AGENDA

ANN ARBOR'S ALTERNATIVE NEWSMONTHLY

INSIDE

The "big fish" of Allen Creek

Community Resource
Directory
& Calendar

South Africa Update

Report from Juigalpa



photo: Gregory Fox

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- Press statement of the delegation
- Special AGENDA survey of delegates
- More Gregory Fox photos

FORUM

Housing in Ann Arbor

PERSPECTIVE #1

Anatomy of a beauracracy

The case against cellar apartments

by Jane Houseman

Cellar apartments or bedrooms are illegal in Ann Arbor, as well as the whole state of Michigan, yet many people pay high rent to live in them. Cellars are defined as having 50% or more of the outside walls being below ground level. This differs from a basement which is defined as having 50% or more of the outside walls being above ground level.

Since most cellars were never built or designed to be lived in, they cause many problems. They are damp in the summer, cold in the winter, flood in the spring, and the sewers often back up. Most have inadequate window light, and ventilation. They have low pipes and inadequate electrical service. Bedrooms which are below ground level (below

grade) don't have the required emergency escape windows (so in case of a fire the occupants do not have adequate emergency egress).

An unhealthy environment

Heating systems in houses are not designed to heat cellar areas and they don't. Lack of cold air returns prevent air circulation even if a heat supply duct is present. Furnaces normally require a heat supply duct and a cold-air return duct to provide the circulation of air that heats a room. In the winter the cold air settles to the floor and stagnates in the sleeping area. The thermostat upstairs may be a cozy 70 degrees yet the cellar sleeping area may be 60 degrees or less. (see FORUM, page 6)

The Baker momentum:

Where to now?

Text and photos by AGENDA staff

The legacy of an event is the mark that it leaves on those that it touches. The Dean Baker for Congress campaign touched the lives of thousands of people in Michigan's 2nd Congressional District. From a farmer in Lanawee County struggling to keep the farm in the family, to an unemployed mother in Jackson worrying about cuts in social security to a student in Ann Arbor concerned about war atrocities in Nicaragua and El Salvador.

However, the people most deeply touched by the campaign were those who gave their time, energy and love in an attempt to realize a dream. "It would be so cool to get someone like Dean in there who was so sincere and wasn't doing it for himself" is the way one campaign volunteer expressed this dream.

AGENDA spoke to six of the hundreds of volunteers to learn more about what gave the Dean Baker for Congress campaign of 1986 its momentum.

George Sallade

George Sallade's involvement in Party politics spans four decades. Despite an early association with the Democratic Party, he represented Ann Arbor in Lansing for six years as a Republican because "the Democrats (in 1949) weren't interested in new people. They were more interested in a machine politician than anyone with new ideas."

Since then he has run three times for state legislature as a Democrat and has served many years as chairman of the 2nd congressional Democratic committee.

the 2nd congressional Democratic committee.

In 1982 he was drafted by the Democratic Party to run against Pursell. "I got 34% of the vote and I had less that 100 workers on the campaign."

About the 1986 campaign he notes that "initially I had been for Don Grimes. Don and I had worked together in the Hart camaign and I had considered him an able economist too. I talked to Dean before the primary and told him that

of course I would support whoever won. "

During the campaign he frequenly met with the leaders, "strategizing and acting as a bridge between the new people on the campaign and the veteran Democratic organization leaders who had not known Dean prior to the

(see BAKER MOMENTUM, page 10)



campaign worker George Sallade

"The gains were to show that it is possible to muster a good issue oriented campaign. This has left the Democratic Party much stronger locally, no doubt about it."

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Editors Ted Sylvester 21-29

DIRECTORY

Laurie Wechter

Calendar Editor Nan Stoll

Graffitti Editor M.B. Bruno

Art Production Denis McBee

Production Assistant Jim Kirk

Editorial Assistants

Eloise Anagnost Andrew Boyd Orville Little Bonnie Nevel

Photographer Gregory Fox

Advertising Glenn Bering Bill Diesenroth

Distribution
John Brinck
Don East
Lois Huff
Al Lozano
Mark Pohlman
Mike Rosentreter

Thanks Carol Still

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LETTERS

U.N. creams U.S.

The U.S. gets creamed in the United Nations, and if you weren't lucky enough to be reading the Nicaraguan newspapers, you wouldn't know about it. That's right folks: on November 3, the U.N. General Assembly voted 94 to 3 against the U.S., with 47 abstentions. The issue was the World Court ruling of last June 27, which found the U.S. guilty of waging an illegal war against Nicaragua, ordering it to stop and pay reparations to Nicaragua. The U.N. General Assembly vote was for a resolution recognizing the jurisdiction of the World Court in this case and upholding the World Court ruling ordering the U.S. to cease its illegal support of the contra mercenaries.

I know about this because I was in Nicaragua at the time with the Ann Arbor delegation visiting our sister city of Juigalpa. The Nicaraguan papers gave it top billing, even placing it above the Hasenfus trial. After being back in Ann Arbor for a few days it occured to me that I hadn't seen any word of this in The Ann Arbor News back issues that had been saved for me. I went to the library to check The New York Times. Not there either. The

Washington Post-nope. The Christian Science Monitor—forget it. Did I dream this? A call to the U.N. Press Office (212-754-7164) confirmed the accuracy of the Nicaraguan papers' account. resolution passed overwhelmingly by the General Assembly had earlier been vetoed on October 18 in the Security Council by the U.S. It seems that any permanent member of the Security Council can veto any resolution critical of them-rather like being able to sit on your own jury. That doesn't nullify the General Assembly vote however. The only countries to vote with the U.S. in the General Assembky were El Salvador and Israel-arguably client states since they both have economies artificially maintained by huge injections of U.S. money. Even staunch allies such as Thatcher's Britain abstained rather than support Reagan's terrorist activities.

There are two issues here. One is the political isolation of Reagan within the World Community in his aggression against Nicaragua. The other is the utter failure of the American press to report it. Where are the defenders of our right to know?

Gregory Fox

Return to sender

Now that the election is over we commonly hear complaints of voter apathy and expensive, TV-oriented campaigns. People wonder what happened to the old days when campaigns were based on issues and not on mudslinging rhetoric. We feel that the mainstream media are in part responsible for the fact that issues are taking a back seat in today's elections.

Prior to the last election, many of us tried to express our views or to make clear the positions candidates were taking on various issues, but we were stifled by a reluctance of the mainstream press to have the issues dis-cussed. We would like to share with you some of the frustrations we faced as we addressed issues related to the 2nd District Congressional race, between Carl Pursell and Dean Baker.

During the course of Oct., one of us (Jim) sent a letter regarding the farm crisis to the editors of the Ann Arbor News, both Detroit dailies, and the Jackson Citizen Patriot. To the same newspapers another letter was sent which described the events of a candidate's forum on farm issues, held in Hillsdale county. Not one of the papers covered the forum, during which Pursell blatantly tried to deceive 2nd district farmers. All of the letters were followed by phone calls. Responses varied from "your letter will run before Nov. 4" (Free Press) to "we don't know if we will print any more letters relating to the election" (Ann Arbor News).

Jim finally got the Michigan Daily to print one of his letters, but only after he hand-delivered it twice and followed it up with several phone calls. The Detroit Free Press printed only the last two paragraphs of a letter Dan wrote concerning the farm crisis, omitting the major point of the letter.

Although most of a second letter was eventually printed, the editor of the Ann Arbor News told Dan that the topic (again the farm crisis) would put readers to sleep.

The farm crisis is a serious matter, and is not something a newspaper should dismiss as a boring topic. Inappropriate agricultural policies are causing farm failures, which lead to increased mental illness, physical abuse, and suicide in the rural sector. Moreover, the farm issue is one of many issues on which the two candidates were clearly divided, despite the efforts of Pursell to make it seem otherwise.

On Oct. 14, two of us (Dave and Drew) submitted a letter to the Ann Arbor News criticizing its coverage of the Oct. 9 "Candidate's Night," cosponsored by the Ecology Center and Sierra Club.

The story, appearing in the News on Oct.10., began with the lead, "All politicians are pro-environment at election time." The News maintained this theme by failing to report some major position differences, particularly those existing between Pursell and Baker on environmental issues.

