

Agenda

Ann Arbor's Alternative Newsmonthly

CITY ELECTIONS APRIL 7

Proposal A tops ballot

by Agenda staff

On Monday, April 7, Ann Arbor voters will have the opportunity to express their disapproval of United States policy in Central America by voting "YES" on Proposal A, the Initiative for Peace in Central America.

The proposal calls for the city "...to adopt an ordinance requiring: (1) the City Clerk to convey to the federal government a statement by the people of Ann Arbor expressing the desire that our tax dollars be spent on peaceful not military purposes in Central America, supporting the right of self determination; and (2) the City to establish a Central America Sister City Task Force to facilitate educational, cultural, and peaceful exchanges."

The heart of Proposal A is the creation of a seven member Central American Sister City Task Force. Appointed for one year by the Mayor with the approval of Council, the Task

Force will be charged with the responsibility of establishing "...a sister city relationship with a city or cities within the countries of Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, and Nicaragua."

The goal of the Task Force will be "...to foster communication and peaceful relations with the people of Central America."

According to the proposed ordinance, the Sister City Task Force will be disbanded after one year of work, having set in place one or more Sister City relationships.

Proposal A was brought to the ballot by the Coalition for Peace in Central America, which successfully collected around 6,000 signatures in the fall and early winter of 1985. The Coalition includes religious, citizen, material aid, lobbying, and educational groups in Ann Arbor that work on Central American issues. Some of the organizations that have endorsed and worked in this Coalition include Churchwomen United, Friends Meeting, Guild House-Campus Ministry, HAP-NICA, Interfaith Council for Peace, Latin American Solidarity

Committee, Nicaragua Medical Aid Project, and SANE.

The Coalition for Peace in Central America started when two long time Ann Arbor residents, Benita Kaimowitz and LeRoy Cappaert, called together a group of people dedicated to working on Central American issues.

"There comes a point when U.S. foreign policy is so morally objectionable, so out of line with what is really needed and appropriate," said Gregory Fox, a member of Latin American Solidarity Committee, and one of the people who helped build the Coalition, "that the citizens must take the lead and point the way our government should be going. To do any less is not to meet our responsibilities as citizens of a democracy."

Agenda strongly urges a "YES" vote on Proposal A. Much of this first edition of Agenda is devoted to the crucial areas of Central and South America. We hope to make it easier for you to make an informed decision when it comes time to pull the voting lever. Further, we invited the Coalition for Peace in Central America to make a statement on behalf of Proposal A (see below).



Photo by Gregory Fox

1980 Nobel Laureate speaks at U-M

On Monday, March 10, 1986, Nobel Peace Prize laureate Adolfo Perez Esquivel addressed a standing room only crowd at Hale Auditorium on the campus of the University of Michigan. Esquivel's lecture, "Liberation Theology, Non-Violence and the Struggle for Human Rights", was sponsored by the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts, the Program on Studies in Religion, and the Office of Ethics and Religion.

Recorded by Agenda staff and translated by Alfonso Hernandez Lozano.

First of all, I want to say that I am grateful to be able to be here with you this evening and I want to thank the University authorities for making this possible. I think that what is most important, being here with you this evening, is to get to know each other and learn how we can share the same journey. For some time now, I have wanted to visit many of the universities in the U.S., because I feel that it is of extreme importance that we get to know each other and begin to share our experiences. Disinformation, distance and bad information, help to generate many contradictions concerning the realities in

(cont. on page)

Cities that have passed similar resolutions, (including Sanctuary resolutions):

Berkeley, CA
Brookline, MA
Burlington, VT
Cambridge, MA
Duluth, MN
East Lansing, MI
Hartford, CT
Ithaca, NY
Madison, WI
New Haven, CT
Olympia, WA
Sacramento, CA
San Francisco, CA
Santa Barbara, CA
Santa Fe, NM
Seattle, WA
St. Paul, MN
Tacoma Park, MD
West Hollywood, CA

"Vote YES on Proposal A"

By the Coalition for Peace in Central America

The coalition believes that while most of the time foreign policy issues are best addressed at the federal level, there are times when local action on a foreign policy issue is imperative. Now is such a time, as the recent local demonstrations against contra aid have shown.

The U.S. has a long history of involvement and intervention in the countries of Central America (Nicaragua, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, and Costa Rica). United Brands has controlled large segments of land in Honduras and Guatemala for over 80 years for export of fruit crops.

For those of us who do not directly rely upon the land for our livelihood, it can be difficult to understand what an important resource land is in Third World countries. The people of these countries support their families by raising crops; subsistence agriculture is the backbone of survival in much of the world. The impact that United Brands (formerly the United Fruit Co.) has upon the majority

of peasants in Honduras (where their land holdings consumed 50% of the arable land), is particularly appalling; Honduras remains one of the poorest countries in the hemisphere. In Nicaragua, the U.S. Marines occupied the country for close to 130 years and only left when they had trained armed forces under the leadership of Anastasio Somoza. The Somoza family maintained oppressive rule in Nicaragua until 1979 when the Nicaraguan people overthrew the dictatorship.

In spite of the lengthy history of oppressive U.S. intervention in Central America, as a whole, the people of Central America feel positively about the people of the United States. American visitors to Central America continue to be surprised at the willingness of the people there to separate U.S. government policy from the desires and intentions of the United States. While U.S. policy continues to aid killing, torture and

(cont. on page)

Medical Aid Caravan for Nicaragua

ANN ARBOR- Over the past two years the Nicaragua Medical Aid Project (NMAP) has collected and sent thousands of dollars worth of medical supplies and technical assistance to meet the requests of hospitals and clinics in war-torn Nicaragua. This spring, NMAP, together with other groups and individuals in the midwest, will provide a large shipment of medical and material aid to the people of Nicaragua. On Thursday, April 24th a vehicle loaded with equipment and supplies will make its way through the streets of Ann Arbor to Interstate 94 heading west. The Ann Arbor vehicle will join a CARAVAN of vehicles from throughout the midwest which will converge on Milwaukee, Wisconsin on April 27. The material aid will then be loaded into a 20-ton shipping container which will arrive in Nicaragua six weeks later. A send-off celebration will be held at 2 PM on Sunday, March 30th at the Ann Arbor Friends Meeting House, 1420 Hill Street. Groups and individuals are invited to participate in the CARAVAN by delivering packaged donations to NMAP.

The CARAVAN is a project coordinated by midwest groups affiliated with the National Central America Health Rights Network (NCAHRN), a coalition Central America health rights and medical aid group. Its purpose is to both supply essential material aid to Nicaragua and draw attention to the role played by the United States administration in fostering war in Central America.

The U.S. directed Contra (counter-revolutionary) War against Nicaragua, in combination with the U.S. policy of economic blockade and trade embargo, creates a tremendous drain on Nicaraguan health resources. Since 1981 the Contras have been attacking civilian and military targets from their bases on the borders of Honduras and Costa Rica. They have specifically targeted health care personnel and facilities in their war against the Nicaraguan government and people. Millions of dollars worth of medical supplies and equipment have been destroyed and sixty-three health care facilities have been put out of service because of these attacks.

Together with the economic blockade, this violence has begun to erode Nicaragua's internationally recognized achievements in combatting health problems such as childhood infectious diseases and malnutrition. For example, malaria rates have risen in the areas of greatest Contra activity despite an ongoing anti-malarial health campaign because a shortage of necessary medication and the inability of medical workers to travel safely in these areas.

North American health professionals returning from a recent health colloquium in Managua confirm the crisis caused by both the shortage of medical materials and displacement of health personnel resulting from the war. "They don't have things as basic as paper and pens in the labs. They have incubators that can't be repaired and they lack everything from lab sticks to light bulbs, antibiotics and other medicines. It is shocking what they don't have," remarked Lise Anderson, occupational health specialist and NMAP member, who returned to Ann Arbor recently from the

November, 1985 Third Annual U.S./Nicaragua Colloquium on Health.

"Because of fear of Contra attacks health workers can't get up into mountain regions to follow-up on possible tuberculosis cases or to continue immunization campaigns they start. Because of the need to get the coffee harvested, health workers are being sent to harvest areas to pick coffee. Everyone goes because they know the most important thing is the survival of the country and especially with the trade embargo, Nicaragua is economically very dependent on coffee."

In Southeast Michigan the CARAVAN is being coordinated by the Ann Arbor Nicaragua Medical Aid Project. In light of President Reagan's request to Congress for an additional 100 million dollars in military and other aid the the Contra forces, statewide involvement is expected. Already, groups in Detroit, Adrian, East Lansing, and Grand Rapids are collecting materials which will be brought to Ann Arbor for the CARAVAN. Other groups and individuals who want to support the health efforts of the Nicaraguan people are invited to participate by delivering packaged donations to NMAP where they will be stored until April 4th. In addition a CARAVAN send-off celebration will be held March 30th at the Friends Meeting House, 1420 Hill Street, Ann Arbor at 2 PM. Those who support the project are invited to come and view the equipment and supplies before they are delivered, via the CARAVAN, to Milwaukee on April 24th.

Individuals and groups with donations of medical equipment, medicines, educational materials or general material aid, such as clothing, are asked to contact Dr. Andrew Zweifler at (313) 663-6576 or Dr. Tom Robbins at (313) 665-7098 by April 10 for more information about packaging requirements. Donations of money are gratefully accepted. Checks may be made out to NMAP or NMAP/Capp Street Foundation for tax exemption.

AGENDA Volume 1, Number 1

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Published monthly by Agenda Publications, 1209 Birk, Ann Arbor, MI, 48103. (313) 996-8018.

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Agenda created the **Community Resource Directory (CRD)** in order to give Ann Arbor community organizations a forum in which to publicize their activities. Each organization listed in the Directory was invited to submit general information about themselves and their current activities.

Except for minor editing, what you read in the **Community Resource Directory** was written by members from the organization. Some entries are longer than others because some organizations submitted more material. Also, many of the organizations listed in the **CRD** were very active in March *making news*, with little time to spare for writing about themselves. However, many organizations responded with very substantive and well thought out material.

We here at **Agenda** hope that what you read in the **CRD** will help you become more familiar with the wide range of possibilities available to a person living in this area if they are concerned about a particular issue or want to volunteer their time to a human service organization

There is a great diversity of community organizations here in Ann Arbor. Some have only a few members and work on a single issue. Others have a paid staff with large memberships and work on many issues. Agenda believes there is something healthy about this. Such diversity offers those interested in becoming involved a number of choices.

Agenda originally invited almost 50 organizations in Ann Arbor to participate in the **CRD**. Our invitation still stands to these groups as well as others in the community who are appropriate to our format. There will be a general meeting of all who wish to participate in the May issue. Please call Agenda at 996-8018 for the time and date of the meeting or if you have any questions or suggestions.

The Ecology Center of Ann Arbor

417 Detroit Street
Ann Arbor, MI 48104
761-3186

Statement of Purpose

Environmental issues are manifestations of many of society's most pressing problems, such as the need to manage more carefully our dwindling resource base, and the question of how to respond to the pressure for rapid development of complex technologies. These issues range in scope from local to global, from preserving wilderness areas to revitalizing our urban centers. Solutions to these problems will only arise through examining and changing our institutions, our lifestyles, and our attitudes toward the human infrastructure and the environment.

The mission of the Ecology Center is to effectively channel community resources into meaningful involvement and action on environmental issues. The Ecology Center is therefore an organization which values diversity in its membership and has deep roots in the surrounding community. The Center offers a unique opportunity for individuals to contribute their time and effort toward a cause that is unquestionably vital.

The Center pursues its broad aims through numerous programs, each of which may have several components: education, advocacy, demonstration, and service. In all of these programs, the Ecology Center maintains a balance between involvement at the local level and involvement on a broader scale, where these are clearly relevant to the interests of the Center's membership and the surrounding community.

Meeting Times and Places

Meetings of Ecology Center committees and task forces, including an issues steering committee, pesticides task force, environmental education committee and others, take place at 3 to 5 week intervals, and new volunteers are invited. Informal orientation meetings with a staff person prior to involvement are usually scheduled. For more information, contact the Ecology Center.

Membership Profile

The Ecology Center has over 2,000 member households, mostly in the Ann Arbor area. Members include over 150 businesses and approximately 200 volunteers. Membership rates are \$15 per household, \$5 for seniors. Regular volunteers receive a free membership. Member benefits include a year's subscription to *Ecology Reports*, the Center's monthly newsletter, environmental alerts on critical local issues, discounts on Center publications and merchandise, energy visits, voting rights to elect

board members, and invitations to member activities. Sponsorships, bequests and special contributions are welcomed.

Organizational Structure

The Ecology Center is organized as a non-profit corporation with a board of directors to oversee the operations of the organization. Committees of the Board, (made up of community members, volunteers and Board members), citizen task forces and staff at the Center all make recommendations to the Board of Directors on organizational issues. The staff of the Ecology Center are organized democratically, rather than hierarchically, with major decisions of the staff being made by the consensus of the staff. All staff receive the same rate of pay for their work.

Committees of the Board include: a recycling incentives committee, a personnel committee, a committee on resources, an education committee, an issues steering committee, and a number of ad hoc committees.

Candidates for the Board of Directors are nominated by a nominations committee of the Board, or directly by members. Current Board members include: President, Barbara Wykes, Vice-President, Ken Ludwig, Treasurer, Pat Corey, Secretary, Susan Morrison, and Staff Representatives: Frances Bunch, Leroy Cappaert, Joyce Chesbrough, John Edgren, Jim Frey and Nancy Stone.

The Ecology Center practices affirmative action for minorities, differently-abled individuals, and others in its staff hirings.

Community Services

Environmental Information and Referral: Assistance by phone is available Monday through Friday, 9:30 AM to 5:00 PM, and Saturday, 9:30 AM to 1:00 PM.

Environmental Library and Resource Center: Over 2,000 books, hundreds of topical files, journals and curricula are available for public use, Monday through Friday, 1:00 PM to 5:00 PM and Saturday, 9:30 AM to 1:00 PM.

Recycle Ann Arbor Monthly Curbside Pickups: The Center provides set-scheduled monthly pick-ups of recyclables on every city street. Trucks pick up newspapers, glass, tin cans, aluminum, used motor oil and batteries. Call the Ecology Center to determine your pickup day.

Commercial Recycling Pickups: Special pickups may be arranged for local businesses and institutions wishing to recycle. Call the Ecology Center for further information.

Recycling Drop-Off Station: The Center also operates a drop-off station for non-residents and those who just can't wait for their pick-up day

or have missed it. The station is open Fridays and Saturdays, 9:30 AM to 4:30 PM.

Home Energy Works: The Center's Energy Team offers weatherization, energy education and comprehensive audits to renters, homeowners, and property managers, and is available for community development contracts. Services are often free to low-income households. Call the Ecology Center to see if you qualify for a free home visit.

Environmental Educational Activities and Events: Presentations and slide shows are available. Annual events include: Recycle Week, Ecology Week, the Bike-A-Thon, and the Center's annual meeting. All of these events are open to the public.

Issues Programs: Issues programs involve: research, policy analysis and lobbying. These programs are primarily carried out by volunteers/members. Current project areas include: Household Toxics, Pesticides and Herbicides, Community "Right to Know" About Toxics, and the Environmental Education Outreach Program.

Volunteer Opportunities: All program areas at the Ecology Center utilize the involvement of members and the local community. Individuals interested in any aspect of the Ecology Center's work, or just simply with some extra time to lend a hand, should contact the Ecology Center.

Current News

In January, the Ecology Center of Ann Arbor elected two new members to the Board of Directors, presented six Community Service Awards, and celebrated its two-thousandth member at its annual meeting at the Old Second Ward Building in Ann Arbor.

Patricia Corey and Joyce Chesbrough were elected by the membership of the Ecology Center to three year terms on the Board. Community Service Awards were given to five individuals and one agency, all of whom were deemed to have provided outstanding service and leadership in the wise use and protection of the environment.

The awards were presented to: Janet Cohen, outdoor writer, the Ann Arbor News, for her contribution to increasing public awareness of local environmental concerns; Joan Martin, for her initiative and commitment as organizer of a citizen task force examining the impact of pesticides on our local environment, and for advocating the use of less toxic alternatives; Charles Griffith, for his extensive work researching and drafting the Right-To-Know regulation for Washtenaw County; Susie Starr, for coordinating the Sister Lakes group of over 18 Recycle Ann Arbor Block Coordinators; and the Washtenaw County Board of Commissioners for their foresight in researching the problems associated with local hazardous substances and for seeking long-term management solutions.

In February, the Ecology Center received a grant for \$430,000 from the State of Michigan to purchase equipment for the Recycle Ann Arbor
(cont. on next page)

Community Resource Directory

Environment

The Ecology Center

(continued from previous page)

program intended to increase the capacity of the program in order to serve some multi-family dwellings and to provide recycling transportation and processing assistance to other communities. The grant also allows for a year-long promotional campaign for participation in the city-wide recycling collection program.

In March, The Ecology Center participated in a program at the Ann Arbor Public Library on "Spring Cleaning and Gardening Without Toxics". Ecology Center Education Coordinator Nancy Stone, provided an overview of concerns, alternative methods and products and disposal recommendations. Representatives of the

County Cooperative Extension Service and Department of Public Health also spoke. The Center offers such information for callers and visitors year-round at its office on Detroit Street.

Coming Events

Events in April and May include the Center's fifteenth annual **Bike-A-Thon** on Sunday May 4th to raise money for the Ecology Center's "core" programs. Once again there will be refreshments, entertainment, and hundreds of prizes for those participating in this special event. The Center is encouraging businesses, couples, organizations, groups, and schools to form teams to compete in a variety of categories for prizes ranging from a weekend in Toronto, courtesy of Faber Travel Inc., for the "Dynamic Duo" bringing in the most

pledges, to dinner at local restaurants for winning business and organization teams.

There will be four different routes for all levels of riders, young and old, experienced and novice. The routes are the Waterloo Century, (100 miles), The Chelsea Metric, (58 miles), and the City Route, (14 miles).

When the riders return to the starting point, they will find virtuoso harmonica player "Madcat" Ruth performing. They will also be treated to pizza and soft drinks by Domino's Pizza-Ann Arbor Stores and the Pepsi Company.

Brochures and sponsor sheets are available at City Hall, Ann Arbor Public Library branches, all local bike and sport shops, school libraries and at the Ecology Center.

Community Resource Directory

Gay Rights

Gay Liberation

c/o 4117 Michigan Union
Ann Arbor, MI 48109
INFO: 763-4186
HOTLINE: 662-1977

Statement of Purpose

To provide information, counseling, and related social services for people concerned about sexual orientation: (1) maintain Hotline for crisis intervention, peer counseling, referral; (2) help provide factual information to offset prejudice, and misinformation about lesbians and gay men; (3) work to obtain human and civil rights for lesbians and gay men; (4) consult and cooperate with other community groups and agencies; (5) help other lesbian and gay male groups organize.

Meetings and Membership

Our meetings vary according to purpose (counseling, education, etc.). Call for information. Our organization is made up of students, staff, U-M faculty, and people from the larger community. Currently there are approximately 50 members.

Organizational Structure

Gay Liberation has the Executive Offices of President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer. We also do alot of work in Subcommittees: Counseling, Group Workers, Education Workers, and Civil Rights.

Community Services

Hotline: Crisis intervention, peer counseling, referral.

Education: Workshops on lesbian and gay male concerns, with an emphasis on how people in helping professions can work positively with lesbian and gay male clients.

Speakers Bureau: call for information.

Current News

The Lesbian-Gay Male Political Caucus is interviewing City Council candidates and will release endorsements for the April 7th city election. Gay Liberation is also cooperating in various campus and city workshops on AIDS. Call for more information.

Coming Events

Friday, April 4: Michigan Gay Union "Spring Dance", 9 PM, Law Club Lounge (State St. at S. University).

Saturday, April 5: "Coming Out Whole; A Conference on Addiction & Health Within the Lesbian Community", Michigan Union. Sponsored by, inter alia, Lesbian Program Office, Catherine McCauley Health Center.

Sunday, May 4: "Positive Gay Identity Conference", Marygrove College (Detroit). Call 763-4186 or 863-7255 for information.

Community Resource Directory

Housing

Ann Arbor Tenants Union

4001 Michigan Union
Ann Arbor, MI 48109
763-6876

Statement of Purpose

The Ann Arbor Tenants Union is concerned with the education, organization and defense of tenants. Tenants are 60% of Ann Arbor's population. Two-thirds of U of M students are tenants in Ann Arbor. Quality, affordable housing is a crucial issue for students, University workers,

and the general Ann Arbor population. Each year the Tenants Union reaches thousands of these tenants directly through counseling, organizing, and educational activities.

Organizational Structure

Services are provided to individuals and groups through the central service operation located in the Michigan Union. In addition, several Tenants Union locals exist at apartment complexes in area.

