lot, etc.



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