The letter summarized these differences based on what was said at that forum. After waiting one week for the letter to appear, we called the Ann Arbor News and were referred to the ombudsman, David Bishop. He told us The News would not print our letter because they considered it to be an endorsement of one of the candidates (Baker).

Taken together, the above examples represent a subtle form of "censorship" by the mainstream press. In some case our letters were ignored. In other cases our letters were so heavily edited that they were stripped

Oops!

Note: AGENDA really goofed last month. Somehow we left off the tail end from theses two stories. Our apologies. . .

Travesty of Justice

Karen Thompson's legal fees have passed the \$80,000 mark and only a fraction of it has been covered to date. Tax deductible donations can be sent to: MnGALLA c/o Suzanne Borne, 3426 Holmes Ave. Minneapolis, MN 55408. For more information write Karen Thompson, Route 1, Box 112, CLear Lake, MN 55319. The public is also encouraged to write letters of support to Sharon Kowalski at Leisure Hills Nursing Home, 1500 E. Third Ave. Hibbing MN 55746.

(ed. note compiled fromTwin Cities Reader, GL Voice, Gay Community News, Ms., SCS Chronicle, WomenWise, Equal Time, and Philidelphia Gay News)

The Other War: The Fight Against Dengue

by Ellen Rusten

Nicaraguans read the news and shrug their shoulders. Just another thing from Big Brother in the North, some say. Others laugh and pooh-pooh the idea. Whoever or whatever the cause, the war goes on.

Seventeen people dead and counting...

November 9, 1985

The war is being won in Managua and in the smaller towns. In Masaya, a pretty town southeast of Managua, the reported daily case-rate has dropped from 240 to 15 in a month.

month.

But the cost has risen. The opposition paper states that \$4 million (100 million cordobas) has been spent. The Red Cross has just helped by donating over \$1 million in pesticides.

Mosquitoes are so rare now that I notice every one. My breath stops; I swat frantically; and I examine the bug to see if it's the tiny, fairy-like Aedis a.

They've stopped aerial spraying and

They've stopped aerial spraying and only pass by with the fumigating truck twice a month.

The director of the Ministry of Health says that, even though Nicaragua doesn't have the money, the fight will go on. As she says: Nicaraguans never give up the fight.

of their educational value. In yet another case, a letter was unjustifiably labeled an endorsement of a political candidate and was rejected on this basis.

This policy of the Ann Arbor News to label commentary on its campaign coverage as "endorsement," and to refuse to print such commentary, effectively censors criticism of its coverage of political campaigns.

Issues will not regain their prominence and influence in elections, and voters will remain uninformed, until these policies are dropped by the mainstream media.

In the meantime, AGENDA will remain one of the few forums available for issues to be discussed adequately. We feel that AGENDA plays an important role in the community and hope that it continues to thrive.

Drew Barton Jim Bever Dan Detweiler Dave Gorchov



Unpacking medical supplies in Juigalpa

MISSION ACCOMPLISHED: Juigalpa ties established

On Monday, Nov. 10th, a delegation of 17 Ann Arbor residents returned from a 10day visit to Managua and Juigalpa, Nicaragua. Juigalpa is Ann Arbor's newest sister city. They were sent there by the citizens of Ann Arbor through the Central American Sister City Task Force. The delegation was greeted at Metro Airport by a crowd of loved ones, well-wishers, and the local media. AGENDA took the opportunity to place a 3-question survey in the hands of each returning delegation member.

The trip to Juigalpa was the result of Ann Arbor's passage of Proposal A last April, a resolution which both condemns U.S. military intervention in Central America and directs Ann Arbor to establish sister city relations with one or more cities in the region. On Sept. 22, Juigalpa, a regional capital 80 miles southeast of Managua, was chosen by the task force.

Seattle was the first city in the U.S. to pass such a resolution. Ann Arbor was the second. Residents in the city of Ypsilanti hope to have such a resolution on the ballot in their city in February. The resolution was passed in Ann Arbor by 61% of the voters.

The group went to learn but also took gifts and supplies, including \$6,000 worth of much needed medical supplies and 700 Art Fair T-Shirts. The delegation included citizens from various backgrounds. Mayor Ed Pierce and State Representative Perry Bullard were among them.

Some activities over the 10 day period were scheduled for the group but they were also able to investigate their own fields of interests as well. Ernestine Rodriguez Spruce, a school nurse, visited health care facilities. Kurt Berggren, the only practicing attorney in the group, was able to observe a portion of the trial of Eugene Hasenfus.

AGENDA SURVEY

- 1. Why did you go to Juigalpa?
- 2. What were your preconceived notions (if any) about Nicaragua and how did your perceptions change over the course of your visit?
- 3. Tell your best "people" story.

Kurt Berggren

 I wanted to go on this trip because the concepts of friendship and peace and sharing are important to me, and they are particularly so in the context of Nicaragua. I feel special compassion for these people who are being terrorized as a direct result

of the policies of my government.

2. While I felt that I knew a considerable amount about Nicaragua based upon reading and having friends who had lived and traveled there, my pre-conceived notions were limited to knowing that the Contras operated like clandestine Hell's Angels and that, because of this and because of the U.S. economic blockade, life was very difficult for the people. Those preconceived notions did not change but were completely reinforced to the point of

What really did change was my level of feeling toward the Nicaraguans. The extent of their suffering and the extent to which they cooperatively work toward the common goal of improving life for all Nicaraguans, and particularly the poor, left sincerity. The people make

3. There are so many truly remarkable "people stories" that it is difficult to focus on just one. The following, however, is important for understanding something about the suffering caused by the Contra terrorism that constitutes the "morally bankrupt campaign of brutality against the

an overwhelming impression. While the people have great animosity toward Reagan and fully expect a U.S. invasion, this feeling of hostility does not include the North American people. Toward us, there seems to be only friendship, warmth and distinction between the North American people and their government. It was hard for me to understand how this distinction continued to be made in the face of an atmosphere of constant tension and terror as a direct result of the Contra activities. It was amazing that all of these people could keep smiling, hugging and surviving while lacking so many of the basic necessities for life such as peace, running water, a sewage system, adequate health services and the like that we take for granted.

"Findings of the first Ann Arbor-Juigalpa Sister City Delegation: Nov. 1 - 10, 1986"

After spending nine intensive days in Nicaragua, the I7 members of the first Ann Arbor-Juigalpa Sister City Delegation find that the voters of Ann Arbor were wise and correct in passing Proposal A. This proposal opposed United States government intervention in Central America and called for the establishment of person-toperson sister city relationships in the region. We urge the voters of other cities to

During our visit, we had open access to the people and government of Nicaragua. We had numerous opportunities to engage in frank, on-the-record discussions with national, regional and local government officials. Individually and as a group we visited their homes, schools, churches, hospitals, businesses, media, farms, cooperatives and opposition political leaders. At no time were our actions subject to any control by the Nicaraguan government. Only at the United States Embassy were we denied permission to use tape recorders, take photographs, or quote the inexperienced junior officer who met with us.

Based on our individual and group experiences, we submit the following five findings, to which the delegation unanimously subscribes:

- (1) Juigalpa and Nicaragua suffer from a level of poverty unimaginable to most North Americans. Residents of our sister city have no sewage system, an uncertain water supply, limited health-care resources, and an economy that barely meets the basic needs of most citizens. Despite these difficult conditions, our hosts were optimistic, energetic, warm-hearted and willing to share their homes and lives with
- (2) The people of our sister city suffer unnecessary additional hardships due to the economic embargo placed on their country by our government. This embargo deprives them of their largest export market, and access to imported materials that are desperately needed to develop and maintain the fabric of their society.
- (3) In Juigalpa and throughout Nicaragua, people are working together in a remarkable atmosphere of political and religious freedom, given the level of poverty and military emergency present in the country. To us, the country's leadership appears to enjoy broad popular support, and seems to be genuinely dedicated to improving health care, basic education, and adult literacy.
- (4) We find no evidence of commitment by the Nicaraguan government to external ideologies or the policies of any foreign government. On the contrary, we find the goals of the Nicaraguan government to be national independence, selfdetermination, and the application of practical solutions to the country's problems. Like all governments, Nicaragua's has made mistakes, and the officials we met were willing to acknowledge them, while adopting a flexible, pragmatic approach to changing policy direction when appropriate.
- (5) Above all else, we find that the Contra war of terrorism, financed by our tax dollars, is a morally bankrupt campaign of brutality against the people of Nicaragua. We witnessed the results of a barbarous Contra attack within 17 miles of Juigalpa, that took the lives of five innocent civilians. Since 1980, 35,000 Nicaraguans have been killed

We further find that the Contras themselves have little support among the people of Niacaragua. The Contras act on behalf of a wealthy country of 240 million people, attempting to impose it's will upon an impoverished country of three million people, half of whom are under age fifteen. This drains the resources of a poor but proud country by diverting material and thousands of young men and women from productive activities to the war effort.