Community Services

The Tenants Union is available for phone counseling on Monday and Thursday afternoons. Tenant clinics are held on Wednesdays at 1:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.

Current News

The Appleridge Tenant's Union local launched a rent strike in March. The Arbordale-Parkhurst local met with City Councilperson Edgren regarding an Ann Arbor Community Development Subsidy to an exploitative landlord. One of the tasks of the Tenants Union is to make it easier for tenants to control their affairs. If you have housing questions and concerns, feel free to write, call, or come by the Tenants Union office.

Industrial Workers of the World

Industrial Workers of the World (IWW)
Southeastern Michigan,
General Membership Branch
42 S. Summit
Ypsilanti, MI 48197
483-3478

Statement of Purpose

The I.W.W. Union advocates the ownership and control of all means of production and distribution by the working class. It promotes this purpose through workplace organizing and education. Tactically it differentiates itself from conventional unions through emphasis on direct action rather than reliance on the courts and government to achieve the ends of the working class.

In the short run, the I.W.W. helps workers organize for increased decision-making power in the workplace as well as improved wages and benefits.

Meetings and Membership

General membership meetings: Second Monday of every month, 6 PM at the offices of the Ann Arbor Tenants' Union, fourth floor of the Michigan Union. Informal working meetings every

Monday, same time and place.

Area membership includes the majority of the employees at: American Speedy Printing, 525 E. Jefferson, Detroit; Ann Arbor Tenants' Union, in the Michigan Union; People's Warehouse, 727 W. Ellsworth; University Cellar, 341 E. Liberty; and several other workers and students who are in agreement with the Union's principles. The I.W.W. has approximately 110 members in this area. The initiation fee is \$5. Dues are \$5 per month for workers making more than \$300 per month, \$2 per month for anyone making less than \$300 per month.

Organizational Structure

All officers of the I.W.W. are elected annually. Between annual conventions the business of the I.W.W. is conducted by a 7 member board of directors. Its only paid official is the General Secretary-Treasurer. The General Membership Branch is an umbrella group for the Job Shops mentioned about plus members who do not work in IWW Shops. The General Membership Branch has a secretary-treasurer. I.W.W. shops have a lot of flexibility in determining their organizational structures. Most have a Branch secretary-treasurer, delegates who are authorized to sign up new members and collect dues, and stewards who process grievances. Decision making is done through democratic processes.

Community Services

Labor-organizing: members of the I.W.W. are available to advise and assist anyone engaged in organizing which will promote worker control, regardless of whether the organizers ultimately desire affiliation with the I.W.W.

Coming Events

Tuesday, April 29, 7:30 PM: "The Labor Movement in South Africa", Bonile Tuluma, the National Coordinator of Worker Education for the 50,000 member South African Allied Workers Union will speak. Four leaders of Tuluma's Union have been imprisoned for months for their opposition to apartheid. Tuluma is one of the few national officers of the progressive Union who remains free to expose the conditions suffered by workers under the Botha regime. Tuluma will also be available for interviews on April 30th. Admission to the speaking engagement is free, but donations to offset Tuluma's travel expenses will be greatly appreciated.

May 1-5: On the 100th anniversary of the Haymarket incident and the campaign for the 8 hour day, the I.W.W. is sponsoring an international conference of progressive Unionists, to be held in Chicago. Unions and rank-and-file activists from Canada, Denmark, England, Japan, Poland, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, the U.S., and Venezuela are currently expected to participate, with many others expressing strong interest in attending if circumstances and finances permit.

AMISTAD Construction Brigade

802 Monroe
Ann Arbor, MI 48104
761-7960

Statement of Purpose

The AMISTAD Construction Brigade is a project of HAP-NICA and thus is oriented to the same general goals given under the HAP-NICA listing, but because of the nature of its task, AMISTAD has its own organizational structure and the following additional specific goals:

Raising \$20-30,000 for the purchase of tools and materials.

Increasing community awareness of the realities of Nicaragua and how the U.S. is involved there.

Establishing ties between Ann Arbor and Managua as a local peace initiative.

Sending a broadly-based community group to Managua to construct a soil-testing laboratory for the National University of Nicaragua. The Italian government has donated the equipment for the lab, and a Canadian chapter of HAP-NICA is planning to send a team of technicians to train the Nicaraguans. Experienced electricians,

carpenters, plumbers, and masons will be needed for the brigade, as well as skilled and unskilled construction workers. The brigade will go to Nicaragua in mid-October, 1986 for 6 to 8 weeks.

AMISTAD is both the Spanish word for friendship as well as the acronym for Ann-Arbor Managua Initiative for Soil Testing and Development. The purpose of the AMISTAD Construction Brigade is not only to provide Nicaragua with the tools for self-sufficiency but also to increase understanding and solidarity between the peoples of the U.S. and Nicaragua.

This lab will do nutrient analysis of soils to help farmers make their land more productive and enable them to use fertilizers more effectively. AMISTAD sees the soil-testing lab as crucial to the goal of self-sufficiency since so much of the Nicaraguan economy is agriculture based. For any development of this revolutionary economy, advanced tools such as the lab are necessary. It is with these goals in mind that AMISTAD is eagerly seeking out active members in the Ann Arbor community.

Meetings and Membership

AMISTAD meets on Sunday evenings, 7:30 PM at the Michigan Union. We have approximately

30 to 40 members, both U of M students and permanent community members. Steering Committee plus recruiting, publicity and fundraising committees.

Community Services and Coming Events

A slideshow on agriculture in revolutionary Nicaragua with a speaker is available for presentation to community groups. There will be a Musical Benefit for AMISTAD by Ann Arbor musicians Hugh McGuinness and Jim Kirk at East Quad's Halfway Inn on April 18 at 8 PM.

F.L.O.C.

Farm Labor Organizing Committee (FLOC)
c/o Marg Reeves
2142 Stone Dr
Ann Arbor, MI 48105
Information: 769-0027 or 764-1446

Statement of Purpose

The Farm Labor Organizing Committee (FLOC) is devoted to securing collective (continued on next page)

bargaining agreements between the Campbell Soup Company, the migrant farmworkers of the Midwest, and the growers. FLOC has just recently (February 21, 1986) suspended a seven year old boycott of Campbell's products on the condition that Campbell's continues improving the deplorable working conditions of the Midwest's migrant farmworkers and facilitating unionization efforts.

Meetings and Membership

The Ann Arbor chapter of FLOC meets every Tuesday at 5:45 p.m. in Room 4318 of the Michigan Union. Meetings usually last about one hour. There are currently seven active members

of FLOC in Ann Arbor. Most are affiliated with other progressive political organizations on campus.

Community Services

FLOC holds numerous benefits and bake sales, donating all proceeds to FLOC's headquarters in Toledo, Ohio. In addition, the organization seeks to inform citizens about the plight of the migrant farmworkers.

Current News

The big news from FLOC is the recently-

announced suspension of the Campbell's boycott, following the signing of unprecedented collective bargaining agreements giving farmworkers a voice over their own affairs. Yes, all you ardent supporters of the boycott can now indulge in Campbell's soup, V-8 juice, Prego spaghetti sauce, ad infinitum. However, FLOC remains concerned with the future of collective bargaining agreements. The fight has just begun; the recently signed agreements cover only 600 workers in Ohio and Michigan. FLOC shall continue to press for unionization and a recognition of all workers' basic rights, and, if for any reason Campbell's reneges on its pledge, the boycott will be reinstated. FLOC's next goal is to sign up more of the nearly 1 million agricultural workers in the U.S.

HAP-NICA

HAP-NICA
802 Monroe
Ann Arbor, MI 48104
761-7960

Statement of Purpose

HAP-NICA is the acronym for Humanitarian Assistance Project for Independent Agricultural Development in Nicaragua. We are a non-profit charitable organization with about six active chapters in the U.S., Canada, and Nicaragua. The organization was started in 1984 by members of the New World Agriculture Group (see NWAG section). HAP-NICA members see Nicaragua taking innovative, experimental steps to solve the problems of hunger, poverty and unemployment that have plagued their country (as they've plagued much of the Third World).

Under the dictatorship of the Somoza family, most of Nicaragua's rich lands were under the control of a privileged few who exploited them for their own benefit by growing crops such as cotton, coffee, sugar and bananas for export to the industrialized countries, particularly to the United States. Nicaragua had once been the "breadbasket" of Central America, yet the majority of its people found it increasingly difficult to feed themselves as export plantations displaced small farmers onto marginal lands or into urban slums. Somoza's Nicaragua became notorious for its excessive and irresponsible use of hazardous agricultural pesticides, the wanton pollution of its lakes and streams, and its abuse of its land and its people.

Since the overthrow of Somoza in 1979 by a massive insurrection of the Nicaraguan people, the new government has initiated many internationally recognized programs to combat the dependency and underdevelopment of their country. Among those of particular interest to HAP-NICA are: 1) A continuing agrarian reform that has given land titles to tens of thousands of landless campesinos, 2) Innovative research on strategies designed to reduce the use of hazardous chemicals and other expensive imported farm products, 3) Programs to preserve Nicaragua's soils from wind and water erosion, 4) Programs designed to make the country self-sufficient in food (and to make that food available to the poor majority), while maintaining production of export crops still needed for foreign exchange.

HAP-NICA is acting to provide direct assistance to Nicaragua's progress in the fields of agricultural research and production. We work in cooperation with the Nicaraguan union of small farmers and ranchers (UNAG) and the School of Agriculture of the Autonomous National University (UNAN) to provide funding, materials, and technical assistance for specific projects which they have judged to be important for their development. In addition we are attempting to make the U.S. public aware of the positive gains of the Nicaraguan revolution and the destructive and immoral nature of the Reagan Administration's policies toward Nicaragua.

Meeting Times and Places

Much of HAP-NICA's work consists of a variety of projects and tasks such as fundraising, bookkeeping, newsletter production, procurement and shipment of materials, mail-order sales of our slideshow and T-shirts, educational outreach and speaking engagements. General meetings are scheduled to coordinate these ongoing activities and are held on alternate Thursdays at 5:30 p.m. at the Michigan Union. Committee meetings are scheduled informally between the general meetings. Upcoming general meetings will be held on April 3, April 17, and May 1. Those interested in becoming involved are welcome to attend or to contact our office by phone.

Membership Profile

Ann Arbor membership now consists of about 10-20 people (not including the affiliated AMISTAD Construction Brigade) who are both students and permanent Ann Arbor residents. Five members of Ann Arbor HAP-NICA are now in Nicaragua for an extended period giving technical and research assistance.

Organizational Structure

The various chapters of HAP-NICA are currently relatively autonomous. As the founding chapter, Ann Arbor HAP-NICA continues to act as a clearinghouse, both for information on projects from Nicaragua and for (tax-deductible) contributions from across North America.

Ann Arbor HAP-NICA has a three-member steering committee which monitors the progress of various projects and prepares meeting agendas. Ongoing tasks are carried out by individuals or committees of individuals.

The AMISTAD Construction Brigade (see below) is an autonomous project of HAP-NICA which has its own organizational structure and meeting schedule.

Community Services

HAP-NICA has an excellent, professionally designed slide-show called "Seeds of Hope" which provides an introduction to the Nicaraguan revolution and the U.S. sponsored war there. It is available for showing along with speakers from HAP-NICA. There are also copies for rent or for sale.

Current News

HAP-NICA now has a full time coordinator in Nicaragua, Miguel AuClair-Valdez who will be funded by a private foundation grant. His responsibilities in Managua will be to make contacts regarding HAP-NICA projects and to facilitate the transfer of money and materials to Nicaragua.

Fundraising has been completed for two projects in Nicaragua. The first is a journal of Nicaraguan agricultural research which is now being prepared for publication in Managua. The second project is a bulk transport boat for farmers in the Atlantic Coast region which will be built in Nicaragua with money donated by HAP-NICA.

L.A.S.C.

Latin American Solidarity Committee
4120 Michigan Union
Ann Arbor MI 48109
665-8438

Statement of Purpose

LASC is a nonprofit group dedicated to supporting the legitimate aspirations of Latin American peoples to self-determination. Our goals are to increase awareness here about contemporary realities in Latin America and the U.S. role in perpetuating these, and to pressure our government to change its military, political, and economic policies toward Latin America.

(continued on next page)

Community Resource Directory

Latin American Issues

L.A.S.C. (continued from previous page)**Meeting and Membership**

We meet every Wednesday at 8:00 p.m. in the Michigan Union. Stop at the information desk for the room location. Occasionally we will meet nearby when rooms in the Union are unavailable--in this case the information desk at the Union will tell you the building and room number. The latest information on meetings and events can also be obtained by calling the LASC office at 665-8438. The office is normally staffed from 12-2 on weekdays, and messages can be left on the answering machine at all other times.

Our members are students, faculty, staff, and members of the Ann Arbor community. Weekly meetings attract about 60-100 members. Sometimes we break up into discussion groups, since these are large meetings. It's a friendly group and a good number of members often go out for beer after the meetings.

N.M.A.P.

Nicaragua Medical Aid Project
2007 Washtenaw
Ann Arbor, MI 48104
(313) 764-7442 or 769-1442

Statement of Purpose

In January, 1984 a group of Ann Arbor people formed the Nicaragua Medical Aid Project to support the Nicaraguan government's efforts to improve the health of its people. Since the overthrow of the Somoza dictatorship in 1979, health care has been a fundamental commitment in Nicaragua. Dramatic changes occurred, especially for the 90% of the population which under Somoza received only 10% of health services. Nicaragua's efforts have been commended by the World Health Organization and UNICEF as a "model for primary health care in other third world countries."

These advances are increasingly threatened by a combination of military aggression and economic pressure. U.S. sponsored contras have specifically targeted medical supplies, buildings, and personnel. The murders of a West German and a French physician forced the withdrawal of all foreign health workers from the border. Contras destroyed 41 newly built rural health centers and a warehouse containing over a million dollars worth of medicine. U.S. economic sanctions which imposed a trade embargo and cut off credit from international agencies greatly increased Nicaragua's difficulty in obtaining medical supplies.

NMAP collects medical supplies and money to meet specific requests by health care facilities in Nicaragua. We believe that mobilizing public opinion against further funding of the contras, whether governmental or private, is as important as providing material aid. U.S. citizens who truly desire to benefit the Nicaraguan people must not

Organizational Structure

LASC has four main committees: Fund-raising, publicity, newsletter, and outreach. Most of the work gets done in these committees or in temporary groups that form around particular events. So it's easy to get involved even if you can't make the Wednesday night meetings.

There is also a steering committee of five members, elected for staggered four month terms. They are responsible for making sure that things get done and making decisions that must be made between meetings. LASC is a very democratic organization, and since the steering committee has very little power, there are no power struggles or factions. Differences of opinion arise but most decisions end up being made by a consensus or something very close to it.

Community Services

LASC sponsors educational events such as films and speakers. Our outreach committee also

only provide material support, but also work to reverse our government's policies which undermine the health and violate the human rights of Nicaragua's people.

Meeting and Membership

Our meetings are informal. Meetings are small, held in homes. Work focuses on activities outside meetings. We get help from other organizations on specific projects. Call NMAP for times and places.

NMAP's membership is made up of public health and health care professionals, students, and concerned community people. Membership in NMAP (\$20/year regular, \$10 low income) includes subscription to LINKS, national journal on Central American health rights.

Community Services

In Nicaragua: Delivering requested medical supplies to the Hospital Infantil in Managua and to rural health centers...repairing microscopes throughout Nicaragua and providing spare parts...buying pharmaceuticals at 3% of cost through the Medicines for Central America Fund...sending emergency medical kits for use in war zones and rural health posts...contributing to the purchase of generators for health care facilities needing electric power...supplying repair parts for U.S. made medical equipment.

In the United States: Speaking and showing slides about health care in Nicaragua...working with the National Central America Health Rights Network (NCAHRN) to coordinate our efforts with those of more than 50 local medical aid groups across the United States...participating in attempts to stop U.S. aggression against Nicaragua such as Ann Arbor's ballot Proposal A for Peace in Central America.

To host a speaker/slide presentation in your home, classroom, place of worship, club, etc., call Rev. Robert Hauert at 764-7442.

sends people to University or high school classes or anyplace else we're invited to talk about the issues. Our newsletter, *La Palabra*, is sent to about 800 subscribers and contains a summary of local activity, upcoming events, and some national and international news.

We also organize public demonstrations, such as the recent protest at our U.S. Representative Carl Pursell's office, in which 118 people were arrested for acts of non-violent civil disobedience (see article in this issue of *Agenda*.)

Coming Events

On Friday, April 4th, LASC encourages everyone to participate in the Freedom March, beginning at 10:30 AM in the DIAG. Call for more information.

On Friday, April 4th, Margaret Randall, feminist, poet, and writer will give a talk entitled: "Cuban and Nicaraguan Women", at 8 PM in the Michigan Union Ballroom.

Current News

The U of M chapter of the American Medical Students Association together with NMAP is collecting new and used stethoscopes to send to Nicaraguan medical students. The number of medical students in Nicaragua has increased threefold since the revolution, a situation that brings acute resource problems along with its promise. Jeff Meckler and Jim Kerwin, medical students who organized the stethoscope drive here in response to an urgent request from the National University of Nicaragua, have spread the word, so a number of other U.S. medical schools are now sending stethoscopes.

Andy Clark, a 4th year U of M medical student, is leaving soon to do part of his medical rotation in the northern Nicaraguan town of Esteli. Two U.S. physicians doing long-term work in Nicaragua made arrangements for Andy through NMAP.

Coming Events

A large sea-going container of medical equipment will leave Milwaukee for Nicaragua in late April. Ann Arbor and other communities throughout the mid-west will be contributing. To donate medical supplies, help with packing, or make a contribution to defray shipping costs, call Dr. Andrew Zweifler at 663-6576. (see story in this issue of *Agenda*).

Seven Ann Arbor NMAP members have joined hundreds of other U.S. health workers at the U.S./Nicaragua Health Colloquium held each November in Managua. If you are interested in going this November, contact NMAP for more information.

Seventy-six boxes of medical supplies have been hand carried by Ann Arbor people traveling to Nicaragua. If you're planning a trip, we have a substantial donation of suturing material that needs a ride down.

Ann Arbor War Tax Dissidents/U.S. Peace Tax Fund

1406 Warrington Drive
Ann Arbor, MI 48103
General information: Mary Lou Kerwinn 662-2838
U.S. Peace Tax Fund Bill: David Basset 662-1373
War Tax Resistance: Fran Eliot 663-2655

Introduction

Ann Arbor War Tax Dissidents works for passage of the U.S. Peace Tax Fund bill, (a law permitting people morally opposed to war to have the military portion of their taxes allocated to peacemaking), and provides counseling and

information resources for persons conscientiously opposed to payment of war taxes.

AAWTD generally meets the third Saturday of each month in the Pine Room of the Wesley Foundation, 602 East Huron, Ann Arbor. AAWTD is affiliated with the National War Tax Resistance Coordinating Committee (NWTRCC), and with the National Campaign for a Peace Tax Fund. (NCPTF). AAWTD is of an informal nature with a diverse membership and a volunteer coordinator.

AAWTD provides the community with a Speaker's Bureau, workshops, forums, information hotlines, (contact appropriate number listed below), and Taxes for Peace, (a slide show).

Current News and Events

The Annual Tax Day Witness will be at the Main U. S. Post Office, 2075 West Stadium Blvd., Ann Arbor, from 8 PM to midnight, Tuesday April 15, 1986. (The main post office will be open until midnight to receive last-minute income tax returns.) AAWTD members will provide leaflets describing the U.S. Peace Tax Fund bill now in Congress. In addition to more details on this bill, our local group's resources will be available. No other regular meeting is scheduled for April.

Campuses Against Weapons in Space (C.A.W.S.)

4101 Michigan Union
Ann Arbor, MI 48109
(313) 763-3241

Meeting Times and Places

Campuses Against Weapon in Space (CAWS) meets on Sundays, at 8 PM, in the Michigan Student Assembly Chambers, 3909 Michigan Union.

Statement of Purpose

In April of 1985, the Division of Research and Development Administration (DRDA) advertised in the University Record for professors to submit Strategic Defense Initiative (S.D.I.) proposals to the government. Some students responded with a sit in at the DRDA. They demanded that the University research the implications of the controversial "Star Wars" defense shield before making any official endorsement. Since these demands were left unmet, the students formed Campuses Against Weapons in Space in June of 1985. If the administration was unwilling to investigate S.D.I., we would!

Thus, CAWS organized the successful "S.D.I. and Universities Conference" in early October of 1985. Almost 1500 students, faculty, and concerned citizens came to hear such renowned speakers as James Lonson, a Director of the S.D.I. Organization, and Edith Ballantyne, Secretary General of the Women's International League for Peace, debate the pros and cons of "Star Wars".

Since then, CAWS has been involved in many activities, including guerilla theater on the Diag, vigils, marches, and protests. Overall, our purpose is to educate the University and Ann Arbor community about the dangers of "Star Wars" and the general increasing militarization of our university and our nation. Moreover, our goal is to effect legislative change to decrease the possibility of nuclear war.

Membership Profile

CAWS has a core membership of approximately fifteen people, which includes students, faculty, and staff from the University, as well as concerned Ann Arbor residents. Our meetings are informal, with decisions arrived at by consensus of the members. We have no executive offices. Instead, all members share equally in the work, responsibilities, and benefits. However, for our planned activities, we are able to mobilize large numbers of supporters because of our affiliations with groups from the Freedom Charter (Latin American Solidarity Committee, Free South Africa Coordinating Committee), Campus Ministries, and other peace groups (Michigan Alliance for Disarmament and Beyond War).

Community Services

Speakers from CAWS are available for any group upon request. We also have a hotline (763-3241) to answer questions during office hours (9 AM to 5 PM).

Current News

Our main concern at present is the review of the guidelines on classified research at the University of Michigan. The current guidelines were enacted in 1972 in response to the Vietnam War. They are as follows:

- 1) "The University will not enter into or renew any agreement or contract, or accept any grant, the clearly foreseeable and probable result of which, or any specific purpose of which is to destroy human life or to incapacitate human beings."
- 2) "The University will not enter into or renew any agreement or contract, or accept any grant, that limits open publication of the results of research beyond one year."

However, in August of 1985, the University Regents passed a resolution calling for an executive committee to review the guidelines. In an *Ann Arbor News* article on July 8, 1985, Regent Roach stated; "Maybe we will discover that the guidelines are a product of their time and that they have outlived their usefulness."

In response to this threat to the guidelines, CAWS has continually pressed the ad-hoc review committee to keep the present guidelines, as well as abolish all classified research, and all research, classified and unclassified, that is destructive to human life. We will continue to work towards these ends up to the time that the Regents make their decision, due either in late April or early next fall.

Included with our concern over the guidelines is the overall increasing militarization of our University. This is evident in Vice-President for Research Linda Wilson's pledge to double Department of Defense research at the University by 1990. Steps have already been taken in this direction. Currently, five S.D.I. projects are being performed at U-M, worth \$577 million. Still pending acceptance are proposals totaling another \$5 million. It is the opinion of CAWS that the University ceases to be a free functioning, independent institution for an unbiased education when it persists in allying itself to the government by becoming an appendage to its Defense Department. CAWS is working for a free University and a free society, free from government manipulation and militarization, and free from fear of nuclear war.

Coming Events

CAWS plans to celebrate April Fools Day by making fun of President Reagan's Strategic Defense Initiative. We will host a party on the Diag of the University with music, clowns, balloons, general fun, and informed speakers on the issue of S.D.I. and the UM. And of course, we have a few tricks up our sleeves. What is April Fools Day without them? Be there anytime between 10 AM and 2 PM and join in the fun!

SANE

A Citizen's Organization for a SANE World

1416 Hill Street
Ann Arbor, MI 48104
313-663-3913

Statement of Goals and Policies

SANE's goals are the reversal of the nuclear arms race and conversion from a military to a civilian economy.

We condemn the nuclear arms race as a threat to the survival of humanity and urge sharp cutbacks and reductions of nuclear armaments. Our ultimate objective is the complete elimination of all nuclear war threats. To this end we support a bilateral United States - Soviet Union nuclear weapons freeze as the first step toward strategic arms reduction agreements. We also urge the consideration of independent national initiatives to reduce tensions and lower nuclear arms stockpiles.

While SANE supports the need for a legitimate national defense, we oppose policies of increased military spending and overseas interventionism as a threat to world peace and a detriment to American security. We urge a new, more peacefully oriented U.S. foreign policy and call for the elimination of support for corrupt foreign dictatorships. America should advance economic and political progress in the world, not militarism and repression.

We believe that national security rests as much on a strong economy and just society as on military preparedness. Excessive arms spending actually weakens civilian industry and undermines our economic competitiveness in the world. We believe that conversion from military to civilian industry is essential for the economic well-being of America and its citizens. The millions of workers who now depend on the arms race for their livelihood should be entitled to job security through planned economic conversion. To this end SANE works with the International Association of Machinists and other unions to urge alternatives to the military budget and prepare plans for converting military facilities and workers to civilian purposes.

As a citizen's lobby, SANE promotes real democracy in U.S. foreign and military policy decision making. This country's state, defense and intelligence bureaucracies are rife with corruption and incompetence. They operate within a shroud of secrecy, removed from the concerns and needs of the country's citizens. If this is to change, the public must have accurate, unbiased information about foreign policy and legitimate defense needs. SANE is committed to providing such information to as many people as possible through a year-round national community outreach program. Since 1982, the organization's field representatives have contacted millions of average citizens in towns and cities coast-to-

coast. It is a top priority for SANE to expand this program.

Meeting Time and Places

The Ann Arbor SANE office is in the Friends Center at 1416 Hill Street. Our group is somewhat distinct in that our operations are conducted primarily by paid staff rather than member-volunteers. The staff size varies from a low of about 15 to as many as thirty, depending on the time of year, political need, and the availability of Ann Arbor's student community for full-time employment. We meet daily to review our work and plan for the future. SANE members and interested individuals are always welcome in the office to discuss the issues, and participate in organizing projects. We can set up regular meeting times for volunteer corps at the convenience of those who wish to participate.

Membership Profile

From its founding in the late fifties until the late seventies, SANE was known as a small organization of prominent statespeople and philanthropists with reliable backing by liberal citizens. Today, SANE is the largest peace organization in the United States with a grassroots membership of about 150,000 and doubling every year. Most of the membership has been recruited recently through an ambitious community outreach program. They are representative of the great diversity of American society--rich and poor, people of all races and ethnic backgrounds, politically conservative and radical, from high school students to great grandmothers, from navy admirals and congressional leaders to pacifists and homemakers.

That's the key to SANE's effectiveness as a congressional lobby: we cannot be labelled except as "American."

Organizational Structure and Community Services

SANE is organized as a citizen's lobby. The members are represented by an expert lobbying staff that has direct access to Congress. The field offices are headed by a state director who coordinates the activities of a program and canvass staff. The Ann Arbor office has four committees or task forces devoted to membership development, political or electoral action,

fundraising and field operations. Through the work of these committees, we keep our members informed of congressional action on foreign and military policy, build our volunteer corps, train potential activists; participate in electoral campaigns by petitioning, public ad campaigns and phone banking before votes; raise funds for SANE activities, for local movement work, and to increase the peace community's resource base; and conduct a door-to-door canvass throughout the state.

The Ann Arbor Office can provide speakers for community groups, and when time and energy permits, trained activists for local campaigns.

Current News

We have just returned from SANE's annual membership conference, a three day symposium with nationally-known speakers, workshops, celebration and mourning. The good news: we are growing daily and are stronger than ever. The bad news: we have a long hard road ahead to achieve a world of peace and justice.

In Ann Arbor, SANE has been assisting with the effort to pass a referendum for Peace in Central America. We will host a fundraising bash with the Watusies, more to follow, and will phone bank to identify and mobilize voters until the day of the election.

Our expert training staff are gearing up for the summer exodus of students and teachers who want to work for peace. We can accommodate an almost unlimited number of committed people. Please contact us!
(See employment ad in Agenda or the Ann Arbor News).

Coming Events and Activities

In Ann Arbor, SANE will be focusing on the April 7 election of Proposal A, for peace in Central America. Nationally, we will be working on legislation to effect the following goals: elimination of military assistance to the contras in and out of Nicaragua, drastic reduction of funding for the government of El Salvador, and the promotion of U.S. participation in the Contadora Peace Process; a congressionally mandated moratorium on funding for nuclear warhead testing, pursuant to an international comprehensive test ban treaty, and the elimination of funds for the Star Wars system that would cause violation of arms control agreements.

Women's Action for Nuclear Disarmament

Washtenaw County Women's Action for Nuclear
Disarmament, Inc. (WAND)
P.O. Box 1815
Ann Arbor, MI 48106-1815
(313)761-1718

Statement of Purpose

Washtenaw County WAND was formed in December of 1984 by a core group of 12 individuals and became an affiliate of the national WAND which was formed in 1980 by Dr. Helen Caldicott.

(continued on next page)

Community Resource Directory

Peace and Disarmament

W.A.N.D. (continued from previous page)

The primary purpose of our local organization is to empower women personally and politically, and to broaden the constituency of individuals who are working towards the elimination of nuclear weapons. We subscribe to the national WAND organization's objectives of educating ourselves and the public about the dangers of continued weapons production and influencing our congressional representatives by informed lobbying. To this end, during 1985, a fully functional organization which does lobbying, coalition-building, fundraising, public speaking, publicity, and monthly educational presentations was established.

Meeting Times and Places

Meetings are open to the general public on the second Sunday of the month at St. Aidan's Episcopal/Northside Presbyterian Churches, 1679 Broadway, Ann Arbor. Doors open at 7:00 PM for coffee, conversation and material displays. The meeting begins at 7:30 PM with the program or speaker at 8:30 PM and audience reaction at 9:00 PM. The meeting concludes at 9:30 PM. Babysitting is available in the church nursery during the meeting.

Membership Profile

Membership is open to all. Current membership is approximately 175, and mostly comprised of women ranging in age from 17 to 70

with the majority in the age range of 25 to 45. Men are welcome and encouraged to join. Membership fees are \$25 per year with scholarships available for low income persons. Membership benefits include a subscription to our local monthly newsletter, copies of the national WAND bulletin, and discounts on books and other materials.

Organizational Structure

The organization is formally incorporated as a 501 (c) (4) not-for-profit corporation. Designation as a charitable 501 (c) (3) organization has been applied for. The structure is that of a paid general membership with a Coordinating Committee consisting of the Chairs of all of the Committees plus the Officers. The Officers are President, Vice President and two Members-at-Large.

The Officers constitute the Executive Committee which is responsible for translating policy and making more specific day-to-day decisions. The Executive Committee is also legally and financially responsible for the organization. The Coordinating Committee makes the broad policy decisions and guidelines. Elections of the Executive Committee are held once a year at the annual meeting.

The active work of the organization takes place through the committee structure. Committees include Education, Lobbying, Speakers Bureau, Political Strategies,

Membership/Welcoming, Publicity, Fundraising, Publications, Sales and Newsletter.

Community Services

Information Hotline: 761-1718: The hotline delivers a 3 minute taped message which announces important lobbying information, WAND meetings scheduled for the month plus the times of other community events.

Speakers Bureau: Speakers are available to speak on a wide range of topics for small informal groups, classes, public forums, rallies, etc.

Current Events

Sunday, April 13: General Meeting. The program will be a film "A Call for Peace: The Military Budget and You".

Sunday, May 11: In lieu of the general meeting a **Mother's Day Festival of Peace** will be held at West Park from 1 PM to 4 PM. Even though the credit for founding "Mother's Day" is usually given to Anna Jarvis, history shows that Julia Ward Howe of Boston was an early originator of the idea of celebrating a day focused on mothers and peace. Acutely aware that the losses women and the nation suffered during the Civil War and distressed by the carnage of the Franco-Prussian War, she conceived of the day as a time when everyone should dedicate themselves anew to the task of bringing about world peace.

Women's International League for Peace and Freedom**Women's International League for Peace and Freedom**

c/o Paquetta Palmer, Newsletter Editor
619 East University, A-1
Ann Arbor, MI 48104
Information: Lillian Zaret 663-8614

Statement of Purpose

Since its founding in 1915, the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom has united countless women working for peace and freedom. Two of its founders, Jane Addams and Emily Greene Balch, were awarded Nobel Peace Prizes for their work.

WILPF has a worldwide network with sections in 26 countries on five continents and an international office in Geneva. The U.S. section alone has more than 100 branches. As an international organization with official representation in the U.N., we are committed to the United Nations as a strong force for settling disputes among nations.

Throughout its unique history, WILPF has affirmed that peace and freedom are inseparable, two sides of the same coin. WILPF continues to be a multi-issue, multi-racial organization emphasizing the connections between war and

poverty, racism and economic exploitation, and sexism and violence.

WILPF stands for the equality of all people in a world free of racism and sexism, the building of a constructive peace through world disarmament, and changing U.S. government priorities to meet human needs.

Recent WILPF actions and coalition work include: August 27th March for Jobs, Peace and Freedom (to commemorate the 20th anniversary of the historic civil rights march (1963), Women's Peace Encampments (1983), Listen to Women for a Change (including the Women's Poll Project and work with the Women's Vote Project) (1983), Women's Speaking Tour on Central America (1984), Comprehensive Test Ban Campaign (1984).

Meetings and Membership

April 9 is the WILPF Board meeting. Send agenda items, comments, queries to Paquetta A. Palmer, at the above address. There are approximately 120 members in the Ann Arbor-Ypsilanti Branch. The current officers are: Coordinator, Annie Blackman, Co-Coordinator, Dee Axelrod, Treasurer, Lynn Furay, Membership, Lillian Zaret, Legislation, Ruth Graves, Literature, Bev Fish, Phone Tree, Clara Nitzberg and Betty Musgrave, Children's Books, Joan Weisman, Newsletter, Paquetta Palmer, At-Large, Judy Duboff, State Liason, Lynn Furay.

Community Services

We have a lot of literature available on issues that concern everyone as they struggle for peace and freedom. We have art work, T-shirts, posters, buttons and books available for moderate donations. We also have many members who can speak on current issues and special topics such as U.S. policy in Central America, war tax resistance, and children's books on peace, disarmament and social justice. We are very proud of having many members who have been in the struggle a long time. We consider the experience and knowledge of WILPF members, one of WILPF's greatest assets.

Coming Events

We will elect new officers in May and hold a joint meeting with the Detroit WILPF branch. On April 26th at 6 PM, we will hold our annual WILPF banquet in the Unitarian Church basement, 1917 Washtenaw Ave., Ann Arbor. A delicious dinner will be served and we have arranged some special entertainment. Donations will help cover operating costs for 1986-87.

WILPF branches around the country are demonstrating, lobbying, and participating in non-violent action and working with others to build a just and peaceful nuclear-free world. Listen to Women for a change...

Community Resource Directory

Hunger and Poverty

WHE-AC

World Hunger Education-Action Committee

4202 Michigan Union
Ann Arbor, MI 48109
Information: 663-4301

In the **World Hunger Education--Action Committee (WHE-AC)**, our work focuses on the causes of, and solutions to, world hunger. Our objectives include educating ourselves and the campus community through reading groups, films, speakers, presentations, research, and group actions. We are dedicated to understanding the complex social, political, economic, and environmental forces that both create and promote world hunger. We advocate self-determinism and long-term development as viable solutions. Thus, we support and work closely with Oxfam America and the Institute for Food and Development Policy.

Meetings and Membership

We are a small group of ten to twenty U of M students, staff, and Ann Arbor community

members. Our structure is non-hierarchical. We organize ourselves to meet the needs of each specific project. We meet every Monday at 7 PM in 4202 Michigan Union. We have various resources including newsletters from Food First and Oxfam America available in our office.

Current News

In April, WHE-AC will begin working on Oxfam America's *Tools for Peace and Justice in Central America* campaign. We are always looking for additional input. If you would like to help us out, let us know. Watch for more information in next month's Agenda.

We would also like to extend our thanks to all of the organizations and individuals who helped bring Frances Moore Lappe to the U of M in March.

Coming Events

Domestic Hunger Learn-In: Saturday, April 5, 1 PM to 5 PM, room 126 of East Quad. Sponsored by WHE-AC in conjunction with Interfaith Council for Peace (ICP). The Learn-In will include a film on hunger in America followed by a talk on "Demystifying the Reagan Administration's

Policy about Food and Hunger Issues". There will also be three workshops concentrating on different aspects of the problem of hunger in the United States. They are: "Making the Connections: Poverty at Home and Militarism Abroad"; "The Impact of Hunger on Women and Minorities"; and "Addressing Local Hunger Needs".

The workshops will be led by community hunger activists. We will conclude the day with a discussion which will provide us with an opportunity to tie together issues raised throughout the Learn-In. This will also be an opportunity to become familiar with the numerous community groups working to change the devastating reality facing so many millions of Americans today. We hope to see you there.

On Thursday, April 10 at 8 PM in the Kuenzel Room of the Michigan Union, **Ravi Khanna, Outreach Coordinator for Oxfam America**, will present a slide show of Honduras and Nicaragua from the recent Oxfam study tour. A discussion will follow on the subject of U. S. policy in Nicaragua and Honduras and how it affects Oxfam America's development work there. Mr. Khanna will be available for other informal discussions from April 11 through April 13. Contact WHE-AC for more information. This event is sponsored by the Seva Foundation and WHE-AC.

Community Resource Directory

Progressive Church

Guild House

802 Monroe
Ann Arbor, MI 48104
662-5189

The Guild House is a United Campus Ministry

Guild House is dedicated to engaging in the struggles for justice and liberation at the University of Michigan and in our world. It is a campus ministry deeply rooted in the life and work of the Christian faith and of other traditions and groups which share a ministry of concern for human fulfillment and a just and humane society.

Exodus and resurrection, liberation and transformation, empowerment and change are important paradigms that inform our several religious and spiritual perspectives, and serve to guide our common ministry. We share with sisters and brothers everywhere a commitment to non-

more meaningful and spiritual existence. Like all people and institutions we are not neutral, we stand with those who struggle for human justice and decency.

Guild house staff meets with students, faculty and staff on personal issues as well as systemic concerns like racism, sexism and homophobia.

We work in coalition with other groups and individuals, among them LASC (Latin American Solidarity Committee) and CAWS (Campuses Against Weapons in Space).

Guild house also supports groups and individuals by providing space for meetings and staff time for projects and groups.

April Events

Beans and Rice Dinner: Dinners are held every Wednesday from 6:00 PM to 7:30 PM. A \$2 donation is requested (\$1 for children from 6-

12 years). Proceeds from the dinner go to direct aid projects in Central America.

Guild House Writer's Series: A series of poetry and prose readings co-sponsored by Guild House and Michigan Student assembly are held on Monday evenings at 8:00 PM.

April 7: Alan Cheuse and Diane Raptosh

April 14: Lemuel Johnson and Nicholas Delbanco

Friday Noon Forums: Discussions on the moral and ethical issues of our time are held at 12 p.m. Vegetarian soup and Sandwich available for \$1.

April 4: No forum will be held; we're encouraging everyone to join the Freedom March Against Racism and Apartheid beginning at 10:30 on the Diag.

April 11: Tom Weisskopf

April 18: Jonathon Ellis

Interfaith Council for Peace

604 E. Huron
Ann Arbor, MI 48104
(313) 663-1870

Statement of Purpose

Office Hours: 9:30 to 5:00, Monday through Friday.

Interfaith Council for Peace, a non-profit educational organization, believes in the possibility of a world where every woman, man and child has the opportunity to live in freedom, peace and without fear. Begun in 1965 by a small group

of area clergy and lay persons, Interfaith Council for Peace focused on protesting U.S. involvement in the Vietnam War. Over the past twenty years, Interfaith's work has expanded to address justice concerns related to hunger and agriculture in addition to the on-going work for peace.

Since 1965, Interfaith Council for Peace, a local chapter of the national Clergy and Laity

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ICP (continued from previous page)

(CALC), has worked to educate and promote action on these issues. We act as a clearinghouse for peace and justice activities in local religious congregations and in the community at large. Interfaith raises moral questions about disarmament, hunger, the U.S. food system, economic justice, and Central America. Donations are gratefully accepted and can be sent to the above address.

Meetings and Membership

Hunger Task Force: Wednesday, April 2, 7:30 p.m. in the Pine Room of First United Methodist Church (corner of State and Huron).

Disarmament Working Group: Friday, April 4, noon to 1 p.m. at the Interfaith Office. Agenda for this meeting includes discussion of Testing Moratorium and planning for a local Forum for Engineering and Physics Students on Ethical Decisions to be Made in Career Choices.

Land, Food, and Justice Committee: Wednesday, April 9, 7:30 p.m. in the Pine Room of First United Methodist Church. Agenda for this meeting includes an update on the Seasonal Cookbook, and plans for Annual Farm Tour.

ICP's membership includes 60 area congregations and approximately 3,100 individuals in the Ann Arbor area, throughout Michigan and in the U.S.

Organizational Structure

The work of Interfaith Council for Peace is accomplished by three task forces: The Land, Food, and Justice Committee, the Hunger Task Force, and the Disarmament Working Group. In addition there is a Steering Committee which oversees the work of the staff and task forces. Officers are: the Rev. Peter Boeve (President), Barbara S. Hall (Secretary), Robert Heald (Treasurer).