Our sister city of Juigalpa has many material needs, some of which we hope the generous people of Ann Arbor will assist them in meeting over the coming years. But the most important gift we can bring our sister city is the one that Ann Arbor voters requested last April: an end to United States's government support of a war that is destroying their homeland.

> Lise Anderson Kurt Berggren **Perry Bullard** LeRoy Cappaert Joyce Chesbrough James Eckroad Katherine Eckroad Gregory Fox Joel Goldberg

Rev. Virginia Peacock Dr. Edward Pierce Mary Lee Pierce **Thomas Rieke** Jim Ringold Ellen Rusten **Ernestine Rodriguez Spruce** Alan Wald

people of Nicaragua" that the delegation referred to in our press statement upon arriving back in Michigan.

On Friday, November 7—the same day that two Contra attacks within 20 miles of Juigalpa caused the deaths of ten innocent civilians-I went by jeep with two other Ann Arborites and Raoul Ruben, the Dutch regional director for the cooperative program, to visit a cattle co-op about 25 miles east of Juigalpa. The nine displaced persons in the co-op had just received their land this past month and were in the process of trying to put all the necessary fencing and a temporary dwelling place for themselves and finding and developing a source of water. They expected to receive the cattle within the next month.

Raoul apologized intrusion, introduced us and secured the consent of our hosts, all of us sat around a fire on the dirt floor in their tiny cinderblock "home," with liberated chickens coming and going amonst us. We talked with them while they prepared their meal of rice and frijoles and while rain soaked down on us through their still inadequate roof. Our new amigos had formerly been members of a co-op about 100 miles to the north that had been burned by the Contras in 1984, and five of the co-op members had been killed and four kidnapped at that time. A now 19-year-old member of this co-op was one of those kidnapped and he told us his story. He was

(cont. on PAGE 4)



Billboard of Hasenfus, at 25th Anniversary of the founding of the FSLN in Managua

Kurt Berggren (cont.)

told by the Contras that he would either have his throat cut or he would fight with the Contras in battles. He chose the latter "option," and he was made to fight in ten battles prior to his escape four months later. His compañero, who sat next to him at our meeting, just recently completed two years of service in the Sandinista army and he had fought numerous battles against the Contras. I shall always remember the two amigos shyly sitting on their hammock, speaking softly, smiling constantly, and telling what their lives had been like.

In their short lives, these people had suffered too much already, but despite this, their optimism, cooperative effort and their hopes and beautiful smiles were ever present. They now had something that they could call their own, some land that they could work cooperatively and which they could use to make their lives better. There was no water supply, but they showed us where they eventually hoped to obtain their water and where they hoped to build houses for the members of their co-op. When we left, they went back to working on the fences. It was obvious that they liked each other and that they made good compañeros for each other, and it was also obvious that they liked us for caring about them.

As we were driving back to Juigalpa through areas where there had previously been Contra attacks, Kristen remarked that we should be afraid driving along this road in a jeep. We weren't—perhaps because we would have felt guilty and selfish being afraid for such a brief moment of exposure when the Nicaraguan friends we had just met had to live with fear and anxiety every day.

Joyce Chesbrough

As a longtime Republican party worker and public school teacher (Humanities and Latin American History, Pioneer H.S.), I wanted to see for myself what the look and sound of Nicaragua was like, what the people ate and how they dressed and how they interacted with each other. As a former City Councilwoman who took part in Sister City visitations to Hikone, Japan and Peterborough, Ontario, and led a delegation in 1983 to Tübingen, FRG, I was eager to see in what new directions this sister-city relationship might develop. People-to-people programs give ordinary citizens a far more genuine opportunity to interact as human beings than do the gyrations of our various governments, and such programs should be nurtured and cherished for their common humanity. I suspected that this new sister city might provide an entirely different set of experiences and challenges from the usual pleasant encounters, and, of course, that turned out to be the case

I also tried, in preparing myself for the trip, to learn as much of the factual history as I could, and to try to keep an open mind, to go down without having preconceived notions of what I was going to find. Two questions were uppermost in my mind as I left, and I asked them of many people during our travels, and I came home with them still unanswered-which, in itself, became the conclusive answer for me. The questions were-and are: who are the Contras and what is their motivation? and, if the Contras prevail, how do they plan to better the lot of the Nicaraguan people?

A critic might well ask, why don't you pose the same two questions about the Sandinistas? Who are they and what are their motivations; and, since they have prevailed, how are they bettering the lot of the Nicaraguan people? Fair enough. Herewith are some of my observations on the Sandinistas. The FSLN, the political party founded in 1961 which spearheaded the drive to topple Somoza in 1979, controls two-thirds of the seats of the National Assembly

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PHOTOS BY GREGORY FOX

and is the ruling force in Nicaraguan life although there are other parties to both the right and the left of the FSLN. The leadership is in the hands of the 9 Commandantes, but most of the offices are in young inexperienced hands because is a very youthful society. Of a total population of 3 million, 1/2 are under the age of 15. The goals of the Sandinistas are endlessly detailed in billboards, on flags and posters, on walls and in newpapers, repetitious exhortations to study, to fight, to build, to survive, to emulate, to remember...Sandino, Fonseca, Ortega...the litany of heroes and deeds and dangers goes on and on. To what end? To build a proud awareness of one's country and one's role in that country. To nurture a sense of patriotism and dedication and self-sacrifice amid the obvious hardships of daily life. To untie the bonds of servitude forged during 50 years of the Somozas and to create instead a budding sense of self-confidence and participation in the new society.

Are there mistakes in this Sandinista society? you

Are there mistakes in this Sandinista society? you bet! I heard of one young man, a graduate of the U-M Business School, who was put in charge of all of Nicaragua's foreign trade with Canada, the U.S. and Mexico, well over half of all Nicaragua's exports. He was 23 years old and he lasted almost two years, but it was a heavy burden, indeed, for so young and inexperienced a manager. In one other case, the Sandinistas used half of a year's agricultural budget to build a huge sugar processing mill that would have been cost-effective if the price of sugar on the world market stayed at about 60¢ a pound. Can you imagine what happened when the world price of sugar dropped to 6¢ a pound?

One hopeful thing which we heard many times from other Americans who have worked for extended periods of time with the Sandinistas is that they are a pragmatic and flexible group, operating by the seat of their pants rather then by any book, particularly by any Marxist-Leninist book. All over the world, the move is toward privatization, toward encouragement of the entrepreneurial spirit which is a hands-down winner over the Soviet model. Why would an intelligent, intensely patriotic government choose an out-dated, creaky Victorian system which everyone but the Russians is eagerly bailing out of? The answer is, of course, they won't, not willingly, at least, and not unless it is the only way to get the military assistance they must have to fight an ever more powerful Contra enemy.

You ask for a "people" story. Well, I think I'll quote Mrs. Hasenfus in today's paper. She said, as her husband was being sentenced to 30 years, "I have only gratitude and love in my heart for the people of Nicaragua, who have treated me with kindness and courtesy rather than the hostility that circumstances would have warranted." We of the Ann Arbor delegation can only echo that observation for we, too, experienced only the goodwill and friendship of a lovely people who certainly have been given every right to feel otherwise.

As to my two questions about the Contras, who are they and what have they to offer? I hope you'll ask those questions of our leaders, and not be put off by platitudes and fear-mongering. They are legimate questions and they deserve straight answers. We should not settle for less.