The work of the Disarmament Working Group includes: educational presentations to interested groups, sponsorship of speakers and public events, suggestions for lifestyle changes which will help to make our society a less violent one, (e.g., boycotting war toys and examining issues related to parenting), discussion with the University Community on the impacts of defense-related research on campus, and support for arms control legislation.

The work of the Hunger Task Force includes: the annual CROP/Hunger Walk, educational presentations to schools and other groups on domestic and international hunger, support of local free meal programs, and exploration of related economic justice issues and legislation.

Programs and projects of the Land, Food, and Justice Committee include: presentations to concerned groups, public tours of local farms, support of direct-marketing projects (e.g., farmers' markets and pick-your-own operations), and production of a seasonal/regional cookbook. The committee also works with groups involved in preserving agricultural land near urban areas, encourages support of local farmers through more seasonal eating, and supports legislation favoring small and moderate size farms and sustainable agricultural practices.

Community Services

ICP publishes a monthly newsletter which contains suggestions on how individuals can help on the various issues, maintains a lending library of both written and audio-visual materials on peace and justice concerns, and has a speakers bureau which includes both staff and task force members.

Current News

Covenant for a World Free of Nuclear Weapons kits are available from the ICP office for \$5. The kit lists nuclear weapons contractors, the consumer products they manufacture and non-nuclear alternatives. "There is a Season", a 117 page seasonal cookbook is available from the ICP office for \$6. Drop in and visit us soon. The ICP office is located in the basement of the First United Methodist Church (corner of State and Huron).

Coming Events

April 1, Tuesday: SDI: Lemon In The Sky, noon to 1PM at the Federal Building Plaza. A demonstration of the foolishness of Star Wars which will include mime and other live performances. Stop by with your old, leaky umbrella and join in the fun, (you wouldn't use that leaky umbrella to protect you from the rain, don't use Star Wars to protect you from nuclear weapons). Sponsored by the Coalition for Arms Control, 2nd District (Interfaith Council for Peace is a member of the coalition). For more information call 663-4897.

April 5, Saturday: Conference on Domestic Hunger, 1 PM to 5 PM in East Quad, Room 126. The conference will explore the causes of hunger and the effects of the Reagan Administration's policies on the poor and hungry. Workshops include: The Feminization of Poverty, Hungry Children, History of Hunger in America, National/International Connections between Hunger, Poverty, and Militarism. Sponsored by: Interfaith Council for Peace and World Hunger Education/Action Committee. Call ICP for more information.

April 21, Monday: "Seeking Solutions: The Politics of Food and the Roots of Hunger, A Community Forum on World Hunger", 7:30 PM at the Ann Arbor Public Library. The Food First slide show will be shown, followed by discussion led by local hunger groups. Sponsored by Interfaith Council for Peace. Call ICP for more information.

April 21, Monday: Tour of KMS Fusion (local company which does research for Department of Energy, Nuclear Weapons Division). Pre-registration required by April 4, call Interfaith Council for Peace at 663-1870 or mail your name, address and phone number to ICP at 604 E. Huron, Ann Arbor, 48104. KMS Fusion was one of the strong opponents of the Nuclear Free Zone Campaign. The tour provides an opportunity to learn about some of the work that the company does and how they view the issue of doing work for the DOE, Nuclear Weapons Division. Sponsored by Interfaith Council for Peace.

May 4, Sunday: Trees will be doing a children's concert at The Ark as a benefit for Interfaith Council for Peace. Tickets (\$2/child and \$4/adult) are available in advance from the Interfaith Council for Peace office.

Central America Education/Action Committee

(informal committee of Interfaith Council for Peace)

Community Services

Phone tree to lobby Congressman Carl Pursell and others against the continued militarization of Central America. (Leave name, address and phone number at ICP office - 663-1870).

Speaker's Bureau and slide shows relating to Central America. (Call Barbara Francisco 668-0249 to schedule).

Beans and Rice Dinners every Wednesday 6-7:30 at Guild House, 802 Monroe. A donation of \$2 for adults and \$1 for children 6-12 suggested.

We are now collecting materials for Betania Refugee Camp in El Salvador, the mission of Fr. Jim Feltz in Paiwas, Nicaragua, and the Border Witness: blue jeans, t-shirts, cotton clothing, and shoes for children, tennis balls, frisbees, garden trowels, sewing scissors, sewing machines, hammers and drills all in good condition and not in need of mending can be dropped off at the ICP office, (labeled "MADRE").

Calendar Events

Sunday, April 2, 7:30 PM: "An American Journey", a short film about a Witness for Peace Delegation to Nicaragua. Wesley Lounge, First United Methodist Church (corner of State and Huron). The public is welcome.

Thursday, April 6, 11 AM and 6 PM: "An American Journey", a short film about a Witness for Peace Delegation to Nicaragua. St. Mary's Student Chapel/Gabriel Richard Center, 331 Thompson. The public is welcome.

New Jewish Agenda (N.J.A.)

New Jewish Agenda (NJA)
2208 Packard
Ann Arbor, MI 48104

Statement of Purpose

We are Jews from a variety of backgrounds and affiliations committed to progressive human values and the building of a shared vision of Jewish life.

Our history and tradition inspire us. Jewish experience and reachings can address the social, economic, and political issues of our time. Many of us find our inspiration in our people's historical resistance to oppression and from the Jewish presence at the forefront of movements for social change. Many of us base our convictions on the Jewish religious concept of *tikun olam* (the just ordering of human society and the world)*, and the prophetic tradition of social justice.

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New Jewish Agenda (NJA)

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We are dedicated to insuring the survival and flourishing of the Jewish people. Jews must have the rights to which all people are entitled. But survival is only a precondition of Jewish life, not its purpose. Our agenda must be determined by our ethics, not our enemies. We need creative and vital Jewish institutions and practices that affirm the best of our traditions and involve members of our community who historically have been excluded.

We call on all Jews who share our vision to join us in working to achieve our goals in the Jewish and wider communities. To those whose visions differ from ours--let us discuss those differences. Authentic Jewish unity grows from

respect for and understanding of diversity.

Society can be changed and human cooperation can be achieved. Working for social progress not only reflects Jewish ideals, but enhances Jewish security. New Jewish Agenda upholds progressive Jewish values and affirms that the goals of peace and justice are attainable.

**Tikun Olam* (Talmud, Mishnah Gittin 4:3, also appears in the Aleynu prayer).

General Information

The Ann Arbor New Jewish Agenda chapter, active since 1979, welcomes you to participate with us. Some of you may have participated in our national NJA convention that was held in Ann Arbor last summer. At the local level, we are quite

active with monthly membership meetings, Shabbat potlucks and interest group meetings. This year we've sponsored speakers addressing the issues of the sanctuary movement, the feminist movement and the threat of Kahane to Israeli democracy. If you would like to receive our newsletter, become a member, attend one of our events, or if you simply want more information, please call one of the following members:

Steering Committee:

Rebecca Kanner 994-5717

Membership Committee:

Evelyn Neuhaus 994-5171

Central America Interest Group:

Judy Lipshitz 995-5210

Middle East Interest Group:

Benjy Ben-Baruch 662-9217

Feminism Interest Group:

Laurie White 665-7371

Community Resource Directory

Science and Technology

New World Agriculture Group (N.W.A.G.)

4198 Natural Science Bldg.
University of Michigan
Ann Arbor, MI 48109
764-1446

Arising in the late seventies from a local group of socially-concerned scientists, the New World Agriculture Group has developed into an international organization of about 100 ecologists, social scientists, and people interested in agriculture who seek alternatives to socially and ecologically destructive methods of contemporary agricultural production. Recognizing the interrelatedness of technical, social, and political concerns underlying larger problems in modern agriculture, NWAG members attempt to approach their study of agricultural problems and possible solutions in an interdisciplinary manner.

Exemplifying past research programs

conducted by NWAG is its study of the potential use of intercropping techniques on midwestern tomato farms that would enable farmers to increase production without resorting to mechanization which has the effect of displacing farmworkers from their jobs.

Presently, NWAG is working with the National University (UNAN) and the Union of Small and Medium-sized Farmers (UNAG) in Nicaragua. Nicaraguan agriculturalists hope to develop ways of reducing the use of chemical fertilizers and pesticides which are expensive and bad for the environment, and so increase food production and become less dependent upon foreign inputs. There are several projects, for example, that are focused on the biological control of insect pests through the use of natural predators and parasites of the pests.

NWAG scientists are dispersed throughout the United States. The largest chapters exist on

the Cornell and University of Michigan campuses, although there are many active members located in Vermont, North Carolina, California, Kentucky, Minnesota, throughout Canada, and in Nicaragua.

NWAG has a steering committee consisting of a member from each of three regions: East, Midwest and West. There is also a Nicaragua Coordinating Committee. Beyond this there is relatively little structure, although regional and international meetings are conducted in a formal manner.

Here in Ann Arbor, NWAG members are presently researching the U.S. farm crisis, in an attempt to define it, discover its root causes, and understand approaches necessary for its resolution. Interested persons are welcome to attend our meetings and should call the NWAG-Ann Arbor office (764-1446) to express their interest and find out the place and time meetings occur.

Community Resource Directory

Senior Citizen's

Housing Bureau for Seniors

1010 Wall Street
Ann Arbor, MI 48109
763-0970

Statement of Purpose

The Housing Bureau for Seniors provides peer counseling to senior citizens and their families about housing choices in Washtenaw County. Volunteers recruited from across the county to work as housing counselors, or in one of the Bureau's Outreach projects.

Community Services

Housing counselors meet individually with senior clients or their families to facilitate housing related decisions. The Bureau maintains up-to-date information about senior residences, retirement homes or subsidized housing and can

help seniors through the often confusing application process. Because many subsidized residences have long waiting lists, the Bureau must sometimes assist with intermediate housing alternatives: apartments suitable for a senior's needs, in-home care that is affordable, perhaps a "homeshare" partner to come to stay.

Homesharing is a special service of the Housing Bureau. Homesharing is the sharing of a home that allows some private space, usually a bedroom, and some shared space (the kitchen, a sitting room, and so on).

Housing counselors agree that it takes more skill to make a good Homeshare arrangement than it does to make a marriage! Housing Bureau counselors meet to screen potential homeshare seekers and providers. The counselors meet regularly with each other several times a month to

help put their clients together in Homeshare matches that will work. Prospective Homesharers are introduced, and extensive arrangements are agreed upon. In less than three years, the Housing Bureau has assisted nearly 1200 seniors; 44 of them have been matched for a Homeshare arrangement.

Housing Bureau Outreach projects have begun to assist seniors in their own communities all across the county. Workshops have been offered to seniors, their adult children and to service-providers for the elderly. The workshops help get housing-related information out into the community.

Housing counselors are now established at several senior centers across the county. These counselors are trained by the Housing Bureau along with other housing counselors. Training includes familiarization with local housing resources, an overview of interviewing and listening skills, and on-site tours of senior

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Housing Bureau for Seniors

housing.

Accurate and up-to-date information is essential to the Housing Bureau's work. The Bureau maintains extensive listings of local retirement homes, subsidized housing, apartments, mobile homes, condominiums, cooperatives and foster care. The Bureau has just completed a compilation of this material in a guide to senior housing in

Washtenaw County. A second project, a slide show of local senior housing choices is scheduled for this spring.

Volunteers are at the heart of the Bureau. Every project is designed and carried out predominantly by volunteers. Media volunteers work on each project as tasks present themselves. For the upcoming slide show, we will need a variety of skills: photography, set or properties design, casting, script writing, even acting or narrating. If you are interested in a media-

related project, contact the Housing Options Project of the Bureau, and ask for Sheila.

Twice yearly, the Bureau holds volunteer training sessions for housing counselors. Recruitment begins in mid-April for the May training. If you are interested in becoming a housing counselor, contact Carole Lapidos, volunteer coordinator for the Bureau.

The Housing Bureau for Seniors is affiliated with Turner Geriatric Services of the U-M Hospitals. Carolyn Hastings is Executive Director.

Community Resource Directory

South Africa

Free South Africa Coordinating Committee (FSACC)

c/o Michigan Student Assembly
3909 Michigan Union
Ann Arbor, MI 48109
Information: Hector Delgado 971-7994
Barbara Ransby 769-8549

Statement of Purpose

Free South Africa Coordinating Committee (FSACC), formed in the spring of 1985, is committed to opposing the brutal system of apartheid in South Africa and to contributing in every way possible to the liberation movement there. FSACC produces literature and sponsors events to educate people about the crimes of apartheid and the ways in which the U.S. Government, U.S. corporations, and the University of Michigan help to underwrite that system. FSAAC also pressures the University of Michigan to sever all economic ties with corporations doing business in South Africa, as part of a worldwide movement to isolate the South African government; and seeks to provide material aid to those engaged in the resistance movement and their families.

FSAAC believes that in order to build an effective anti-apartheid movement in the United States, the link must be made between racism here and apartheid in South Africa. Finally, we condemn a foreign policy which fails to reflect a genuine concern for human rights and true democracy, clearly evidenced in the Reagan administration's terrorist attacks against the people of Nicaragua contrasted with his support of the white supremacist minority government in South Africa.

Meetings and Membership

Membership meetings are held every other Monday at 7 PM in the Center for Afro-American and African Studies Lounge, on the first floor of the West Engineering building. Meetings are scheduled for March 31, April 14, and April 28. The steering committee meets every week at 6 PM in the same location.

FSACC membership is mainly undergraduate and graduate students at the University of Michigan. Meetings have been attended by as many as 200, but the average attendance at meetings and the number of people forming the core of the membership is 35 to 45.

Community Services

FSAAC distributes literature and provides speakers on South Africa and apartheid. It also sponsors films, protests, and various outreach activities like the 3-Day Teach In in the fall of 1985.

Organizational Structure

There is a Steering Committee of 8 to 10 individuals, elected each year at a full membership meeting. This body coordinates the work of the organization and proposes policies for consideration by the membership.

There are four Project Committees responsible for specific activities. The Regents/Mandela Committee is responsible for finding ways to persuade the University to give Nelson Mandela an honorary degree; to sell the rest of the stock that it owns in companies doing business in South Africa; and to take a stronger

public stand against apartheid. The April 4th Committee is coordinating 2 weeks of anti-apartheid action starting March 20. The Liaison Committee is responsible for making and maintaining links with other groups whose activities are compatible with FSAAC's and publishing a newsletter to inform the Ann Arbor community of FSACC and related activities. And finally, the Material Aid/Fundraising Committee is working on ways to provide direct material aid to groups and people in South Africa trying to dismantle apartheid and is also responsible for general fundraising for FSAAC. At least one member from each committee is a member of the Steering Committee.

Current and Coming Events

On Thursday, March 20, FSAAC built a shanty on the Diag of the University of Michigan campus to call attention to and spark discussion on the issue of apartheid and racism in this country. It kicked off two weeks of planned actions against apartheid, sponsored and coordinated by a number of student organizations. Some of the planned activities include a speech by Randall Robison, Director of TransAfrica, and a candlelight vigil for the victims of political violence in Central America and South Africa.

A number of films are planned including "South Africa Belongs To Us" on March 31 at 7 PM in 138 Hutchins Hall in the Law Quad. The actions will culminate in a Freedom March through Ann Arbor on April 4th (the anniversary of the assassination of Martin Luther King Jr.). The theme of the march is opposition to racism in the United States and apartheid in South Africa. It starts at 10:30 AM in the diag. Call FSAAC for more information.

Washtenaw County Coalition Against Apartheid (W.C.C.A.A.)

c/o 812 Henry Street
Ann Arbor, MI 48104
Information: Kathleen Fowler 761-6246

The Washtenaw County Coalition Against Apartheid (WCCAA) is a group of both students and members of the Ann Arbor community who are concerned about South Africa's racist system

of apartheid. In general, we are opposed to the institutionalized social, political, and economic system in South Africa by which black people are denied basic human rights, including the right to vote, live where they choose, and hold employment.

We exist as a group to support the struggles of South African and Namibian people for the total liberation of their countries. As violent opposition to the government in South Africa continues to rise, we feel our support as United States citizens

to these struggles is crucial in order to insure that our government's role promotes the democratization of South Africa, and that it does not to bolster the crumbling apartheid system. The WCCAA works to educate Americans about the living conditions of the people of South Africa as well as to support political and economic sanctions against the government of South Africa.

We support total divestment of the City of

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WCCAA (cont. from previous page)

Ann Arbor's money (general funds, pension funds, etc.) from firms doing business in South Africa. The WCCAA also organizes educational events and fundraisers to support the anti-apartheid movement.

The History of WCCAA

WCCAA was created 16 years ago. In 1977 and 1978, WCCAA worked to convince the Regents of the University of Michigan to divest money from all companies doing business in South Africa which did not abide by the Sullivan Principles. The Sullivan Principles are guidelines for U.S. companies in South Africa which try to stop discriminatory employment and wage practices. The U of M Regents agreed and they divested from two companies in 1978 that were not complying with the Sullivan Principles.

From 1981 to 1983, WCCAA pressured the University to divest its stock shares from all companies doing business in South Africa. In response to a growing statewide divestment movement, the Michigan State Legislature in

1982 amended the State's Civil Rights Act to compel all State educational institutions to divest themselves from organizations doing business in South Africa. The legislation was sponsored by Representative Perry Bullard of Ann Arbor, and WCCAA members worked closely with him to get this law enacted.

Despite overwhelming support for divestment from students, faculty, and the University community, the governing Board of Regents voted to challenge the constitutionality of the legislation. In 1984, the Regents agreed to divest 90% of their South African holdings, but withheld divestment from the other 10% and filed suit. WCCAA is following this case very closely through member Robert F. Gillett, who is one of the attorneys that has filed an Amicus Brief in support of the State Legislature's passage of the law.

We know that WCCAA has been able to influence past University divestiture actions, and we hope to continue to demand a just response from the University as well as the City and State on divestment issues. We are strongly committed to international divestment as we see this as a form of protest which the South African government

cannot ignore.

Meeting Times and Places

Our meetings from May through August will be on the third Tuesday of every month at Quaker House unless you should see otherwise in Agenda or the Observer. Call about April meetings.

Community Services

We have a Speakers Bureau, with a number of different speakers available upon request. WCCAA also publishes a newsletter with plans for an April-May issue. Call us if you want more information or wish to help.

Coming Events

On April 15, we will show a film about South Africa at Quaker House, 1416 Hill, at 7:30 PM. Unfortunately, we cannot tell you the title because, depending upon availability, it may be one of several films we have requested. Leaflets will be posted around town or you can call WCCAA for more information.

Community Service Directory

Student Rights

Michigan Student Assembly (MSA)

University of Michigan
3909 Michigan Union
Ann Arbor, MI 48109
763-3241

The Michigan Student Assembly is the campus-wide student government at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor. "Campus-wide" means that MSA represents students in every UM college and school. Since students in each college are represented by their own specific student government, MSA focuses almost exclusively on matters of concern to all students like the proposed Code of Non-Academic Conduct.

MSA is funded through a mandatory student fee of \$5.07 per term giving it total revenues of about \$375,500. This money, however, is well accounted for and used primarily to fund Student Legal Services, the Ann Arbor Tenant's Union, and *Advice* magazine, which lists student course evaluations, and is allocated to student organizations for their campus events or projects which are deemed to have educational, cultural, or social significance. Some of the events that MSA has sponsored recently have been forums concerning racism, sexism, and women's safety and weapons research such as "Star Wars and Universities." MSA also staged a "summit meeting" between former MSA President Paul Josephson and UM President Harold Shapiro, and provided services such as free income tax assistance and a "76-GRIPE" evening telephone line for students to voice their University-related concerns to MSA representatives.

The composition of MSA can be broken into two parts. First, the elected or appointed body which consists of a president, vice-president, treasurer and 50 representatives from the various schools and colleges. Incidentally, the present number of representatives was just raised to 50

from 32 with the completion of elections on March 28 and 29, giving significantly more representation to each school. The other part of MSA is an administrative body which is hired by the assembly at large. This administrative body usually consists of an administrative coordinator, numerous work-study assistants, a military research advisor, and a minority affairs researcher. Others are hired as need be.

The elected assembly itself is broken into 10 committees. Those committees are chaired by a member of the assembly and filled by both members of the assembly and, in most cases, by interested parties outside MSA. The standing committees are: **Rules and Elections** which coordinates the MSA elections in March and then again in November and also is responsible for the authorship and interpretation of MSA Constitution and Compiled Code; **Legislative Relations** which monitors all federal, state, local and University legislation and reports its findings to the Assembly; **Women's Issues** which lobbies in support of women's concerns and campus safety; **Student's Rights** which insures that students are treated fairly and leads the battle against the Code of Non-Academic Conduct; **Student Organizations** which administers the student groups which are MSA recognized; **Budget Priorities** which allocates "free money" to MSA groups; **Minority Affairs** which lobbies on behalf of all minorities and concentrates on increasing R, R, & G (Recruitment, Retention and Graduation) on campus; **Personnel** which hires and fires all Assembly employees, **Communications** which oversees all MSA publications and publicity; and **Academic Affairs** which monitors academic events or problems as they arise. Each of these committees, whether they address problems, projects, or come up with new ideas, report to the Assembly at each Tuesday night General Assembly meeting.

However, what MSA ultimately boils down to is a lobbying group because it has little legislative power. Instead, it represents the voice of the majority of Michigan students and with its financial and human resources successfully lobbies the University administration, Regents, faculty, city, state, and federal governments in the interests of students. It has been very successful in preventing the passage of the Code, getting a student seat on the all new Computer Policy Committee, increasing the awareness of the administration towards student's needs and complaints and is constantly applying pressure for the establishment of a Student Regent.

Just as importantly, MSA is a service organization. It provides office space and equipment such as copiers, typewriters, a computer, an art studio, and conference rooms for over 400 student organizations for free or at very nominal costs. Also, it is constantly working on behalf of these student groups in their efforts to promote their projects or events.

In summary, MSA is a group of students with resources, a core of common interests, and institutional legitimacy which lobbies various other representative groups to improve the quality of student life on campus. MSA is also a student organization which provides services to other students and student organizations and a place where students can learn organizational skills and pursue their issue interests. MSA has open assembly meetings every Tuesday night during the regular school year at 7:30 pm. MSA is glad to accept volunteers to work with any of the committees mentioned or it can provide information on any of the over 400 student groups it represents. Also, this is a very good time to get involved because the summer months tend to leave MSA somewhat shorthanded leaving a lot of room for enthusiastic and motivated people to become involved in any number of the things mentioned above. For any further information contact Jonathan Corn at 763-3241.

Community Resource Directory

Women's Issues

The Women's Crisis Center (WCC)

P.O. Box 7413
Ann Arbor, MI 48107

Office: 306 N. Division
Business: 761-9475
Crisis Line 994-9100

Community Services

The Women's Crisis Center offers peer counseling and crisis intervention for all women in Washtenaw and the surrounding counties.

The *CRISIS LINE*, 994-9100, operates Monday through Friday, 10 AM to 10 PM. Callers are guaranteed anonymity and can talk to a peer counsellor who is there to provide non-judgemental support.

We sell low-cost, do-it-yourself divorce kits. Call 761-9475 for more information.

The Women's Crisis Center also offers referrals to hundreds of agencies and individuals in and around Washtenaw County.

Substance Abuse Support Group: Sundays, 7 PM to 8:30 PM, beginning in April. For women in a substance abuse situation, involving

themselves or family and friends. The program is for 8 weeks, with a \$25 donation to WCC/sliding scale. Call for more information.

Compulsive Eating Support Group: beginning in April, evenings, donation, call WCC for more information.

Meetings and Membership

We hold meetings on the last Sunday of every month, from 12 to 2 PM at St. Andrew's Church, 306 N. Division at Lawrence. Our next scheduled meeting is April 27.

The Women's Crisis Center is a non-profit, grassroots, collectively run organization made up of community women concerned with the needs of other women. There are currently 40 volunteers--all women--members of the Ann Arbor community and students.

We have one full-time Coordinator, a Board of Directors, volunteer peer phone counselors, and administrative volunteers.

Coming Events

Sunday, March 30: Women's Crisis Center In-

Service and Pot-Luck. Noon to 2 PM at St. Andrew's Church, 306 N. Division. Bring a veggie dish to pass.

Friday--Saturday--Sunday, April 4-5-6: Border's Bookshop and Women's Crisis Center Annual Book Days Fund Drive. Call WCC for certificates or pick them up at Border's. With the certificate, a portion of total purchases will go to support the Women's Crisis Center.

Sunday, April 13: Rick's American Cafe Benefit Concert for the Women's Crisis Center with Map of the World. Tickets are \$3 to \$5 and can be pre-purchased at WCC.

Sunday, April 27: Women's Crisis Center 14th Birthday Celebration and Volunteer Re-Union. All former volunteers, all friends, and interested others are invited to join current WCC volunteers for cake, punch, and feminist conversation. The festivities start at noon at St. Andrew's Church, 306 N. Division. Please bring a veggie dish to pass. Call 761-9475 for more information.

Friday, May 2 to Sunday, May 11: WCC Peer Counselor Training. The training involves 30 hours over two weekends, a 6 month commitment, and 4 hours per week after training. The fee is \$20. Call 761-9475 for a screening interview.

The Women's Studies Program

of the University of Michigan

243 West Engineering
University of Michigan
Ann Arbor, MI 48109-1259
(313) 763-2047

Statement of Purpose

Some of the goals of the Program include: Balancing the male-oriented curricula by offering courses documenting women's roles and critically examining gender ideologies; encouraging other academic units in the University to incorporate content on women in their courses; maintaining a supportive, non-hierarchical structure; generating and disseminating new research on women; linking with other University and community organizations to promote social and political change.

Meetings and Membership

We meet every other Monday, 12:10 PM to 1:00 PM in room 238A West Engineering Building (corner of East University and South University). The April 14th meeting is the last one of the year.

The membership is open to everyone. Currently, it includes graduate and undergraduate students taking Women's Studies courses, teaching assistants, faculty, staff, and others interested in the Program. This includes members of community organizations such as the Domestic Violence Project, Take Back the Night, CACORP, and Action Against AIDS. It is not necessary to be enrolled in the University to attend.

Organizational Structure

We operate as a collective. The Program Committee (meaning anyone who attends

Program meetings) makes most business decisions. The Executive Committee, a group of faculty and graduate students, discusses some matters pertaining to the program. Other committees include Undergraduate Curriculum, Graduate Curriculum, Collectivity, and Teaching Assistant Hiring.

Community Services

The Women's Studies Program offers academic information and referrals, library resources, (books, pamphlets, articles, coursepacks), are open to the public, and bi-monthly informal seminars on academic and political topics are also open to the public.

Coming Events

Monday, April 7, Informal Seminar, 12:10 PM to 1:00 PM, room 238A West Engineering. The collective Committee will present their recommendations to the general Women's Studies population.

**DON'T FORGET
VOTE APRIL 7**

More News

118 Arrested Protesting Aid to Contras

Civil disobedience has been used many times throughout history by those who felt that they were left with no other means to protest what they viewed as unconscionable. Such people as Thoreau, Ghandi, and King have been proponents of civil disobedience and now are widely recognized as people of vision.

ANN ARBOR-From March 13 to March 19, 118 people were arrested for non-violent civil disobedience at Rep. Carl Pursell's Ann Arbor office. All were released on their own recognizance at City Hall and now await arraignment dates.

The week of protests was coordinated locally by the Latin American Solidarity Committee and coincided with the vote in the House of Representatives on aid to the contras. Though the efforts of the demonstrators failed to change the vote of Rep. Pursell, the bill was defeated narrowly in the House, 210-222.

This series of protests was organized locally in response to President Reagan's request for \$100 million in military and logistical aid to the U.S. sponsored "contras" through a network of people who have signed the "Pledge of Resistance". The Pledge

is a vow to take non-violent direct action to oppose U.S. support of warfare in Central America. It originated on a national scale after the invasion of Grenada in order to create a network capable of responding rapidly in protest of a similar potential invasion of Central America and now has centers in over 400 cities across the U.S.

Increasingly, many Pledge signers are concluding that a U.S. invasion of that region is already in progress, using U.S. funds, equipment and military planning. The actual troops fighting in the field at the present time, however, are proxies such as the contras, who are attacking Nicaraguan villages from their bases in Honduras. Similarly the Salvadoran military's strategy of "counter-insurgency" or "low-intensity war" uses sophisticated U.S. technology and training to attack "guerrillas" and civilians alike in large areas of the Salvadoran countryside.

around the country see the necessity of protesting each incremental increase in U.S. military involvement, not only because of a deepening potential for the involvement of U.S. troops, but also because of the injustices being perpetuated and the concerns of a small group of individuals. Since Pursell has previously promised an open public forum, which has yet to take place, this offer was rejected and the civil disobedience continued.

On March 20, Carl Pursell cast his vote for the Reagan contra aid bill. Though the package was defeated by a narrow margin, continued actions are planned to prevent the passage of a compromise aid package and to press for the other demands of the protest. In particular, the national demand for Congressional hearings on Reagan's human rights report on El Salvador, a report he is scheduled to submit on April 1.

Citizens are encouraged to write letters to Pursell, asking that he write to U.S. Rep. Michael Barnes in support of these hearings. Barnes is chair of the House subcommittee on the Western Hemisphere and his decision to hold formal hearings on El Salvador would help bring the continuing repression there to public attention in the U.S.

Civil disobedience has been used many times throughout history by those who felt they were left with no other means to protest what they viewed as unconscionable. Such people as Thoreau, Gandhi, and King have been proponents of civil disobedience and are now widely recognized as people of vision.

In acting on their consciences, those committing civil disobedience at Pursell's office, while violating a minor law, intend to draw attention to more serious violations of both international and moral law.

The United States, in funding a terrorist war against the people of Nicaragua, is breaking international law and even violating our national laws such as the Neutrality Act. Equally important is the violation of the principles and moral standards that we profess to uphold as a people. In a society where we are taught to consider murder, torture and rape as illegal and immoral acts, it is completely unconscionable to look the other way when our own government is sanctioning and funding these very crimes.

Besides making a private act of conscience by sitting in at Pursell's office, the 118 people arrested also succeeded in reaching a wider audience. The protest received extensive coverage in the Ann Arbor News, and in addition coverage of the arrests and interviews with protestors appeared on the three Detroit television stations, along with coverage of the related Pledge of Resistance protests happening at the same time at the Federal Building in Detroit.

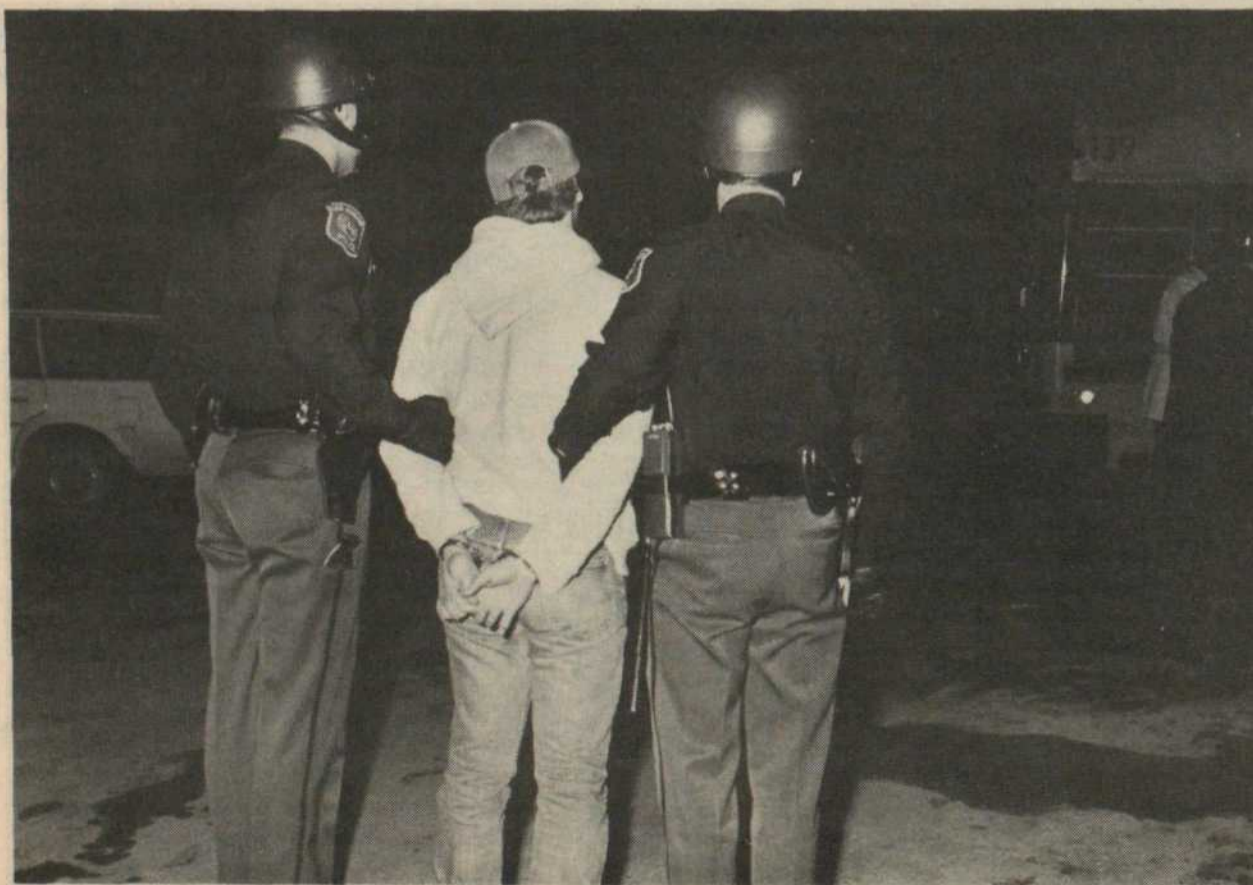


Photo: Gregory Fox



Photo: Gregory Fox

A reporter asks:

Why are you here?

ANN ARBOR-On Thursday, March 13th, a crowd of approximately 300 gathered on the University of Michigan Diag for a "Pledge of Resistance" rally. The purpose of the rally was to protest Congressman Carl Pursell's decision to vote for contra aid and to speak out against the escalating conflict in Central America in general.

The one hour rally was followed by a three mile march which culminated in a symbolic planting of crosses at Pursell's office. The Congressman's District Coordinator Cynthia Hudgins carried on a lengthy and often heated discussion with protestors who were angry that Pursell himself was not there to defend his position on contra aid.

A member of Agenda's staff carried a tape recorder and asked people two questions: **Why are you here?** and **How do you think this rally is going?**

Rally at Diag

Michael Faigen, student: "I'm here to oppose the \$100 million aid the Reagan Administration is proposing. I think if the aid is sent to the contras, it will result in the opposite effect. The administration is claiming that the aid will lead to negotiations with the Sandinistas, but if we keep supporting the contra, as though we will support them forever, the contras won't

have the initiative to negotiate. It looks as though we're looking to overthrow the Sandinista government by military force. And suppose the \$100 million is not enough? What happens next year? This just seems endless. I just don't see where this policy is leading us."

Bill Taylor, President of College Republicans: "I'm here to show my support for the freedom fighters in Nicaragua in their struggle for democracy in their nation and our president, and oppose the communist regime that's repressing them. We're a real liberal campus here, so it's pretty hard to get a lot of support. But I think a lot of people show silent support for the Reagan Administration policy. They just have better things to do than come out and protest on the Diag. So the right wing people, I think there's a silent majority that you know, does support the Reagan Administration policies. Maybe not on this campus, but at least in this state and Carl Pursell's district, definitely."

Andrew McQuag, student: "Well, I didn't know this was going on to tell you the truth. I was just coming from lunch, but I'm staying here because I'm really concerned about what's going on and I object to the aid to the contras. I've known about it for a long time and I'm glad that finally it's becoming common knowledge, which I think is really good."

John McGowen, salesman from Birmingham: "I work for MacMillan Publishing Company and I sell textbooks and I just happened to be walking by. I saw this demonstration going on and I wanted to listen to what was happening. I think this is an important issue and that I must confess my own ignorance to a lot of what's happening here. I'm curious. I want to hear more facts about what the contras are doing in Nicaragua. I don't know if I feel strongly one way or another quite frankly and it's something I think maybe I should learn more about."

Tom Fredo, student: "I agree with a lot of what they say, especially how we don't support Nicaragua and then we turn around and support South Africa and their policies, which are totally racist. I can't really agree with supporting the contras because they're ex-national guardsmen and stuff like that. It makes no sense supporting thugs that go around killing and pillaging villages. At the same time, how can you support governments like El Salvador, where obviously the people don't really support the government and the rebel's control 1/3 of the territory."

Rebecca Morris, student: "I think it's important to show solidarity with the people who are protesting contra aid, because it's a really important issue. We should all be out here protesting, doing

(continued on page)

Farm Laborers Win Contract Seven Year Strike, Six Year Boycott Over

by Margaret Reeves

On February 19, 1986, the Farm Labor Organizing Committee, representing farmworkers in Ohio and Michigan, signed precedent-setting contracts with Campbell's Soup Company against whom they had been striking since 1978, and against whom they had led a nation-wide consumer boycott since 1979. This represents the first time in labor history that a contract has been negotiated in three-way bargaining involving farmworkers, farmers and processors.

The contracts, covering 159 Ohio tomato workers and 400 Michigan cucumber workers, are written through the 1988 and 1989 seasons for tomatoes and cucumbers respectively. The contracts specify, among other conditions, union recognition, wage increases to \$4.50 per hour, major medical and hospitalization insurance, a 48 hour grievance resolution, paid union representatives, and one paid holiday (Labor Day). In addition, the agreement calls for up to \$2000.00 per family in compensation for the original strikers of 1978.

The agreement also formally establishes committees to change or improve pesticide programs, housing, healthcare and safety, day care, and to work on alternatives to the sharecropping/independent contractor system. Campbell's will build a multi-million dollar facility at its Napoleon, Ohio canned soup plant in order to keep acreage and employment at the 1985 levels.

Finally, the Dunlop Commission (established in Spring 1985 to facilitate FLOC-Campbell discussions) will oversee the incorporation of additional growers into the bargaining process. The Dunlop Commission is headed by John Dunlop, Harvard professor and former U.S. Secretary of Labor. Also on the Commission are UAW president Douglas Fraser, Msgr. George Higgins of the UAW's Public Review Board and labor expert from the Catholic University of America, and Don Paarlberg, professor emeritus at Purdue University.

Tremendous as this agreement is, it is important to remember that it is merely a beginning. Sixty thousand farmworkers throughout

(continued on page)

Guide to Government

In the future, this section will feature the voting records and public positions of elected representatives from City Hall to the White House. For this first issue, the Guide to Government features the viewpoints of a few longtime Ann Arbor politicians.



Lowell Peterson (D)
Mayor Pro-Tem

The Affordable Housing Crisis

Ann Arbor's homeless shelters are overflowing, families are doubling up in cramped quarters, working people and students are skimping on necessities in order to pay the rent, people on public assistance are searching for housing in a city they simply cannot afford. Ann Arbor faces an affordable housing crisis of enormous proportions.

by Lowell Peterson

When the Downtown Club at 110 N. Fourth Avenue was converted into luxury offices, forty low-income people lost their homes. The building could have housed 65 if properly rehabilitated. When Braun Court, across from the Farmer's Market, was converted into boutiques and posh restaurants, 30 low-income people were dislocated. In all, Ann Arbor has lost at least 150 units of housing that low-income people could afford to the "redevelopment" boom of the past half decade. Speculators are already eyeing—and buying—as many more units near downtown.

Ann Arbor's homeless shelters are overflowing, families are doubling up in cramped quarters, working people and students are skimping on necessities in order to pay the rent, people on public assistance are searching for housing in a city they simply cannot afford. Ann Arbor faces an affordable housing crisis of enormous proportions.

According to a report prepared by City Council's Affordable Housing Task Force (which I chaired), more than half of Ann Arbor's renters are "housing poor"—that is, they pay more than 30% of their incomes in rent. Several thousand nonstudent families are housing poor. The Task Force used 1980 Census data to derive these figures; with the rise in rents and the decline in real incomes experienced by working

people and people on public assistance since 1980, one can only assume the situation today is worse.

What is needed, and what the Task Force recommended, is a comprehensive set of policies to create more affordable housing in Ann Arbor. The Reagan Administration has washed its hands of any federal commitment to low and moderate income housing, so there are almost no resources available from Washington. (The federal tax subsidy to moderate and high-income owner-occupied houses continues. The tax subsidy for mortgage interest in 1984 alone was greater than the total federal expenditures on all affordable housing programs since those programs were begun fifty years ago!)

But there are state and local resources that can be tapped in both the public and private sectors. The state runs a construction subsidy program which assists moderate-income households. With additional City assistance the state program can help low-income households as well. (By "low-income" I mean 50% of the area median income. A family of four earning \$17,000 would be "low-income" using this definition. Clearly, many families earn less than that, and their housing needs are especially acute.) The City owns several key parcels of land in the downtown area. Negotiations

with a developer are already underway for construction of affordable housing on one such piece of land. The City could develop other sources of revenue, including municipal bonds, for housing.

The private sector must be involved. Developers can be induced to include low-income units in their projects by being allowed to build more densely than current zoning might allow. Private nonprofit organizations are also crucial. A nonprofit development corporation is being formed to purchase and rehabilitate existing units and, eventually, to build new affordable units. Cooperatives can be assisted and tenants can be helped to form cooperatives to ensure that housing becomes or remains more affordable. Cooperatives provide a form of ownership for people who otherwise could not afford it, and offer people a greater stake in their homes.