Meeting with Xavier Chamorro, editor of El Nuevo Diario



Comalapa

Gregory Fox

The Ann Arbor delegation to Juigalpa marked an important step in the local peace effort that began here in the summer of 1985. We believed that Americans would not tolerate the U.S. sponsored contra aggression if they knew that their taxes were being used to kill Nicaraguan people. I had been involved in each phase of the Initiatives for Peace in Central America, and the trip to Juigalpa was a highly visible manifestation of this community's desire for peace. As a photographer, I felt a need to be along to photodocument this official meeting of Ann Arbor and Juigalpa.

This was not my first trip to Nicaragua: on an earlier trip I had travelled about, getting a "street level" impression. The delegation, by contrast, was structured. We had a full agenda (of our own choosing): meeting with government agencies, with the major opposition party, and with the newspaper, as well as with the pro-contra U.S. embassy. I came away with the impression of a government sincerely working hard for the vast poor of Nicaragua under almost impossible circumstances. They acknowledge that in their short seven years they have made mistakes and fallen short in certain ways. They are also justifiably proud of major achievements: particularly in the areas of health and education, accomplished under

conditions of war and an economy of desperation.

The contra terrorists struck while we were in Juigalpa. Just outside of the nearby village of Comalapa, a car carrying farmer-organizer Alfonzo Nunez and six other village residents was ambushed. Several of us from Ann Arbor reached the scene about six hours later. Five people had been killed and two others seriously wounded. The ambushed car was still smoking, but the burnt bodies had been removed to the village. We went to the homes of each of the victims, hoping to show by our presence that we shared in their sorrow. We spoke with a young man who, from a nearby hilltop, had seen the contras put a wounded woman into the burning car.

During this time in Comalapa we were treated with hospitality, despite the relentless slaughter sponsored by our government. The Nicaraguans are able to rise above their grief to distinguish between the actions of the U.S. government and the desires of the U.S. people. It seemed so ironic when the bereaved in Comalapa would thank us for coming to pay our respects. While listening to the cries of a young child of one of the murdered men, I calculated the casualties which would result from a proportional attack on Ann Arbor. We would have lost 252 of our neighbors. This was not an isolated incident. Later that same day the contras attacked a farm co-op killing several farmers. On October 3 there had been a contra attack on a local co-op, and on September 22, the day Juigalpa became our sister city, 4 civilians were murdered by contras.

In the midst of this grief I realized that these people are not losers. They are simply ordinary people doing the extraordinary.

Joel Goldberg

1. Unlike many delegation members, I had not been politically active on Central American issues in Ann Arbor. I joined the delegation to represent Ann Arbor's cooperative businesses and credit unions, to learn about the role co-ops were playing in Nicaragua's economic development.

Because co-ops represent grass-roots economic democracy, I hoped to find that co-ops were a significant factor in the Nicaraguan people's attempt to overcome the vast inequalities of wealth and power that were the legacy of the Somoza regime. Based on the support for this visit

shown by many Ann Arbor co-ops and credit unions, I also wanted to be able to return with comparisons of how co-ops operate in a Third World country versus the United States, and with some suggestions for ways that Ann Arbor co-ops might be able to provide assistance to our sister cooperatives of the Juinalog area.

Juigalpa area.

2. Naively, in retrospect, I assumed it would be possible to stay clear of Nicaraguan politics. All in all, Ann Arbor-style cooperatives are relatively non-political beasts, providing their member-owners with such non-profit consumer services as housing, food, child-care and savings accounts. My cultural blinders tempted me to view Nicaraguan cooperatives in the same light.

Unfortunately, a society engaged in land redistribution and establishment of social benefit systems, while fighting off a terrorist war and economic embargo, did not lend itself to this form of analysis. In Nicaragua, every act takes on political shadings. Nearly everything is only one or two steps removed from the war and embargo. Co-ops are not excluded.

My first inkling of this came in the names of the cooperatives. Instead of University of Michigan Credit Union or Forest Hills Housing Cooperative, Nicaraguan co-ops sport such monikers as the 23rd of August Taxi Cooperative (the completion date of the national adult literacy campaign). There is the Andres Castro Painters Cooperative (the hero of a 19th Century uprising against U.S. intervention) and the Eddy Alonzo Farm Cooperative (an engineer who died in the Sandinista revolution).

Cooperatives also find themselves divided along political lines, rather than being a single unitary movement. The Nicaraguan government places a high priority on private farm cooperatives, which are viewed as a logical alternative to state collectivized farms or dependence on individual landowners. Because these co-ops are located on lands appropriated by the state and redistributed to previously-landless peasants, they are frequent symbolic targets of Contra attacks, and suffer from a lack of capital to purchase machinery to expand production.

Other private cooperatives have learned to live with the government. The Nicaraguan Federation of Credit Unions (FECACNIC), for example, after an initial period of mistrust with the Sandinistas, is now providing various government-sponsored cooperatives with educational programs and technical

Sadly, some co-ops have not fared so well. In Juigalpa, the local small business cooperatives depended to a great extent on the ongoing largesse of U.S.-originated aid programs. Never having built a strong capital base of its own, this co-op will be forced to cease operating in December.

In summary, I concluded that the cooperative movement is alive and well in Nicaragua—although on very different terms than the U.S. variety. Nicaraguan co-ops are supplier and producer, rather than consumer; they have strong political groundings based in the highly politicized Nicaraguan society; and they tend to be rooted in the practical need to survive in a harsh economic environment, rather than based on any abstract cooperative philosophy.

3. My favorite story illustrates so much of what is happening in Nicaragua—both in its factual details and in the combination of practicality and idealism in a people facing nearly insurmoutable odds.

nearly insurmoutable odds.

Picture five people—four men and a woman—seated in a newly-constructed hovel, kilometers from anywhere. Their shelter, if it can be termed such, is a ramshackle construction of a few planks nailed together, one wall of piled cinder blocks without mortar, and a detached tin roof weighed down by a few bricks.

Ancient hammocks are slung on both sides of a low wall dividing the men's sleeping

area from that of the woman. In the "kitchen," a kettle boils on a fire-pit dug in the ground. Nearby is a hand-mill for grinding corn into meal. Next to it sits a loaded assault rifle.

They are building a new dairy-cattle cooperative.

These are campesinos, not used either to foreigners or philosophizing. Hesitantly they begin to tell their story.

they begin to tell their story.

They are the vanguard of nine families that will soon own this cooperative Until two years ago, they lived on a farm cooperative that supported twenty families. One day the Contras came and burned their cooperative to the ground, killing many of their compañeros. They were fortunate to be away at the time.

Life has not been easy in the intervening years. One of the men went into the army. Another went to work in a different cooperative. A third tried living in Managua, but couldn't get work. The fourth says he was kidnapped by the Contras and forced to participate in a half-dozen raids before he managed to escape in the middle of the night.

Now they have been given about 220 acres of land, appropriated from a wealthy farmer who was determined by the government not to be an "efficient producer". They are receiving materials from a Dutch foundation to build and fence their farm. Once it is complete, in a month or so, they have been told they will receive 150 dairy cows to start their farm, followed by some beef cattle. Depending on availability, they may actually get far less.

may actually get far less.

Proudly they walk us around their farm, pointing to the filthy hole in the ground that they use for drinking water. Some day they will have a proper well constructed here. Fortunately there is a river running through the back of the property—their cattle will be able to drink from it. They show us where they will build their homes, and where the fences will go. Today there are just piles of blocks, rails, dirt and barbed wire.

The visitor asks if there are Contras in the area. They point to two hills on the horizon, a few kilometers away. So far, though, the Contras have only attacked on the far side of the nearest town.

A truck pulls up where a supply shed will be built. They must go to unload the wood it is carrying—they've been waiting quite a while for these materials, and it's starting to get dark.

Rev. Virginia Peacock

1. I went to Nicaragua and Juigalpa largely because my congregation wanted me to go and sent me. They wanted a current report from the eyes and ears of someone they knew. I also went out of my own curiosity and as an act of solidarity with the people of Nicaragua through this new Ann Arbor-Juigalpa sister city relationship, although I confess that the last part of this is clearer to me now that I have returned than it was before I left. My curiosity probably was more religiously motivated than politically, although I think there is no real division between the two. I had read about and heard reports of a "new reformation" taking place in Latin America through the movement of Christian base communities within the Roman Catholic Church there. I had heard that religion had been a force in the revolution in Nicaragua. I wanted to sense this new stuff, to feel it, to catch its flavors.