In short, it is possible for Ann Arbor to fight its affordable housing crisis. If the community as a whole—not just City Hall, but tenants, co-op residents, non-profit organizations, and the financial and development sectors—decided to make affordable housing a goal, we could do it. But to date, all of our efforts have met a stone wall of political resistance. The resistance comes not from developers or bankers but from conservative political activists. When the

Affordable Housing Task Force presented its report to City Council last year the right-wingers roundly attacked it. They claimed we were out to convert Ann Arbor into a slum of public housing high rises, bankrupting City government in the process. This was pure fantasy on their part. They claimed there is no shortage of affordable housing in Ann Arbor (tell that to you landlord next time you're having trouble getting the rent together.) Some of them even claimed we were trying to attract poor people into town from all over the place ("from Inkster", one said to me, privately; wonder what kind of folks she was worried about...). None of them acknowledged that the programs we need to implement here have been implemented successfully in many communities across the country.

Many cities have tried precisely the kind of public-private, profit-nonprofit approach outlined in the Affordable Housing Task Force report. That approach works. Perhaps that is what most bothers the more well-to-do right-wingers. Perhaps they don't want Ann Arbor to be a city where people of all income levels can afford to live. But it is precisely that diversity that makes Ann Arbor so attractive to the rest of us.

The Affordable Housing Task Force Report is on file with the City Clerk at City Hall. Copies can be purchased.

The Michigan National Guard in Honduras

A report from Perry Bullard

I recently went to Honduras with the Michigan National Guard to see what the Guard troops were doing in that country and to inject a critical voice into the entire operation. I went with a strong conviction that what the Reagan administration is doing in Central America is deeply wrong. That conviction was reinforced by my Honduras experience. While the Guard expedition was a simple training mission, it had far more ominous overtones.

Sending the National Guard to Honduras accomplishes several objectives, both political and military, for the Reagan administration. First and most obviously, the Guard is preparing (paving the way, literally!) for U.S. troops or U.S. surrogates to invade Nicaragua. Our tax dollars have already built eleven military airstrips and six base camps. We will soon drive another 1,200 peasants off their land by building yet another airstrip and army base.

Second, the paving of Honduras, in part by the National Guard, is both cause and effect of a massive military presence designed to bolster the contras, leave unaccounted-for materiel, and put

pressure on the Nicaraguan government. In the last few years, the United States has conducted 46 known military exercises in or off the shore of Honduras. More than 305,000 U.S. personnel along with 590 U.S. warships and 1,250 aircraft have been involved. In addition to putting incredible pressure on the government of tiny Nicaragua, this U.S. presence helps create a crisis atmosphere in which the administration can promote its war expenditures.

Third, U.S. troops in this area tend to "lose" or abandon as useless a large sum of weapons and related materiel. These arms and ammunition wind up in the hands of the contras, but are not included in calculating foreign military aid. Thus, U.S. troops are actively involved in circumventing Congressional control over U.S. foreign and military policy.

Finally, Guard involvement provides a direct propaganda conduit between military commanders and our civilian population. After they receive their military briefings and learn of the "great evils" of the Sandinistas, Guard members go back to their communities and report these "facts" to their relatives and co-workers. This propaganda conduit also provides a sort of "down

home, we're in this together" flavor for military operation in Central America, reinforcing the administration's claims that the U.S. is directly threatened by Nicaragua because of its proximity to our own borders.

My experience in Honduras reinforced my already strong conviction that what we are doing in the name of freedom and national defense in Nicaragua is deeply misguided, extremely counterproductive, and fundamentally wrong.

We have forced the government of Nicaragua into a constant state of military preparedness, a situation in which democracy and personal liberties have never flourished in all of recorded history. We have unnecessarily militarized a nearby portion of the world and have diminished our own security in so doing. Worst of all, we have abandoned the principles of freedom and self-determination which are the moral strength of our society and which should serve as the fundamental guideposts of all U.S. foreign policy decisions.

This is why the work being done in Ann Arbor by those who support peace in Central America is



Perry Bullard (D)
State Representative, 53rd District


so vital. We must take action together to do all that we can to turn around current U.S. policy in Central America -- To make it right, and moral, and just. That is why Proposal "A" is so crucial to the nationwide grass-roots movement for peace in this troubled corner of the world.

Please vote Yes on Proposal A on Monday, April 7.

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Mark Twain

The man who does not read good books has no advantage over the man who can't read them.

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Time to get tough on polluters

by Lana Pollock

Once looked upon as a national model, Michigan's current environmental statutes now need amending to reflect current conditions.

A six-bill package of environmental legislation, which I introduced last fall, would correct several enforcement weaknesses in current law. It would create a three-tier system of enforcement, starting with administrative fines for clear, small violations of permits and licenses, and proceeding to civil fines and criminal penalties.

The specific provisions of these bills include:

(1) Increase the ability of the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) and Attorney General to prosecute violators by establishing criminal penalties for reckless disregard in poisoning the water and air supply. Presently, courts appear to look at pollution as just a bad business deal, yet big pollution incidents are as bad as major felonies. If a prison threat was on the books, perhaps the people at the Montcalm County Central Landfill would not have buried a tank truck full of hazardous waste in a dump designed only for non-toxic solid waste.

The federal government has just begun to send polluters to jail. An official of the Wycoff Corporation in Washington State was sentenced in April to a year in prison. Mr. Roth in Missouri began his term last month for filing false information for his water discharge permit.

(2) Increase the ability of the Attorney General to gain the cooperation of polluters in

determining who was responsible for causing a pollution site by establishing "strict" and "joint and several" liability violations. This judicial approach resulted in the court settlement of the more than \$20 million cost of the Berlin & Farro site. We need to make sure that the procedure is in our environmental laws.

(3) Increase the economic sanctions against convicted violators by increasing civil fines up to \$25,000 per day, which will lessen the number of landfill pollution problems.

(4) Allow the DNR Director to act with more authority and speed to prevent small problems from becoming catastrophes. The Director would be able to temporarily suspend a permit when there is an immediate threat to the public health or the environment. Berlin & Farro is a good example of this needed reform. That operation continued for two to three years after violations were known to exist.

(5) Discourage unethical operations by allowing the DNR Director to issue an administrative fine of from \$1,000 to \$5,000 for major violations of a permit or license. Presently, the DNR does not have a timely procedure to penalize permit holders that store too many barrels at a site, do not daily cover a landfill, or do not maintain monitoring systems. This fine would be aimed at companies that purposely take risks by exceeding the limits on their permits and licenses in order to make more profits. If this fine were used, it would help responsible landfills that comply with their permits by preventing the less-costly, illegal and unwise practices of unethical landfills.

(6) Assure proper operation of permit and license holders by allowing the DNR to levy a smaller \$100 to \$1,000 administrative fine for paperwork reporting delays. Michigan has a self-reporting system by permit holders. If reports are delayed, the DNR will not now know that a problem exists, such as happened at Liquid Disposal Inc. (LDI).

(7) Prevent delaying tactics by violators after the administrative hearing process by allowing the DNR Director to issue a final order to revoke, suspend or restrict a permit after the process is completed. This will prevent violators from drawing out the APA process. Some landfill difficulties are due to a lack of a clear end to the APA process, as we have in our Air and Water Acts.



Lana Pollack (D)
State Senator, 18th District

(8) Encourage speedy identification of pollution by clarifying access to sites for state officials and county health officials.

(9) Encourage suits against violators by allowing the recovery of full costs for evaluation, litigation and response activities.

(10) Deposit administrative fines in the Act 307 Environmental Response Fund or use for DNR air and water monitoring expenses.

There are two points about the administrative fine system that I would like to stress: the issuance of parking tickets and traffic fines, upon which this is modeled, has long been accepted as a useful deterrent; and administrative fines may be appealed to a court of law, just as traffic fines may.

The bills have received bi-partisan support, but only minimal support from the business community. Continued opposition by a few major industrial interest groups could kill this legislation.

Responsible businesses and taxpayers should not have to bear the costs for cleaning up pollution sites that resulted from an unethical person or company making a fast dollar while consciously breaking the law.

I am convinced that industry is not incompatible with a clean environment and a high quality of life. Responsible industry needs to join with us in this effort if Michigan citizens are to prosper in both health and economic well-being.

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Liberation Theology, Non-Violence, and the Struggle for Human Rights

(continued from page 1)

our respective countries, help to keep our peoples apart.

I come from a continent that lives between anguish and hope, a continent that has suffered under brutal oppression for a long time, going back to the days of the Spanish Conquest. It is a continent which day after day seeks to reclaim its liberation, its dignity, and we continue on that road. We are trying to find that liberation not as something far off in the distance, but rather it is a liberation that is seen and understood, which we work toward every day. It is a liberation that we must work toward every day with courage and suffering and with the struggles and hopes of our people.

Ours is a continent where in many places, in Spain for example, they talk of celebrating the 500th anniversary of the Conquest, the discovering of the Americas. We hear so much about the discovery of the Americas, but before the Europeans came, there was already many peoples living here. So in reality the Spaniards didn't discover anything. Today, these are the problems that beset us. They have tried to make us believe that they have civilized us, but here there were already civilizations, beautiful civilizations that still exist today, despite ceaseless oppression.

That brings me to the subject I wish to discuss here with you today: The liberation of my people. But first, I want to show you a symbol of these people, which represents all of the peoples of the Latin American continent. I have here a poncho that was given to me a few days ago by the indigenous people of Ecuador from the Chimburazo region. This poncho was weaved with much love and suffering by the women representing a culture and a way of life that invading oppressors have not been able to destroy.

When we speak of liberation, many believe that the struggle for freedom is a recent thing. There is talk of liberation theology. However, if we examine the history of my people, we shall be able to ascertain many things. There were already civilizations

which continue to exist today and that maintain their culture, identity and their language. But then the Spaniards, the conquerors who arrived to subjugate our peoples. But they also brought other peoples with them, which they enslaved here in our own continent - the black people of Africa. They robbed them of their liberty and also of their identity, which is why we continue today to struggle to regain the rights of our peoples to freedom, dignity and their right to self-determination.

For me, mere population does not necessarily mean a people. You can have 20 or 30,000 individuals and still not have a people or nation. A people is like a tree which has deep roots embedded in the soil and nurtures itself through its culture, its religion, its art, its language and its spirit. If the roots are firmly in place, there will be a strong tree which will bear good fruit. However, for centuries the intent has been to destroy and cut down this tree and this is the situation we are living in today. In spite of all this, the roots remain firm, but we have to recover and strengthen them.

On our continent there is a system of domination. In the last few years there has grown a political tide which seeks to maintain dictatorships throughout the region, which have systematically violated human rights. There exists a mechanism for terror resulting from an ideology of maintaining "national security."

The people, in spite of all this, continue to resist and move forward, giving force to a process of liberation on the continent. This is how it was in Argentina with the struggle against the dictatorship. This is how the people of Uruguay did it, and this is how the people of Chile continue to struggle against the terrible dictatorship of Pinochet.

In Nicaragua, the people also resisted in order to liberate themselves from the oppression of the Somoza regime. But now they are again under attack in what is an effort to once again subjugate and oppress the people of Nicaragua,

(continued on next page)



Photo: Gregory Fox

"Ours is a continent where in many places, in Spain for example, they talk of celebrating the 500th anniversary of the Conquest, the discovering of the Americas. We hear so much about the discovery of the Americas, but before the Europeans came, there was already many peoples living here. So in reality the Spaniards didn't discover anything.

Today, these are the problems that beset us. They have tried to make us believe that they have civilized us, but here there were already civilizations, beautiful civilizations, that still exist today, despite ceaseless oppression."

Liberation Theology, Non-Violence and the Struggle for Human Rights

(continued from previous page)

and for our part, we must continue and demand their right of self-determination. The problems of the Nicaraguan people can be worked out amongst themselves without bosses.

I believe, that to correctly analyze the process of liberation amongst our peoples, we have to look at the situation from the point of view of those, the humble, the poor of the continent, who continue to move forward day after day in their struggle to overcome a system of oppression. There is an ancient tale of the Guarani people that speaks of the search for a land without evil. That land without evil can also be found in the Old Testament, in Exodus, where people seek out the promised land. We can also find that search going on today in the strength and determination of our people's struggle for their liberation.

These are people that are deeply religious. They are people whose very lives are filled with popular religion. These are people whose every act of life reflects a deep sensitivity towards nature and is at the same time mixed with a religion that was forced upon them, as is the case here with Christianity. But with time these new ideas became incorporated with their own beliefs and way of living as well as their religion.

Today we see how the indigenous people continue to honor the Pacha Mama-the Mother Earth. Before they bury the plow into the earth, first they honor and ask permission of the Mother Earth.

They find strength, a deep spiritual strength, in the simple things of life. And it is because of this strength, this faith, that these people have not been vanquished and instead continue moving forward toward their freedom.

Their struggle for liberation cannot be isolated to an economic problem. Theirs is a liberation which is very much a part of their culture, their politics, their education and their society. It is in this context that we must see the permanent struggles of the campesino, of the indigenous peoples, as their struggle to regain their land, their identity and the lives of their people.

In Latin America the ruling dictatorships manipulated and used religion as a tool of domination. They used religious marks and symbols emptied of their meaning, to deceive the people. It was taught, as part of the ideology of "national security" that all those who were not in agreement with Western civilization and

its capitalist partners were communists and subversives. This became a permanent fixture which to this day remains as the pretext used by dictators to murder our people. In Argentina we have 30,000 people who were kidnapped and have disappeared. Children who have been kidnapped and have disappeared. All those who opposed the repressive regime were systematically accused of being communists and subversives. Now that the Nicaraguan people have chosen the path of self-determination, these same threats and dangers have arisen.

I believe that what the people of the U.S. need to understand is that in our continent we do not want to replace one boss with another. We don't want any bosses. We want to be masters of our own destiny and that is why we continue the struggle. I also believe that it is necessary that you understand profoundly the characteristics of the ideology of "national security".

After World War II and after the Yalta accords, the two great world powers divided the world into areas of influence. The people had no say as to which area they belonged to. We were chosen, and we did not want to be chosen. Because of the "national security" ideology, coupled with the politics of "areas of influence" the mechanisms for domination and human rights violations spread throughout the continent.

You can see for instance what is taking place in Guatemala. Here there is very little information about the reality facing the Guatemalan people. There is a campaign of genocide and ethnocide being committed against the people of Guatemala in which the military has installed strategic hamlets like those in Vietnam and there are massacres, women are raped and the troops commit acts of cannibalism, eating the hearts of their victims. On this matter, I want to tell you there exists the testimony of many witnesses and also the public denunciations of international organizations, as well as the international world court.

The people of Guatemala have a rich and beautiful cultural history that has its roots in antiquity. They know absolutely nothing as to the meaning of communism. What they want most is to live in peace, in dignity and to work the land and raise their children. Still, they continue to be hunted down and massacred.

In Honduras, people are forced to join para-military organizations, the purpose of which is to watch and inform on their own people. Honduras is a country occupied by foreign troops and it is here that the contras have their bases to launch attacks against Nicaragua. The armed forces of the U.S., the C.I.A., and the Salvadoran and Honduran army stand poised in what is an extremely dangerous situation, that can only lead to the "Lebanonization" of Honduras.

In El Salvador, the Salvadoran armed forces are using napalm bombs on the civilian population. The whole country is engulfed in an intense civil war.

When we speak of the problems of the Americas, these are not isolated cases. The case of Nicaragua is not an isolated incident. The question now is: what is our answer to all these problems?

Here you have a lot of information, many times not fully correct. I ask that you inform yourselves correctly. Read what the alternative press is saying, read the information put out by the various Church-related organizations, and other investigative commissions. I believe that this is very important because then you will have a much clearer idea about what is taking place in Central America and then you can search out what alternatives should be pursued.

For my part, I am a man dedicated to the struggle of non-violence. Many times non-violence gets confused with passivity, but they have nothing in common. Non-violence is a permanent action of resistance in the face of all kinds of injustice. It is the collective action of a people seeking freedom and their right to self-determination.

In Nicaragua, there is a continuing non-violent struggle. There is a large presence of Christian organizations involved in the revolutionary process. Even now, and I regret that not much has been said about this, Miguel DeEscoto, a priest in the MaryKnoll order is participating in the stations of the cross by the Nicaraguan people, which began in Jalapa on the Honduran border and is continuing all the way to Managua. Seeing all of this, can we still accuse these people of being communists? It is most unusual that if they are communist, the Nicaraguan people are saying the stations of the cross.

Some months ago, I participated with Father Miguel DeEscoto and the many Christian communities-in general, the people of Nicaragua- in a fast for peace in Nicaragua and Central America. It was there that I saw this extraordinary uprising by these strange evangelical "communists." We celebrated the ecumenical festivities. Many U.S. citizens took part, sending a ship of peace to the border with Costa Rica, which was intercepted and held by the contras. There was also a Bishop from Brazil, Don Pedro Casandalis there. It is strange, this Communism. I want you to observe that the actions of these people have a profound religious sentiment. This is because it is an integral part of their daily lives, not something that is separated from life. This is how we come to view the protests and actions of non-violence throughout the Latin American Continent.

Now I ask you, is one a communist for participating in a struggle to gain the peoples' right to self-determination? Are they communists because they want to live in dignity and seek the right to education, to health care and the right to live in peace? Many falsehoods have been raised to justify the continuing aggression. Other peoples must scrutinize closely what is taking place so that they may learn what is really occurring on our continent. All of the dictatorships in Latin America, like that of Argentina, the massacres which they committed were done in the name of Western Christian civilization in the fight against "international communism." This is the logic used to justify and continue the martyrdom of Christians throughout the continent. All of this calls for us to look at this situation more closely. But what are we to look for?

There is a concrete proposal for finding a solution to the conflicts which affect Latin America.

First, with respect to Central America, we should give support to the peace plan put forth by the Contadora group of nations, which up until now has been totally blocked by the Reagan administration.

Second, we should recognize the resolutions of the International Court of Justice in the Hague.

Third, instead of sending \$100 million dollars to the contras, these funds should be destined not for death and destruction but rather for life and the progress of our peoples. We are not asking for much. However, in reality it is

much that we are asking for our right to self-determination.

It is of extreme importance that the problems of Central America be remedied as soon as possible. If not there exists the serious risk that the path of military escalation in that region will transform itself into another Vietnam. If this escalation continues and all of Central America is caught up in this conflict, the rest of the Latin American continent is not going to remain on the sidelines. We have to make sure that the situation does not reach such an extreme and explosive stage.

What we have to do now is for each one of us to transform ourselves into peacemakers. Not a peace that is separated from the struggle, but rather a peace that is born of the right to truth and justice. If there is no justice there will be no peace. Benito Juarez, a Zapotec Indian who became president of Mexico and struggled along side his people, defined peace in a clear and concrete form.

He said "peace is respect for the rights of others." This does not apply only person to person-- it also applies to the rights of nations. It applies when we hear the ceaseless cries of other peoples and which grow louder by the day. It applies when we see that we have no recourse to health care, education and the right to life and progress of our peoples. It applies when we see our entire continent being pulled down by an unjust and immoral foreign debt of 380 billion dollars-- money which never reached our people. As it is, our peoples are poorer and more miserable than ever. What ever happened to all that money? We will have to ask that question to the people at the International Monetary Fund.

We see a situation where massive amounts of capital were spent on speculative ventures with the help of corrupt dictators who assisted in funneling these funds out of their respective countries. They have robbed and destroyed our economies. It amounts to having a new form of slavery being imposed on the peoples of the Third World. Now they try to tell us that we owe. We don't owe anything-- not one cent.

Many times I have heard in Latin America that various rulers are considering forming an organization of debtor nations. They don't need to form a club, there are already many nations that belong to the club. What we need to do is to move forward in our solidarity and understanding between our peoples. We need to learn how to walk together. For

us, our intentions are not to walk against the people of the United States. We want to walk with you as brothers and sisters in solidarity.

I want to finish with the following story in hope that it will help you to better understand the spirit of our peoples.

I was one of the judges participating in the peoples tribunal investigating human rights abuses in Guatemala that recently met in Madrid. One of the witnesses at that tribunal was a small indigenous woman from the Quiche region of Guatemala, Rigoberta Menchu. She was a small woman of 22 years and was wearing the traditional garb of her people. As I watched she told of the trauma of her people and how the army came and killed her father, her mother and her brothers. The soldiers locked the rest of the townspeople in the local church, doused it with gasoline and then set it on fire. No one survived. Rigoberta and another brother managed to escape and she has since dedicated her life to helping her people.