2. It is not always easy to identify and own one's pre-conceived notions. But I did carry some doubts, some fears and suspicions about what I'd find. I was afraid that what I'd wanted to believe about the spirit of the revolution and the new government of Nicaragua had been too cheerfully painted by enthusiastic supporters in this country. What I found, I think, was a genuineness of intention to build something good, a country in which the well-being of the people is a true goal, and that (cont. on PAGE 31)

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FORUM

Housing in Ann Arbor

Perspective #1 =

Are Cellar Apartments Illegal?

Cellar dwellars are often unaware of the true cause of their general malaise. Not only do they pay in physical and mental ill health for living in a cellar, they must also pay cash for the privilege and often have a year's lease saying they must stay and pay for the unhealthy environment.

(cont. from page 1)

The heating plant (furnace) is voracious in its need for oxygen to burn and can deplete the oxygen supply in a cellar walled off for rooms. The heating plant then tries to suck air in from the outside causing cold drafts. If it can't, the oxygen is depleted to burn and can deplete the oxygen supply in a cellar walled off for rooms. The heater may also build up carbon deposits, become inefficient and create carbon monoxide fumes. Cellar dwellers may get unexplained winter headaches, which are actually caused by these poisonous fumes.

Radon, a colorless, odorless gas which may cause cancer, if found in a home tends to be heavier in the basement area. It leaches in from the ground through the walls and may accumulate in the cellar.

Sunshine, which is essential for health and welfare, seldom permeates to the cellar in fall, winter, and spring. While units may have appeared acceptable in the desperate summer search for an apartment, by midwinter its a different situation. The sunshine no longer reflects in. People tend to spend more time indoors in the winter, so for the cellar occupants, the confined cool damp area increases respiratory problems and often, mild depression can be a result. Headaches may occur, causing irritability and sleeping by the cold floor wears down the body's defenses.

The cellar dweller is often unaware of the true cause of their general malaise. Not only do they pay in physical and mental ill health for living in a cellar, they must also pay cash for the privilege and often have a year's lease saying they must stay and pay for the unhealthy environment.

Are cellar units legal?

The State of Michigan adopted a state housing code (MCLA 125.401 et seq) which prohibits cellar habitation. The Ann Arbor Housing Code was based on the state code and also prohibits cellar use. Section 8-503 of the Ann Arbor Code states quite clearly, "No cellar space shall be used as a habitable room or dwelling unit."

This means cellar units are not legal to rent. Since they are not legal to rent, most lawyers would point out the courts will not enforce a contract based on an illegal act. Consequently, cellar leases should be unenforceable. If they are, cellar dwellers may not be forced to pay rent, and in fact, in some cases, may be owed for back rent already paid out.

The only exception

The only exception may be if the cellar unit was granted a valid "variance" from the Housing Board of Appeals (HBA) in writing. The HBA is a quasi-judicial body that may grant a "specific" variance from the

strict application of the law. In order to get a variance there must be a practical difficulty or unnecessary hardship from complying with the law. The Housing Code, Section 8:56 states "A variance may be allowed by the Board only if, in the judgment of the Board, such variance would not violate the intent of this chapter, nor jeopardize public health and safety." A variance, granted by the HBA upon a landlord's request should be specific in granting a variance on grade, ceiling height, or any other non-conforming areas such as light, ventilation, stair height, emergency egress, etc.

There are differing opinions on whether even this type of variance is legal, as the Housing Code states in Section 8-515, "This section shall not be construed so as to permit the Board to authorize the granting of a variance from the requirements of the State Housing Law." The Michigan Housing Act MCLA 125.430, states "no room in the cellar shall be occupied for living purposes."

Existing units

Some employees in the Building Department have felt that any "existing rooms" should be allowed to continue and have refused in the past to enforce the law in regards to them. These officials adopted a "Grandfather Clause" theory whereby anything existing would not be cited as a violation.

This is contrary to the whole purpose of the Housing Code enforcement process. There is no "Grandfather Clause" in the Housing Code, which is the minimal codes for existing units. The Housing Code 8.501 states "this chapter shall apply . . . without regard to whether these were constructed before or after the effective date of the chapter."

Cellar units are therefore not legal if they have been rented for 2 years, or 22 years. The only exception is if they have specific HBA variances.

Example #1: A cellar with a legal (?) HBA variance

The owner of 809 Sybil was cited on 8/31/79 by a city housing inspector for "cellar space being used as a habitable room" and ordered to vacate it. The owner requested a variance from the HBA but his request was denied due to numerous violations. After consulting with Housing Supervisor William R. Yadlowsky he reapplied and was granted a variance contingent on obtaining a building permit.

The owner obtained a homeowner's permit after swearing on a "Home Owner's Affidavit" that the property "is or will be on completion my place of residence." Most construction work, in order to protect the public, requires trained, licensed, insured

contractors to do the actual work. The exception is for a person's own private residence that they they live in. That way any mistakes will only affect themselves or their family. The affadavit also says "I... will the the actual work myself." This notarized document includes violation penalties of up to 90 days in jail or \$500 fine for violations.

The cellar rooms at 809 Sybil eventually became "legal" but evidently not very habitable since despite the above shenanigans many other code requirements had not been met. New partial walls were put in but no insulation. The rooms had no cold air returns and were cold. The electric code had never been met nor permits obtained.

Tenants complained. A violation letter was written on 4/28/80 stating that "The basement room has not yet been brought up to code." But on 5/8/80, Housing Supervisor Yadlowsky certified the house himself.

Several years later another group of tenants complained about the same problems, after the sewer backed up and flooded the area with feces. This was on 9/12/84 and again on 10/11/84. Many of the conditions had not change since the Housing Inspection Report dated 4/28/80: the paneling was still coming off the walls, the room was still cold, the portable heater had to be put next to the bed on extension cords, and there was still inadequate electrical service. A violation letter was sent to the owner, Mr. Gopi

Jendal on 10/11/84, ordering him to correct these problems and get permits.

The tenants went to the University Mediation Service over the problems and Mr. Jendal attempted to resolve the heat problem by rebating money each month for the cost of the electric portable space heater, on extension cords. This resulted in the continuation of hazardous code violations and potential fire hazards. Apparently no permanent solution to the heating problem was addressed. At some point electrical outlets were added without permits or electrical inspections. This adds further danger in that electrical code violations increase the potential for fires.

It's confusing as to whom, if anyone, recertified the building as Housing Bureau records are conflicting. Is the cellar unit at 809 Sybil legal? It is unclear. The HBA did give a variance conditional on obtaining a building permit, stating "occupancy shall not take place until corrections of all other code violations."

The building permit appears to be improper as this is and was not owner occupied, and the owner did not do the work himself.

There appears to continue to be heating and electrical violations, and in fact it appears that these new rooms never were inspected to see if they meet the new electrical code, as required by law. Yet the unit has continued to be rented out at a healthy profit with little action from the Housing Bureau to correct the problems.

(see CELLARS, page 29)

Perspective #2

No Room in the Inn for Gay and Lesbian People Housing Discrimination

by Helen Gallagher

President Reagan proclaimed, during the anniversary celebrations for the Statue of Liberty, that ours is a country of "liberty and justice for all." Gay men and lesbian women, like members of other minority groups, know this is a lie. We live in a country of liberty and justice for some

Decent, affordable, and safe housing is a basic human right. Michigan, like other states, has laws to protect the rights of residential tenants. It has to ensure, for example, that a tenant lives in a dwelling that is sanitary, safe, and meets the minimum requirements of the housing code. Yet tenants are often afraid of enforcing these provisions against landlords, especially when they will have to find other rental housing (as a consequence). State law, while it may be adequate for the needs of the tenant, is often difficult for the tenant to enforce. It is often easier to simply move.

Gay men and lesbian women face unique problems in housing. Unlike other minority groups, gays and lesbians are not protected by state law from discrimination in housing, employment, education, or public accommodations. Under state law, individuals can be denied housing on the basis of sexual orientation (i.e., because

they are gay or lesbian or are perceived to be gay or lesbian) and there is no recourse. Lesbian women and gay men have no right, under federal or state law, to decent, affordable, and safe housing. Consequently, gays are all too often victims of discrimination in purchasing or renting housing.

Several practical issues arise from this lack of legal protection. Foremost among them is fear. If one can be fired from a job or refused the right to rent an apartment because of one's lifestyle, the tendency exists to "pass" or closet oneself. Fear becomes a dominant factor in a person's life. Homophobia, or prejudice and hatred against gay people, is a part of life. Like racism and sexism, it is insidious and deadly.

That's the bad news. The better news is that 51 cities and municipalities across the country have ordinances or charters forbidding discrimination in housing against gay men and lesbian women. Ann Arbor has such an ordinance.

From anecdotal reports, most gay men and lesbian women who live alone, or who rent an apartment in their name alone, are unlikely to experience discrimination unless a lover moves in or the landlord learns that he or she is gay. A major example of discrimination faced almost

(see DISCRIMINATION, page 29)

Perspective #3

Housing for Senior Citizens: A Primer for Adult Children

by Sheila Cumberworth

"The most commonly believed myth in America . . . is that most senior citizens move from their family home straight into a nursing home. In fact, only 5% of all seniors live in a nursing home. And some of them are only there for convalescent purposes and can eventually return to some form of independent living."

Adult children of senior citizens face difficult situations every day. They worry about a mother who is over 70 and lives alone. She has taken a few falls recently. She hasn't hurt herself yet, but her daughter worries that she may.

They worry about a father-in-law who keeps causing house fires by falling asleep in his easy chair while cooking. He lives in another town and won't move in with his son even though he has been asked.

They worry about a parent with a broken hip who is afraid she may have to give up her home and go into a nursing home. The doctors feel her hip will heal in a few months time. Her depression over this matter is more upsetting than her physical injury.

These are just a few of the situations the Housing Bureau for Seniors try to deal with when helping the adult children of senior citizens with housing-related concerns.

At a housing workshop for adult children held at the Burns Park Senior Center in Ann Arbor on Sept. 26, Housing Bureau social worker Carole Lapidos discussed the special problems of adult children: "Adult children often ask, 'Am I the one who has to make the decision for my parent?' They feel very vulnerable because this parent was the one who used to take care of them. That can feel scary," said Lapidos.

Families caught in a situation where it becomes increasingly obvious that an aging relative can no longer remain at home alone have a lot of emotional complications that get in the way of making wise housing decisions.

"The most commonly believed myth in America," Lapidos claims, "is that most senior citizens move from their family home straight into a nursing home. In fact, only 5% of all seniors live in a nursing home. And some of them are only there for convalescent purposes and can eventually return to some form of independent living."

A common complication for adult children is a parent's fear of "being sent off" to a nursing home. Seniors may not



Anita Perry Housing Bureau volunteer

communicate their true health condition, often postponing minor surgery, or refusing to see a doctor. Senior parents may begin to send out mixed signals to their children who, sensing that something is wrong, begin to worry more than necessary over a parent's health.

Some seniors may begin to play one child against another, refusing to admit to one child that anything is wrong while repeatedly telephoning another with a litany of complaints.

"If you sense that this is happening," Lapidos advises, "get the family together to discuss the situation as soon as possible."

These problems cut across all lines.
Adult children who participated at the
Burns Park workshop, as well as those
who have contacted the Bureau previously,
come from all economic and geographic

backgrounds. They are professionals who have moved to Ann Arbor, leaving parents in another part of the country. They are rural Washtenaw County residents whose parents live just up the road. They are married couples with a growing family and a parent who has just failed her driving test in her home state. These and other families have found that they have been helped by talking over their situations with volunteer housing counselors at the Housing Bureau.

Nearly a quarter of Housing Bureau clients are adult children who have come seeking advice about a parent's housing situation. Housing Counselors have grown adept at listening to families. They can help family members learn to talk to one another as well as provide the information families need in order to make housing choices.

One piece of advice that adult children often welcome is the idea of letting the senior parent take part in this decision. Studies have shown that seniors who have participated in housing-related decisions are happier and experience greater wellbeing in later life. Adult children often forget that their parents have a lifetime of decisions behind them. Unless a senior citizen's mental health has deteriorated to the extent that s/he cannot make wise housing choices (which happens less frequently than prevailing aging myths would indicate), families are encouraged to work together.

"Helping families work together to find solutions to housing problems is high on our list of priorities," says

(see SENIOR HOUSING, page 30)

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FORUM

Housing in Ann Arbor

Perspective #4

City Boss Attacks Tenants' Union

written by the City Accountability Project of the Ann Arbor Tenants Union

According to a high level city official, housing code enforcement reforms which would apply the law fairly and establish proper bureaucratic procedures for enforcement will "sink" the Ann Arbor Housing Inspection Bureau.

Chizek, Leigh assistant city administrator for engineering services, was quoted in The Ann Arbor News (Nov. 7, 1986) as saying "the (Ann Arbor) Tenants' Union has clearly targeted the Housing Bureau, to sink it, and they're succeeding." Chizek's comments came in response to a lawsuit filed by city housing inspector Ray Ayer under the Michigan Whistleblower Protection Act. The 1981 state law is on the books "to provide protection to employees who report a violation or suspected violation of state, local, or federal

Ayer's lawsuit charges city, hall management with unfair treatment in response to Ayer's efforts "to get the city Building Department to apply the housing and building code uniformly and in total conformity with the law." The lawsuit names the city, Chizek, Housing Inspection Bureau Supervisor Bill Yadlosky, and Building Department Director D. Jack Donaldson as defendants.

Chizek's claim that the whistleblower lawsuit is a Tenants' Union "targeting" of the Bureau is untrue. The Tenants' Union is not a plaintiff in the suit, did not have any prior knowledge of the suit, nor is Ray Ayer a member of the Tenants' Union.

Chizek has attempted to confuse the situation with his claim that proposed reforms would "sink the Housing Bureau." The proposed reforms are intended to improve Housing Inspection Bureau performance; thus, rather than sinking the Bureau, the reforms will perpetuate it. Also implied in Chizek's comments is an attempt to deprive city council members Kathy Edgren and Jeff Epton and tenants advocates Larry Fox and Gary Rothberger of proper credit for their work in developing the reforms. These individuals, as well as Tenants' Union staffpersons, have worked many hours on the city council housing code Revision Committee and Housing Board of Appeals to improve the Inspection Bureau's process and the city's housing

Julia Goode, spokesperson for the Tenants' Union City Accountability Project (which wrote this article), says, "Chizek's statements to the "News" prove what we've been saying all along. The bureaucrats have deep biases against tenants. Chizek is incapable of administering the Bureau as it should be run; to assure the health, safety, and preservation of the city housing stock and to defend the quality of life of tenants. Chizek, Donaldson and Yadlosky need to

get out of the way so the city can enforce its own laws."

Whose "common sense?"

Chizek also told The Ann Arbor News that the city "needs to stop getting our micrometers out to see if there are housing code violations, and start using common sense." This is precisely the current problem; it is not the solution.

For several years, the Housing Inspection Bureau has used "common sense" as the standard for Bureau inspections. In our opinion, "common sense" in this case, however, is defined as "sense" which is "common" to landlords and bureaucrats, not tenants (or laypeople).

Fred Gruber, spokeslord for the Ann Arbor Apartment Association, a local landlord organization, has repeatedly echoed Chizek's maintenance of the status quo at meetings of the Housing Code Revision Committee. Gruber says, "it is fine to have a 'tight code' as long as we can be flexible in the enforcement." In other words, we should use "common sense" as the basis for enforcing the housing code.

Public policy established from a premise like Gruber's is arbitrary policy which benefits a privileged few and creates excessive bureaucratic power.

The Chizek-Gruber logic of public policy establishes two sets of rules. The first set of rules are the city laws. Laws require passage through a public legislative process and are published for all to review. These are the official rules; but, not the "real" rules. The second set of rules are for the privileged knowledge of those in power. These rules are rarely published. The secret rules require that those who benefit from them, landlords and bureaucrats in this case, keep up an image that public law is being enforced. Chizek calls this common sense. Gruber calls it flexible enforcement. Tenants call it bullshit.

The status quo of "common sense"

The Bureau's policy of enforcing "common sense" instead of the city's laws has caused tenants many problems, delivered unwarranted financial gain to landlords and contributed to the decay of the city's rental housing stock. Some examples:

Did They Miss a Few at Your Place Too? On Sept. 30, 1985 the city certified a student area rooming house as having no code violations. Five months later, in March 1986, the Bureau issued a report listing 118 code violations.