She recalled her mother and father and how they had taught her to follow the flight path of the birds. They had also taught her to listen to the wind so as to know when there would be a good harvest. She remembered how her father and mother, before plowing the soil, would honor the mother earth, the Pacha Mama. Her father and her mother learned how to respect and listen to the ancient ones, because it was from them that one learned the history and traditions of their people. Her parents also taught her of the special honor which was accorded to women. She also learned that expectant mothers were to be doubly honored because it involved not one but two lives. This is one of the most beautiful poems of hope to come from our peoples and it is this humble spirit which others seek to destroy.

We must unite and struggle in order that we may prevent these injustices and atrocities because this is not just something that is happening to a people far away. These are crimes committed against all of humanity. When we see the suffering of these people we cannot remain aloof and unconcerned. I always remember that great teacher of non violence here in the United States, Martin Luther King Jr. For me he has always been a great inspiration in our own struggles. He use to say that it was not the repression committed by bad people that hurt him most. It was the silence of the good people.

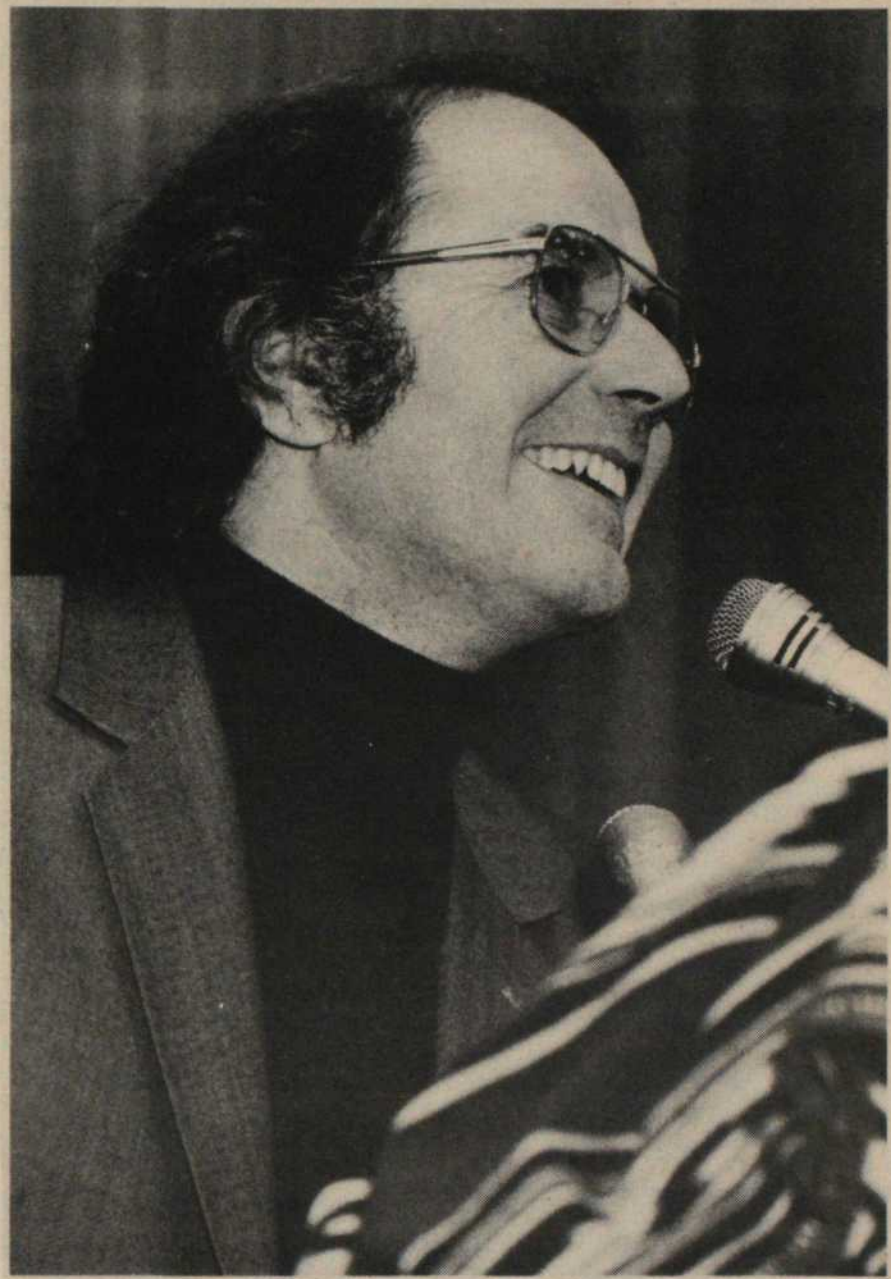


Photo: Gregory Fox

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etcetera

COALITION FOR PEACE IN CENTRAL AMERICA: VOTE YES ON PROPOSAL "A"

(continued from page 1)

oppression throughout the region, the people of the various countries look to the people of the U.S. to help them in their struggle.

"It is people-to-people links that Proposal A will help establish, links that will strengthen good relations in the hemisphere and will aid us as U.S. citizens in our efforts to change U.S. foreign policy toward Central America," says Kim Groome of Interfaith Council for Peace, another member group of the Coalition.

As President Eisenhower said when he announced the Sister City concept in 1956, "Two deeply held convictions unite us in common purpose today. First is our belief in effective, responsive local government as a principal bulwark of freedom. Second is our faith in the great promise of people-to-people and sister city affiliations in helping build the solid structure of world peace."

The Proposal A ordinance begins with a number of findings related to conditions in Central America. Those findings are:

The vast expenditures for war in Central America divert resources from solving the causes of strife in Central and diminish the federal funds available for the vital needs of our city and our nation needs such as public safety, housing, health care, education, transportation, economic development and the creation of jobs.

The U.S. government is currently providing hundreds of millions of dollars in military aid each year to the governments of El Salvador, Guatemala and

Honduras, where systematic human rights abuses by government sponsored and government tolerated groups continue.

Our tax dollars are enabling the contras to wage war against the people of Nicaragua.

The massive U.S. government arms build-up and continual military maneuvers in Honduras increase tensions in an already explosive region and make full-scale U.S. military intervention more likely.

The U.S. government is materially supporting continuing aerial bombing of civilians in rural El Salvador.

U.S. government pressure is undermining Costa Rica's longstanding position of neutrality in the region and is militarizing the only Central American country without a standing army.

Many of the actions of the U.S. government in the region are in violation of international law.

We the people of the City of Ann Arbor, as citizens and taxpayers share in the ultimate responsibility for these actions.

We hope that you will join us in supporting Proposal A at the polls on Monday, April 7. What the U.S. government is doing is just plain wrong--but we can help make it right. For more information about Proposal A call Latin American Solidarity Committee at 665-8438, SANE at 663-3913 or Interfaith Council for Peace at 663-1870.

Written by the Coalition for Peace in Central America.

(continued from page 19)

Rebecca Morris, student: "I think it's important to show solidarity with the people who are protesting contra aid, because it's a really important issue. We should all be out here protesting, doing more than protesting, doing anything we can."

Anonymous man refused to give his name because "it can have serious repercussions.": "Why, am I here? Because I didn't realize what's going on, you know. I'm not for killing anyone. I'm black. I thought it was just me, my folks, but it always seems fishy in my mind. How can we support aid the contras and not support South Africans?"

On the march

Siri Striar, student: "I'm here to protest the Reagan Administration's policies in Central America and Carl Pursell's complicity. The contras have no place in terms of what a democratic country's supposed to support. This march is just great. There must be several hundred people marching right now and alot of people made up their mind as they were standing on the Diag listening to the speakers. I think we have a variety of people here with a variety of opinions, but I think we're very much united in terms of our solidarity right now. We have tremendous solidarity working against the Reagan Administration's policies and Carl Pursell's support of those policies."

Why are you here?

Judy Bonnel Wenzel, mother walking with her son: "I'm against sending arms really, to anywhere but especially to the contras because, you know all of the torture and the fact that they're trying to overthrow a country that's decided for itself what to and who they want to govern. I take Spanish and the more I've taken Spanish, the more I've learned about what's really wrong in Latin America. The march is going fine. There are lots of people. I was one of the 49 people arrested the last time, about I think, September-October and I think there are more people today, although there were alot of people there who were supporting us. The last time we didn't march all the way from the Diag. There's more being done today I think, that people can take part in. Actually, nothing bad happened to me when I was arrested before because Pursell didn't want any publicity. So what happened was they decided they'd taken us to the wrong police station and they never took us to court or anything, so I think that Pursell's just trying to hide and I think the more times that people do this, the more the voters will be aware how he's really voting."

Attention Ann Arbor 118: Agenda wants to write a story about Civil Disobedience and needs to hear from you. Please write a page, (type-written double spaced, or on a 3 1/2 inch diskette along with a print-out) about your experience. Include the reason why you were arrested, how you were treated by the police and any observations you think relevant. (Would you do it again? Do you have advice for people considering CD?) Send your statement to: Agenda, 1209 Birk, Ann Arbor, MI 48103: ATTN: CD.

**DON'T FORGET
VOTE APRIL 7**

F.L.O.C. Victory

(continued from page 19)

is, it is important to remember that it is merely a beginning. Sixty thousand farmworkers throughout the midwest have yet to be organized. Furthermore, we must also remember that this battle was won as a result of broad-based support from hundreds of religious, labor, and community organizations and thousands of supporting individuals. In fact, the February 19 contract signing came only three days before the National Council of Churches of Christ, (NCC) -representing 40 million people in 31 christian denominations- was to formally endorse the boycott. It is only with this type of continued support that farmworkers can now begin to rise from a long history of subminimum wages, substandard housing, and unsafe working conditions. Still today, life expectancy for farmworkers is 49 years while the infant mortality rate is 25% higher than the national average and the incidence of influenza and pneumonia is 20% higher than the national average.

FLOC History

FLOC was founded in Putnam County, Ohio by Baldemar Velasquez. Velasquez was born in Pharr, Texas and raised in a family of farmworkers. Most working class people of the United States aspire to create a better life for their children, to send them to college perhaps. Few are truly successful. For farmworkers, the odds against such success are even greater. Only 11% of them ever graduate from high school. Velasquez, an encouraging exception, successfully completed a college curriculum.

However, having become politicized as a college student, he opted to use his educational career to go beyond just making life comfortable for his family. He took on the task and responsibility of raising the public's awareness of his people's suffering and began the fight for nationwide recognition of the reality of this underclass existence, and to make society accountable - to effect real lasting change.

Velasquez began organizing on a community level in local churches, not always with the support of the local church hierarchy but with the stalwart support of fellow farmworkers and community members. From 1968 to 1970 FLOC organized strikes against several northwest Ohio farmers, winning 34 separate

contracts for wage increases.

They soon realized that the contracts won represented relatively insubstantial gains, a realization representing a turning point in FLOC's understanding of the true source of political power structuring the farm system in the midwest. The political power did not rest in the hands of the many small-scale farmers who, almost by definition, are independent and unorganized. Winning contracts against this sea of unorganized individual farmers could not lead to any significant and lasting structural changes in the system that had entrapped the farmworkers into the position of slavelabor, a position in which, with few exceptions, farmworkers remain today.

The structure of the agricultural industry in the midwest is dictated by the structure of the controlling food processing industries. This control begins, for example, with Campbell's contracts with a number of tomato farmers in northwest Ohio. Not only does the processor determine the quantity and type of tomatoes planted, but the schedules for planting, pest control, and harvest as well. Necessarily, this determines what the farmer can afford to pay the farmworkers. In fact, the processors earn 83% of the retail price of the tomatoes while the remaining 17% is distributed among the farmers, cannery workers and farmworkers.

In 1971, FLOC shifted its focus to the real culprit, the processors. FLOC spent the next few years strengthening the organization. FLOC directed organizing campaigns toward the "settled-out" farmworkers (permanent area residents), and established food and gasoline cooperatives and a legal clinic.

In 1978, FLOC called a strike against all farms contracting tomatoes to Campbell's or the Libby-McNeil-Libby Co. (later dropped from the strike after selling its Leipsic, Ohio cannery). Over 2,000 farmworkers walked out on strike demanding union recognition and the establishment of the three-way negotiations for better wages and working conditions. The following year FLOC announced the nationwide consumer boycott of all Campbell's (and Libby's) products.

The struggle that ensued from the initiation of the strike to the signing of the contract faced strong and cruel opposition. Over the past

9 years, FLOC members have been intentionally sprayed with pesticides, union flags have been burned on the picket lines, Ku Klux Klan-style crosses have been burned, and strikers have been evicted from their camps.

In September 1979, FLOC's attorney, Jim Kilroy was brutally beaten by the Putnam County sheriff and deputies when he arrived at the jailhouse to advise arrested farmworkers. Kilroy received a fractured skull and damage to several optic nerves permanently preventing his return to a full-time career. Kilroy was awarded \$180,000 four and a half years later in an out-of-court settlement. And yet, despite all odds, FLOC is victorious. The fight continues forward.

Future Direction and Perspective

Fortunately, FLOC can learn from the misfortune of its sister organization, the United Farmworkers (UFW), in organizing grape and lettuce farmworkers in California. In the early 1970's, the UFW won substantial contracts in grape production following the 5 year nationwide consumer boycott. Although the UFW has maintained a strong organization since that time, they are now in a position much like that before the previous boycott was initiated. Less than 3% of grape pickers are now unionized as a result of well organized and politically powerful grape growers associations who have successfully eliminated nearly all enforcement of California's Agricultural Labor Relations Act of 1975, protecting farmworker's right to organize.

FLOC should take this as a warning of what may well happen once the public begins to feel that the farmworkers have gained what they wanted and no longer "need" our support. This attitude could be no further from the truth as the UFW tragedy clearly indicates. FLOC should act accordingly and is at present, planning large-scale organizing campaigns for this coming growing season.

From its inception, FLOC's leaders have recognized the need to develop and maintain a widespread base of support throughout the country. Within the last couple of years, this perspective has developed into one of global scale. Velasquez often describes FLOC's struggle not as isolated, but rather as one part of the global struggle for peace and justice for all oppressed people. He emphasizes the importance of supporting common struggles, a philosophy clearly adhered to by the organization. FLOC maintains

close ties with the UFW and regular correspondence with labor organizations around the world including participation in conferences of the World Federation of Trade Unions. FLOC has recently established a mutual support system with the farmworker union in Nicaragua (ATC).

I too feel firmly committed to the worldwide struggle for peace and justice and am in total solidarity with the people of Latin America and their fight for self-determination and peace. However, I believe that a commitment to peace and social change should begin here with support for our oppressed brothers and sisters at home. Let us keep in mind always, that the struggles are one, and not abandon one part, perhaps a less "popular" one, for another. Let's help the UFW gain back what they fought for so long and hard. Help FLOC maintain recent gains and respect they have so long deserved.

What You Can Do To Help

FLOC's need for financial support is ever increasing as it continues to organize and sign authorization cards (3,000 farmworkers signed cards last summer). Recently, in anticipation of the contract signing, FLOC began efforts to win contracts with six other food processors. Heinz has already indicated willingness to talk with FLOC and work toward an industry-wide agreement.

Write a friendly letter to the president of Heinz expressing your support of FLOC, and the importance of a contract. Encourage him to negotiate with FLOC.

Anthony J.F. O'Reilly
H.J. Heinz Co.
600 Grant Street,
60th floor
Pittsburgh, PA 15219

Lastly, if you are planning to be in Ann Arbor during the Summer Art Fair, come help Ann Arbor FLOC (the local support group of 7 years) make and sell burritos and tacos. It's great fun and we can use all the help we can get! Toledo FLOC (headquarters), has come to look forward to the \$4,000.00 we are able to raise in these four days.

The Ann Arbor FLOC support group meets every week in 4318 Michigan Union, 538 S. State Street, on the University of Michigan campus. All are welcome. For more information call 764-1446.

etc.

Down on the Farm

Norma Green, Coordinator
Land, Food, and Justice Committee
Interfaith Council for Peace
Reprinted from the ICP newsletter,
February 1986

In 1984, according to a January 14, 1986 New York Times article, the number of Americans living on the farm dropped from 5,754,000 to 5,355,000, a decline of 7% and one that according to demographers continued at a high rate in 1985. A recent survey released by the Agriculture Department revealed that 31% of the remaining 634,000 commercial farmers, those with gross incomes of \$40,000 or more a year, face losing their farms, 20% of them because their costs exceed their income and the other 11% because their debts equaled more than 40% of their assets.

Another recent survey by the American Bankers Association augmented the above statistics by revealing that agricultural bankers had cut 4.5% of their agricultural customers off their lending rolls in fiscal year 1985 and expected to cut off an additional 5.7% this spring before planting season. In 1984 the corresponding figure was 3.4%, in 1983, 2.9%.

In the meantime the moratorium on foreclosures, observed by the Farmers Home Administration over the last 25 months in all but a few cases, is over. News from Washington is that up to a third of its 275,000 borrowers will be receiving letters notifying them that they must bring their loan payments up to date or face foreclosure and losing their farms.

What do all these statistics add up to in human terms? At the extremes they show up as headlines about murder and suicide. They appear in articles about the recruitment of farmers into right-wing hate groups which prey on desperate people, encouraging them to blame their troubles on shadowy conspiracies, bankers, Jews, or Blacks. Behind the headlines but no less destructive on the individual level, are reports from ministers and other counselors who work in rural communities of increases in spouse and child abuse, alcoholism, and depression. Teachers report behavior problems and declining academic performance by school age farm children who witness the anger and despair of parents facing unsolvable problems. An article in the Wall Street Journal on the effects of the farm crisis on farm children concludes, "As pressures mount, problems long common to urban areas are taking root in the country."

Did the 1985 Farm Bill that finally squeaked through Congress in December come to grips with the causes of these bleak statistics? Does it offer any hope to farmers worried about either short or long-term survival? Did the bailout of the Farm Credit

(continued on page 34)

Hispanic Law Students Association presents:

TWO PANEL DISCUSSIONS



Is U.S. Foreign Policy consistent with freedom in Central America?

Is there a legal or moral right to provide sanctuary in the United States?

Francisco Campbell

Minister Counsellor, Embassy of Nicaragua.

Ambassador Robert White

Former U.S. Ambassador to El Salvador under President Carter.

Ambassador Jose Sorzano

Former U.S. Deputy Representative to the United Nations under Ambassador Kirkpatrick.

William P. Joyce

Associate General Counsel, Immigration and Naturalization Service.

Arthur C. Helton

Director, Political Asylum Project, Lawyer's Committee for Human Rights.

Laura Dietrich

Deputy Assistant Secretary of State, Bureau of Human Rights and Humanitarian Affairs.

Pamela Goldberg

Litigation Coordinator, *Proyecto Libertad*, Harlingen, Texas.

Wednesday, April 2, 1986
7:30-9:30 PM
Rackham Auditorium

Tuesday, April 8, 1986
7:30-9:30 PM
Room 100 Hutchins Hall
Reception to follow in Lawyer's Club Lounge

CO-SPONSORS: LATIN AMERICAN SOLIDARITY COMMITTEE, LAW SCHOOL STUDENT SENATE, MICHIGAN STUDENT ASSEMBLY, MINORITY STUDENT SERVICES, OFFICE OF ETHICS AND RELIGION, OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT, ASSOCIATE DEAN OF THE LAW SCHOOL, AND TROTTER HOUSE.

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Office of Major Events
Presents

JOAN BAEZ

SAT., APRIL 5
8:00 P.M.
HILL AUDITORIUM

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and all Ticket World Outlets

CHARGE-TICKETS-BY-PHONE Call 763-TKTS

"A portion of the proceeds of this engagement will be donated to Humanitas International Human Rights Committee"

Calendar

To Publicize Calendar Events:

Send press releases to:

Agenda
1209 Birk, Ann Arbor, MI 48103
Attention: Calendar.

Deadline: Fifteenth of the month prior to publication.

Sunday, March 30

Contemporary Latin American Music, Global Village, WCBN, 88.3 FM:
Dave Vayo discusses his concert and Latin music in general with Oscar Ballester. 6 to 7 PM, WCBN, 88.3 FM.
For information: 763-3500.

Monday, March 31

Be Kaimowitz discussing Proposal A, Ted Heisel radio show, WAAM 1600 AM:
Call in with good questions. 11 to 12 AM, WAAM.

"South Africa Belongs to Us": Free South Africa Coordinating Committee.
A film in conjunction with 2 weeks of anti-Apartheid and anti-racism activities. 7 PM, Room 138 Hutchins Hall, Law Quad.
For information: 971-7994 or 769-8549.

Tuesday, April 1

SDI April Fools Demonstration: Campuses Against Weapons in Space.
Party on the Diag with speakers on the issue of SDI and the University of Michigan. 10 AM to 2 PM, U of M Diag.

SDI: Lemon in the Sky: Coalition for Arms Control, 2nd District.
A demonstration of the foolishness of Star Wars. Bring a leaky umbrella to symbolize the "leaky umbrella" of Star Wars. Noon to 1 PM, Federal Building Plaza, Liberty at Fifth Avenue, Ann Arbor.
For information: 663-4897.