Law? What Law? Limit? What Limit? According to city law a landlord may obtain a waiver of sections of the housing code only through appeal to the Housing Board of Appeals. Bureaucrats for

several years violated this restriction by setting up a so-called Administrative Review Committee which granted hundreds of variances to landlords. The Bureau kept no minutes of meetings of the Administrative Review Committee and kept no compilation of variances granted by the Committee. Bureaucrats claim this policy officially ended in January 1986 in response to pressure from tenants and tenants' advocates. Old habits die hard and some current Bureau policies carry on the essence of the administrative variance practice.

Fair Representation? There were no tenants on the Housing Board of Appeals (HBA) until February 1986, at which time several HBA members were on the Board in violation of residency and/or term of service restrictions (two still are in violation of term of service restrictions). HBA records variancees granted routinely to landlords without regard to limits on HBA power as set by the housing code or minimum requirements needed to qualify for variances.

Attacks on Ray Ayer. In August of 1986, according to city housing inspector Ayer's lawsuit, "as a direct result of whistleblower activities, (Ayer) was given a bad evaluation by defendant Yadlosky and was reprimanded and given a five-day suspension." Not content to improperly deprive Ayer of five days pay, city bosses may have leaked news of the disciplinary action to The Ann Arbor News. According to the lawsuit, "Yadlosky created and fabricated the incident giving rise to the reprimand . . . and Chizek administered the punishment."

Whose town is it?

Assistant city administrator Leigh Chizek holds the second highest administrative rank in the city. He is a policy maker whose public statements on city hall matter. Unless specifically labeled as personal, his public comments reflect, if not define, the city's official position.

City council member Kathy Edgren, in a memo to Chizek's boss, city administrator Godfrey Collins about Chizek's statements, stated "to publicly disparage a local community organization, as Leigh [Chizek] has done, demonstrates . . . a lack of respect for citizen participation in local government." Edgren also expressed deep concern for the possibility that "the negative attitude toward tenant advocates . . permeates the Housing Inspection Bureau and is reflected in the housing inspection services we provide to the public and in our enforcement of the housing code."

Housing code enforcement is a basic city service in an urban industrial society. Housing code enforcement promotes the health, safety and life quality of tenants and

(see TENANTS' UNION, page 30)

Perspective #5

Rent control a hot topic

Third Annual Housing Conference Successful by Larry Fox

On Oct. 25, the Housing Law Reform Project, the Ann Arbor Tenants' Union, the United Community Housing Coalition and the Midwest Region of the National Tenants' Union held the Third Annual Midwest Housing Conference in Ann Arbor on the U-M campus.

Approximately 80 people attended the conference from five Midwestern states (Michigan, Ohio, Illinois, Indiana and Wisconsin). The conference was directed towards housing activists and consumers of low-income housing. Eight workshops were held, but the one that attracted the most attention was on rent control.

Currently there is no state or municipality in the Midwest with a rent control statute. The Southfield Tenants' Union is considering a rent control initiative; the Mayor of Warren, Michigan, has proposed a rent control ordinance; and there are even rumblings in Birmingham, Michigan. The latter two localities are responding to tremendous rent increases that are particularly onerous to people on fixed incomes.

A rent control ordinance was last on the Ann Arbor ballot in 1975. But with the predicted rent increases precipitated by the new tax law, there is renewed interest in rent control. Landlords are now sowing the seeds for successful rent control campaigns by raising rents to unprecedented levels. This is particularly true in Ann Arbor where the very low vacancy rate (housing units vacant or for rent) has resulted in the loss of tenant bargaining power.

The new tax law, taking effect in 1987, changes the way income producing property will be financed and depreciated. It will increase the cost of production of new

housing but will not effect existing housing. The prediction that the tax law will cause rents to rise in existing buildings is nothing but a ruse by the rental industry to institute a new round of unconscionable rent increases of 15% to 25%.

Other workshops attended at the conference included: Tenant Legislation (councilmembers Edgren and Epton explained the legislative process); Women in Housing (Michelle Richards of the Community Development Corporation, Nancy Moustakas of Family Support Systems and others described problems faced by women in securing housing and suggested strategies for overcoming those problems); How to Use Media (Ann Manikas of

Community Access and Roger Kerson of the UAW Public Relations Office proveded a useful and entertaining workshop on media relations); and Housing Economics (Bill Rosenberg of the Investment Group, Doug Murnitz of the Michigan State Housing Development Authority and Debbie Hershberger of the Ohio Financing Authority painted a gloomy future for low income housing under the new tax law).

Rose Martin and her group from Peace Neighborhood Center catered another fabulous dinner, as she has done the last two years. The great meal makes the thought of planning another conference next year almost bearable.

Perspective #6

Seniors have special needs

"Make affordable housing a top priority"

Remarks made by Carolyn Hastings, Executive Director of the Housing Bureau for Seniors, Inc. at a public hearing before Ann Arbor city council, Nov. 17, 1986.

Mr. Collins, Mayor Pierce, Council People,

The Housing Bureau has heard from about 1,008 seniors in Washtenaw County who hare having concerns about their housing. I want to mention our concerns about:

- 1. Rental subsidies which may disappear
- 2. The need for affordable housing
- 3. The fears of seniors in nonsubsidized rental units
- 4. Condominium conversion

Of course we feel that there must be affordable housing for all people, not just older adults. Today, it is nearly 20 years after the Housing and Urban Development Act was passed to ensure that every American had a decent home. Today, all cities, including Ann Arbor, may face a rental housing crisis as subsidies for privately owned, low income rental housing start to expire. As the housing units reach their 20th anniversary, the owners may pay off the mortgage in advance and dispose of the property as they wish. It is possible that nearly 900 older adults in Ann Arbor will be displaced. We need to plan now.

Nationally, the average rental contribution in subsidized housing is

\$193 per month. These residents of subsidized housing have average monthly incomes of \$643, or \$7,700 per year. Our local Community Development Office tells us the average apartment in town rents for \$425 per month, or over 2/3 of that monthly income. This senior would have \$217 remaining each month to pay for utilities, medical insurance, medications, food, transportation, and other expenses. Is this the way to treat those who helped build our city? Or do we want these senior residents to "vote with their feet" and take their not quite \$8,000 incomes elsewhere?

(see AFFORDABLE, page 30)

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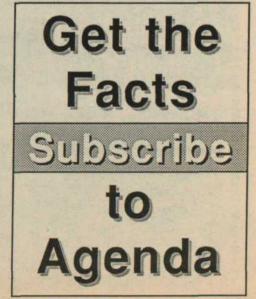
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BAKER MOMENTUM

George Sallade (cont. from page 1)

to the campaign.

George reflects that "It was a very well organized campaign-it had a lot of talented people in it with a lot of good ideas not only political ideas but campaign techniques as well. I was most impressed by the high intellectual caliber of the volunteers, their dedication and their integrity. I just enjoyed working with them."

George feels that the campaign will have a lasting effect on the local electoral political scene. "The gains were to show that it is possible to muster a good issue oriented campaign. This has left the Democratic Party much stronger locally, no



Thea Lee

hea Lee realized how much she had become immersed in the campaign "when I noticed that I hadn't opened the shades in my room for over a week. It's pretty stressful waking up day in and day out, going straight to the office, staying there until the middle of the night and coming home again."

Thea has been discussing running a candidate against Pursell as a form of protest against his votes on U.S. policy in Control America for a long time. "We (in Central America for a long time. "We (in Latin America Solidarity Committee) had gone as far as we could. We knew though that there was much broader support beyond the people who were involved then. started thinking about challenging Pursell electorally . . . move away from a complaining, whining role."

Though efforts were made to get an established politician in town to run, "we finally settled on Dean because he had the energy. We trusted Dean and he would be as articulate a spokesperson as anyone in . I did consider running myself -for about 5 minutes," Thea whimsically.

Thea was campaign co-manager and was involved in all stages of its planning though "canvassing was one of my favorite parts because it was just talking to people about politics every day.

Next semester Thea plans on going to China with her family to visit relatives and to Nicaragua to get started on her dissertation for a Ph.D in Economics. "I feel like I need some stimulation from the outside world."