General Meeting: Farm Labor Organizing Committee.
5:45 PM, Room 4318 Michigan Union.
For information: 769-0027 or 764-1446.

Wednesday, April 2

World Conference Review: U of M.
Arvonne Fraser, senior fellow at the

University of Minnesota's Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs will discuss her experiences as a delegate to the world conference of the United Nations Decade for Women in Nairobi last summer. 4 PM, Rackham Amphitheater.
For information: 764-3423.

Beans and Rice Dinner: Central America Education/Action Committee.
Donation, \$2 adults, \$1 children (6-12). 6 to 7:30 PM, Guild House, 802 Monroe, Ann Arbor.

Hunger Task Force Meeting: Interfaith Council for Peace.
7:30 PM, Pine Room, First United Methodist Church, State at Huron, Ann Arbor.
For information: 663-1878.

Panel on U.S. policy in Central America: Hispanic Law Student Association. With panelists Francisco Campbell, Minister Counsellor, Embassy of Nicaragua, Ambassador Robert White, former U.S. Ambassador to El Salvador under President Carter, Ambassador José Sorzano, former US Deputy Representative to the United Nations under Ambassador Kirkpatrick, 7:30 to 9:30 PM, Rackham Aud.

"An American Journey": Central America Education/Action Committee.
A short film about a Witness for Peace delegation to Nicaragua. 7:30 PM, Wesley Lounge, First United Methodist Church, State at Huron, Ann Arbor. For information: Interfaith Council for Peace.

Panel discussion on South African liberation struggle.
Panel members include representatives from the African National Congress and SWAPO. 7 PM, Pendleton Room, Michigan Union.

General Meeting: Latin American Solidarity Committee.
8 PM, Michigan Union, U of M. Stop at the information desk for room location.
For information: 665-8438.

Thursday, April 3

General Meeting: HAP-NICA
5:30 PM, Michigan Union. Info: 761-7960.

New music from Latin America: UM School of Music.
Piano Recital by David Vayo. 8 PM, Rackham Assembly Hall.

Friday, April 4

Pre-registration deadline for KMS Fusion tour: Interfaith Council for Peace (see ICP, April 21).

Annual Book Days Fund Drive: Border's Bookshop and Women's Crisis Center. With certificates from the WCC or Border's, a portion of total purchases will go to support the Women's Crisis Center.
For information: 761-9475.

Freedom March Against Racism and Apartheid: Freedom Coalition.
March through Ann Arbor on anniversary of assassination of Martin Luther King Jr. 10:30 AM, U of M Diag.
For information: 769-8549.

Disarmament Working Group Meeting: Interfaith Council for Peace.
Discussion of a Testing Moratorium and planning for a local Forum for Engineering and Physics Students on Ethical Decisions to be Made in Career Choices. Noon to 1 PM, Interfaith Office, 604 E Huron, Ann Arbor.
For information: 663-1870.

"Cuban and Nicaraguan Women": Latin American Solidarity Committee.
Talk by feminist, poet and writer Margaret Randall. 8 PM, Michigan Union Ballroom, Michigan Union.

"Spring Dance": Michigan Gay Union.
9 PM, Law Club Lounge, State at South University.
For information: 763-4186.

Saturday, April 5

Annual Book Days Fund Drive: Border's Bookshop and Women's Crisis Center. (see April 4)


"Coming Out Whole": A Conference on Addiction and Health Within the Lesbian Community: inter alia, Lesbian Program Office, Catherine McCauley Health Center.
Michigan Union. For information: 763-4186.

Conference on Domestic Hunger: Interfaith Council for Peace and World Hunger Education/Action Committee.
Workshops exploring the causes of hunger and the effects of Reagan Administration policies on the poor and hungry. 1 to 5 PM, Room 126 East Quad. For information: 663-1870 or 663-4301.

"Mean Something" Series: Dawn Treader Books.
Andrew Carrigan, Kim Graff, and Dave Stringer will present original works of poetry and prose at 9:30 PM, Dawn Treader Books, 1202 South University, Ann Arbor.
For information: 665-2270.

Sunday, April 6

Annual Book Days Fund Drive: Border's Bookshop and Women's Crisis Center (see April 4).

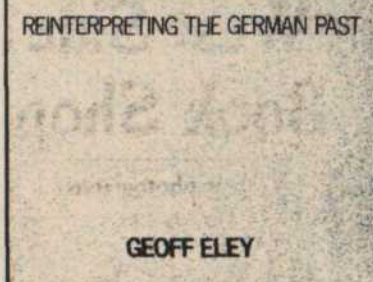


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"An American Journey": Central America Education/Action Committee (Informal Committee of Interfaith Council for Peace). A short film about a Witness for Peace delegation to Nicaragua.
11 AM and 6 PM, St. Mary's Student Chapel/Gabriel Richard Center, 331Thompson, Ann Arbor.

Substance Abuse Support Group:
Women's Crisis Center.

Support group for women in a substance abuse situation involving themselves or family and friends. The program is for eight weeks beginning in April, with a \$25 donation to WCC, sliding scale. Sundays, 7 to 8:30 PM.
For information: 761-9475.

General Meeting:

AMISTAD Construction Brigade.
7:30 PM, ask for room number at information desk, Michigan Union. For information: 761-7960

General Meeting: Campuses Against Weapons in Space.

8 PM, Michigan Student Assembly Chambers, room 3909 Michigan Union.
For information: 763-3241.

Monday, April 7

Ann Arbor City Elections
Vote.

7 AM-8 PM

Informal Seminar: Women's Studies Program of the University of Michigan.
The collective committee will present their recommendations to the general women's studies population. 12:10 to 1 PM, Room 238A, West Engineering. For information: 763-2047.

Informal Working Meeting: Industrial Workers of the World, Southeastern Michigan General Membership Branch.
6 PM, Ann Arbor Tenants' Union office, 4th floor Michigan Union.
For information: 483-3478.

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Guild House Writer's Series: Guild House and Michigan Student Assembly.
Poetry and prose readings. Alan Cheuse and Diane Raptosh. 8 PM, Guild House, 802 Monroe, Ann Arbor.
For information: 662-5189.

Tuesday, April 8

Panel on Sanctuary in the U.S.: Hispanic Law Student Association.
with panelists William P. Joyce, Associate General Counsel, Immigration and Naturalization Service, Arthur C. Pelton, Director Political Asylum Project, Lawyer's Committee for Human Rights, Laura Dietrich, Deputy Assistant Secretary of State, Bureau of Human Rights and Humanitarian Affairs, Pamela Goldberg, Litigation Coordinator, *Proyecto Libertad*, Harlingen, Texas.
7:30 to 9:30 PM, Room 100, Hutchins Hall, Law Quad.

General Meeting: Farm Labor Organizing Committee.
(see Tuesday, April 1)

Wednesday, April 9

Beans and Rice Dinner: Central America Education/Action Committee.
(see Wednesday, April 2)

Land, Food, and Justice Committee Meeting: Interfaith Council for Peace.
Update of Seasonal Cookbook and plans for the Annual Farm Tour. 7:30 PM, Pine Room, First United Methodist Church, State at Huron, Ann Arbor.
For information: 663-1870.

General Meeting: Latin American Solidarity Committee.
(see Wednesday, April 2)

Board Meeting: Women's International League for Peace and Freedom.
Send agenda items, comments, queries to Paquetta A. Palmer at 619 East University A-1, Ann Arbor 48104.
For information: 663-8614.

Thursday, April 10

Oxfam America study tour slide show: Seva Foundation and World Hunger Education/Action Committee.
Ravi Khanna, will present a slide show of Honduras and Nicaragua with a discussion on U.S. policy in Nicaragua and Honduras and how it affects Oxfam America's development work there. 8 PM Kuenzel Room, Michigan Union. For information: 663-4301.

Friday, April 11

Friday Noon Forum: Guild House.
Discussions on the moral and ethical issues of our time. Vegetarian soup and sandwich available for \$1.

This week Tom Weisskopf.
Noon, Guild House, 802 Monroe, Ann Arbor.
For information: 662-5189.

Ravi Khanna, Outreach Coordinator for Oxfam America, available for informal discussions.
(see Oxfam America, Thursday, April 10)

Saturday, April 12

Ravi Khanna, Outreach Coordinator for Oxfam America, available for informal discussions.
(see Oxfam America, Thursday, April 10)

Sunday, April 13

General Meeting: Washtenaw County Women's Action for Nuclear Disarmament Inc.
The program will be a film, "A Call for Peace: The Military Budget and You".
Babysitting available in church nursery. 7-9:30 PM, St. Aidan's Episcopal/Northside Presbyterian Churches, 1679 Broadway, Ann Arbor.
For information: 761-1718.

General Meeting: A²MISTAD Construction Brigade.
(see Sunday, April 6)

General Meeting: Campuses Against Weapons in Space.
(see Sunday, April 6)

Women's Crisis Center Benefit Benefit Concert with Map of the World.
Tickets are \$3-\$5 and can be pre-purchased at WCC.Rick's American Cafe.
For information: 761-9475.

Ravi Khanna, Outreach Coordinator for Oxfam America, Available for informal discussions.
(see Oxfam America, Thursday, April 10)

Monday, April 14

Program Meeting: Women's Studies Program of the University of Michigan.
Last business meeting of the year. 12:10 to 1 PM, Room 238A, West Engineering, U of M.
For information 763-2047.

Informal Working Meeting: Industrial Workers of the World, Southeastern Michigan General Membership Branch.
(see Monday, April 7)

Membership Meeting: Free South Africa Coordinating Committee.
7 PM, Center for Afro-American and African Studies Lounge, first floor West Engineering Bldg., U of M.
For information: 971-7994 or 769-8549.

Guild House Writer's Series: Guild House and Michigan Student Assembly.
Poetry and prose readings. Lemuel Johnson and Nicholas Delbanco. 8 PM, Guild House, 802 Monroe, Ann Arbor.
For information: 662-5189.



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Tuesday, April 15

Annual Tax Day Witness: Ann Arbor War Tax Dissidents/U.S. Peace Tax Fund.
AAWTD will provide leaflets decrying the U.S. Peace Tax Fund Bill now in Congress. 8 PM-midnight, Main U.S. Post Office, 2075 W. Stadium Blvd., Ann Arbor. For information: 662-2838.

General Meeting: Farm Labor Organizing Committee.
(see Tuesday, April 1)

Wednesday, April 16

Beans and Rice Dinner: Central America Education/Action Committee.
(see Wednesday, April 2)

General Meeting: Latin American Solidarity Committee.
(see Wednesday, April 2)

Thursday, April 17

General Meeting: HAP-NICA.
5:30 PM, Michigan Union. For information: 761-7960.

Friday, April 18

Friday Noon Forum: Guild House.
Discussions on the moral and ethical issues of our time. Vegetarian soup and sandwich available for \$1. This week Jonathan Ellis. Noon, Guild House, 802 Monroe, Ann Arbor. For information: 662-5189.

AMISTAD Construction Brigade Benefit.
Folk music with Jim Kirk and Hugh McGuinness. 8 PM, Halfway Inn, East Quad, Uof M, Ann Arbor. Info: 761-7960.

Sunday, April 20

General Meeting: A²MISTAD Construction Brigade.
(see Sunday, April 6)

General Meeting: Campuses Against Weapons in Space.
(see Sunday, April 6)

Monday, April 21

Tour of KMS Fusion: Interfaith Council for Peace.
KMS Fusion is a local company that does research for the Department of Energy, Nuclear Weapons Division. Pre-registration required by April 4th. For information: 663-1870

Informal Working Meeting: Industrial Workers of the World, Southeastern Michigan General Membership Branch
(see Monday, April 7)

"Seeking Solutions: The Politics of Food and the Roots of Hunger, a Community Forum on World Hunger": Interfaith Council for Peace.
The Food First slide show will be shown with discussion to follow. 7:30 PM, Ann Arbor Public Library, Fifth Ave. at William, Ann Arbor. For information: 663-1870.

Guild House Writer's Series: Guild House and Michigan Student Assembly.
Poetry and prose readings. 8 PM, Guild House, 802 Monroe, Ann Arbor. For information: 662-5189.

Tuesday, April 22

Effective Arm-Chair Lobbying: Bread for the World.
Workshop on effective letter-writing,

including: 1) Why we should write. 2) The guidelines of effective writing. 3) Letter construction. 4) Letter content. 2 to 4 PM, St. Thomas Parish Hall, 511 Elizabeth, Ann Arbor.

General Meeting: Farm Labor Organizing Committee.
(see Tuesday, April 1)

Wednesday, April 23

Beans and Rice Dinner: Central America Education/Action Committee.
(see Wednesday, April 2)

General Meeting: Latin American Solidarity Committee.
(see Wednesday, April 2)

Thursday, April 24

Medical Aid CARAVAN: Nicaragua Medical Aid Project.
CARAVAN of medical equipment leaves for Milwaukee to be shipped to Nicaragua. (See story in this issue of Agenda).

Saturday, April 26

Annual Banquet: Women's International League for Peace and Freedom.
A delicious dinner will be served, along with special entertainment. Donations will help cover operating costs for 1986-87. 6 PM, Unitarian Church, 1917 Washtenaw Ave., Ann Arbor.

Sunday, April 27

Fourteenth Birthday Celebration and Volunteer Re-Union: Women's Crisis Center.
Cake, punch, and feminist conversation. Bring a veggie dish to pass. All former volunteers, friends and interested others are invited. 12 PM, St. Andrew's Church, 306 N. Division. For information: 761-9475.

General Meeting: AMISTAD Construction Brigade.
(see Sunday, April 6)

General Meeting: Campuses Against Weapons in Space.
(see Sunday, April 6)

Monday, April 28

Informal Working Meeting: Industrial Workers of the World, Southeastern Michigan General Membership Branch
(see Monday, April 7)

Membership Meeting: Free South Africa Coordinating Committee.
(see Monday, April 14)

Guild House Writer's Series: Guild House and Michigan Student Assembly.
Poetry and prose readings. 8 PM, Guild House, 802 Monroe, Ann Arbor. For information: 662-5189.



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Tuesday, April 29

"The Labor Movement in South Africa": Industrial Workers of the World, Southeastern Michigan General Membership Branch.

Bonile Tuluma, the National Coordinator of Worker Education for the 50,000 member Allied Workers Union, will speak. 7:30 PM, Call for location: 483-3478.

General Meeting: Farm Labor Organizing Committee.
(see Tuesday, April 1)

Wednesday, April 30

Deadline for children's artwork: Washtenaw County Women's Action for Nuclear Disarmament, Inc.
Due date for May 11 Mother's Day Festival artwork. Send submission with the theme "Peace is..." to WAND, 1340 Wines, Ann Arbor, MI, 48103. To have artwork picked up call 769-9334.

Bonile Tuluma available for interviews: Industrial Workers of the World, Southeastern Michigan General Membership Branch.
For information: 483-3478.

Beans and Rice Dinner: Central America Education/Action Committee.
(see Wednesday, April 2)

General Meeting: Latin American Solidarity Committee.
(see Wednesday, April 2)

Thursday, May 1

International conference of progressive unionists: Industrial Workers of the World.
Five day conference (May 1-5) commemorating the 100th anniversary of the Haymarket incident and the campaign for the 8 hour day, to be held in Chicago, IL.
For information: 483-3478.

General Meeting: HAP-NICA.
5:30 PM, Michigan Union. For information: 761-7960.

Friday, May 2

Peer Counselor Training: The Women's Crisis Center.
Training involves 30 hours over two weekends, a 6 month commitment and 4 hours per week after training. \$20 fee.
For information: 761-9475.

Sunday, May 4

Interfaith Council for Peace Benefit.
Children's Concert by Trees. Tickets, \$2 per child, \$4 per adult donation. The Ark Coffeehouse. For information: 663-1870.

Fifteenth Annual Bike-A-Thon: Ecology Center.
Bike-A-Thon to raise money for the Ecology Center's "core" programs (see ad opposite page). For information: 761-3186.

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For information: 761-3186.

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For information: 763-4186 or 863-7255.

Thursday, May 8

Scrap Box Open House: Ecology Center.

Open house of organization that reuses many kinds of industrial and household discards.
For information: 994-4420.

Saturday, May 10

Free White Pine tree seedling giveaway: Ecology Center.

Ecology Center's Recycling Station, 2050 S. Industrial Hwy., Ann Arbor. For information: 761-3186.

Sunday, May 11

Mother's Day Festival of Peace: Washtenaw County Women's Action for Nuclear Disarmament, Inc.

A reinstitution of the more authentic version of Mother's Day originated by Julia Ward Howe, celebrating a day focused on mothers and peace. 1-4 PM, West Park, Ann Arbor.
For information: 761-1718.

Advertisers

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Down on the Farm

(continued from page 28)

System have anything to do with helping farmers? The answer to all these questions seems to be "no".

The Farm Bill, by instituting annual cuts in loan rates, guarantees further deterioration of farm incomes. According to Tom Quinn of the Wisconsin Farm Unity Alliance, "The Farm Bill gives the administration essentially what it was after--lower prices and a shift away from the limited income protections farmers currently have. Congress succeeded only in easing the pain of the so-called transitional period while farmers are starved out."

The administration seems to think that lowering the price farmers receive will improve their performance on the export market. But farmers are already selling many of their crops at less than their cost of production. Selling more will not help them, though it might make our balance of payments look better. It won't help our farmers--or farmers world-wide. As Roger Allison, of the North American Farm Alliance points out, "Instituting a policy that deliberately lowers loan rates which in effect set world prices for major commodities means that the U.S. is advocating a trade war with its friends and allies."

The FCS bailout was not designed to help farmers keep their farms, but rather, to protect bond holders and financial investors and to ensure the stability of a national financial structure threatened by failure of the farm sector. It may in fact accelerate farm foreclosures and seizures.

To Al Hamilton of the Kentucky Farm Unity Coalition, "It looks as though there will have to be a new farm bill every year in this country, until there aren't any more farmers left. The debate will have to be opened up every time agriculture comes up for cuts or the FCS needs another infusion of credit to stay afloat."

Why does it seem impossible to come to grips with the continuing deterioration of the farm economy? One seemingly insurmountable problem is that there is no philosophical agreement on what kind of agriculture we want or need despite the very visible problems that have been generated by our present agricultural system. The prevailing philosophy now is that bigger is better, prices to food producers must be kept low, "economy of scale" dictates that farmers expand their operations, and fewer farmers on larger farms is more efficient.

Where has this philosophy led us? Farms have gotten bigger and farmers swallow their neighbors in pursuit of that elusive "efficiency". They use ever bigger machinery and more and more chemical inputs. They cut back on traditional conservation practices to the point where erosion rates surpass those of the Dust Bowl era. Water, both ground and surface, has been laden with silt and agricultural chemicals, excess fertilizers, and animal manure that cannot be contained because too many animals are confined in too small space. The list goes on and on and the human costs of unemployment, alienation, and rural decay grow more apparent every day.

In order to protect our farmland and our water we need more farmers, not less. We need smaller farms, owned and operated by families, not megafarms run by managers and worked by hourly employees. But in order to have such an agriculture, the people who work the land must be able to earn a living from their labor on that land. They must not be forced to subsidize the food we eat through their willingness or ability to assume huge debts or by their off-the farm jobs. The latest issue of Michigan Farmer reports that, "Nationally, off-farm income of farm families now exceeds their net cash farm income. This is also true in Michigan, and to a greater extent."

What kind of Farm Bill do troubled farmers require if we could agree that small scale family farming is what we want and need? They need innovative programs that will help them downsize and change their operations, shed their overwhelming debts, cut their costs and raise their prices. At present the farmer is the only producer of a commodity who does not set his price by figuring his cost and adding his profit. Instead, his price takes a back seat to the return demanded by the processor, packager, transporter, broker, advertiser and retailer.

And that's where the consumer comes into the picture. More direct access by the farmer to the consumer means a higher percentage of consumer dollars going to the farmer. The major thrust of the educational work of the Land, Food, and Justice Committee of Interfaith Council for Peace is in encouraging people to pay more attention to the origin of the food they eat and to include more food that is locally grown and processed in their diet. We think that if people take time to consider how a rational, sustainable, and just agriculture should and could work, they will decide that good eating is locally based. It certainly fosters a stronger link between grower and consumer. Re-establishing that link is the single most important ingredient in the development of a sustainable agriculture. By providing the farmer with a greater share of the food dollar and a fairer return on his investment of hard work, we can begin to fashion an agriculture of small family farms, cared for by farmers who can plan on a future for themselves and their posterity through wise use of the land they hold in trust for future generations.

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Proposal "A"

Coalition for Peace in Central America

Liberation Theology

Adolfo Perez Esquivel

Campbell's Boycott Over

Farm Labor Organizing Committee

April, 1986