But Thea's thoughts are still very much with the campaign. "My participation, every minute that I spent was well worth it. consider it as part of my struggle to stop the war in Central America. We accomplished a lot towards that end."

Jean Besanceney

Jean Besanceney is a Kappa Alpha Theta at the University of Michigan. When she left home in Pittsburgh two and a half years ago her goals were to "have a career that was oriented around money and success." However, little of what she found made sense

"I joined a bible study class where I thought I'd find some answers to my problems. A lot of the time I couldn't understand how they got the meaning out of it and how it could rule a person's life so I stopped going."

Jeans disillusionment surfaced in her political outlook too. "Finding out about contra aid made me decide that Reagan was a liar after I voted for him two years ago. I mean, he was just blatantly lying, she adds, partly indignant and partly incredulous.

The turning point came with a class in

political philosophy which "really made me think. I started to read letters the 'Daily 'Michigan Review' compared different opinions." Jean plucked up the courage march Pursell's office because she "wanted to see Pursell what would say." But when he didn't



Jean Besanceney

appear "I was fired up and angry. I decided to sit in and get arrested. Getting involved in the campaign was consequence of being arrested."

Jean worked on all phases of the campaign. Her priority though was to get fellow Greeks involved in the campaign. "Greeks have a stigma of not being concerned about the world, but that's not necessarily true. The sorority was really supportive of me. I even got flowers from a sister with a note which said "His loss is just as much ours as yours."

Acceptance came from the people in the campaign too. "We celebrated the fact that we worked so hard and that this brought us together. It was one of the first things that I felt a part of and that I had a right to be there."

For Jean the struggle has just begun. "I think that things are really serious. Things are changing and you can either stand by and watch or you can be a part of it."

Karen Klitz

Karen Klitz's children resist any kind of involvement in politics, though they were proud of her when she got arrested in front of Carl Pursell's office in March.

Until fairly recently, Karen's involve-ment in politics has been typical of many Americans. "When I was younger, in high school and college, I felt that the Democrats were trying to help the disadvantaged . . . I had great faith when President Kennedy was elected, but I didnt really pay attention until I realized how responsible he was for the arms build up."

A couple of years ago Karen got involved with the Latin America Solidarity Committee through a teach-in on campus.

Karen realized that "a lot of peole you want to reach are not going to come to any events." She helped organize an effort to raise \$2500 for ad in the Detroit Free Press protesting Contra aid.

"My involvement in the campaign was a banner of the Democratic Party one can

> knock on a lot of doors and talk to people

Karen did a wide assortment of jobs for the campaign, from petitioning to designing brochures, bumper stickers and but-

Like others she was most intrigued with door to door canvassing.



Karen Klitz

"People were more polite in towns than in Ann Arbor . . . I wonder though if any of the people we talked to in Livonia or Jackson will carry anything with them from this brief encounter."

In the final analysis for Karen, like many others, the major benefit of the campaign cannot be measured in terms of victory or loss at the polls. "I really feel like a part of the community through working on the campaign. I came closer to people and identified common goals and directions."

Jane Queller

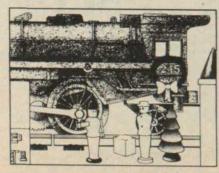
Jane Queller has worked at the University Cellar for the past six years.
Working with the union (IWW), negotiating for contracts and on joint management committees has absorbed most of her political energy. "I dont see politics as disassociated from my life. The store represents a total environment giving me social, emotional cultural and political support. In a sense it is a microcosm of the world.'

Jane considers the extension of "democratic structures" in society to be a priority. "THE issue is how people treat each other."

The campaign opportunity to Jane to work on 'the issue outside her job. "I would walk past the office every day and see people working, but felt too shy to go in."

At first Jane was tentative in her comittment to the campaign bu after helping out with a mailing she started going to weekly planning meetings. "They needed someone to coordinate voter registration. I asked for more information and all of a sudden I was committed to it. Eventually the campaign took up all my time outside work . . . I wouldnt have missed it for the

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Jane Queller

world."

Jane's next job was coordinating the literature drops. "After I took on a project, people looked to me like an authority on it. I had also made the assumption that everybody was very experienced. In a sense we were all amateurs, yet it was incredibly professional."

Jane was particularly impressed with how well people on the campaign worked together and the fact that "Dean didn't become a 'special' person. He was an expression of what everybody wanted."

She feels that it is important to

maintain the energy that was generated by the campaign." We learned how to run a campaign. Even if we never do it again we still have all the skills to do other things

John Iskra

John Iskra was born in Livonia, weaned in Garden City and reared in Warren. He is a child of Michigan. He is 22, and eight semester hours away from a B.S. in Mathematics at the University of

Stopping the nuclear arms race is highest on John's list of social priorities. All other issues "fade into the background in the face of Nuclear annihilation." However, "If I had my druthers I would be working for economic justice." While John feels that he tends to the extreme left, (I could be called an Anarchist)," he feels that "from expediency, we don't have time to wait for working class to develop the revolutionary consciousness to take over

Part of John's role in the campaign was

acting as a contact between SANE and the campaign leaders. But he gets most excited when he talks about canvassing in Plymouth. "It was difficult to overcome regional nepotism; everyone feels they know 'Carl,' they refer to him as 'my friend Carl.' But when you go down his list of votes it would shock people and they would say 'I guess he's not my friend."

John's major concern with the defeat of the campaign at the polls is that people might "become disaffected and lose interest in doing political work."

However John has already begun looking ahead "I'm anxious to apply some of the things I learned from my work with SANE. I may get involved with the GE boycott . . ." He pauses and adds with a smile, "I also have to see that I finish school."

Pursell Watch

A series of meetings held since the election by activists in the Dean Baker for Congress campaign has culminated in a commitment to keep an eye on commitment to keep an eye on Representative Carl Pursell's voting record

in Washington for the next two years.

The work involved in this effort includes reviewing the district's newspapers, writing press releases and conducting



John Iskra

mailings.

The "Pursell Watch Task Force" has nuroose and will be been formed for this purpose and will be meeting for the first time on Tuesday, December 9 at 7:30 pm in the University of Michigan Student Union. Anyone interested in the task force is encouraged to attend

ver the past six weeks several major U.S. corporations have declared their intentions to pull out of South Africa-most notably GM, Coca-Cola, IBM, and possibly Honeywell. On the surface these decisions appear to be victories for the anti-Apartheid movement, and to a limited extent they are. After all, from Berkeley to Michigan to Columbia and from the pulpits, schoolyards and battlefields of South Africa, the Free South Africa Movement has raised the resounding demand of "Divest Now." So then, shouldn't we recognize and applaud the actions of these corporations who are finally conceding to our demands? Well, before we give out any awards for altruism we should look very carefully beneath the polished veneer of corporate press releases and try to examine exactly how and why limited corporate divestment is occurring at this time.

Since March 21, 1985, when South African police fired upon protesters commemorating the anniversary of the 1960 Sharpville demonstrations and massacre, South Africa's Black townships have been in a constant state of insurgency. Despite a news black-out and brutal repression on the part of the Pretoria regime, the struggle for political and economic freedom in South Africa continues to escalate, spreading to new arenas and involving larger sectors of the population. Strikes are regular occurrences; the militancy and determination of Black teenagers has forced the government to erect barbed wire fences around most schools and to close others indefinitely; and rent strikes in government-owned housing complexes are causing serious revenue shortages. Even liberal white college students are being forced by the intensity of the political situation to choose sides. Many of them--although not a majority--are siding with the liberation forces, refusing to submit to compulsory

South Africa Update:

An Analysis of U.S. Corporate Divestment from South Africa

by Barbara Ransby

military service. To quote the title of a Rockefellercommissioned study of South Africa, "Time is Running Out." The days of minority rule are numbered and informed observers seem to know it. The only real questions are how and when Apartheid will be abolished.

The goal of the African National Congress of South Africa in 1984 was to "render South Africa ungovernable," and to thereby cripple and topple the fascist regime. In part they have succeeded. There have been no long-term investments in the country for the past several years. It is largely the changing social and political landscape and the related economic changes that have led GM and others to pull out of South Africa, coupled with growing negative publicity and increasing pressures from the international anti-Apartheid movement.

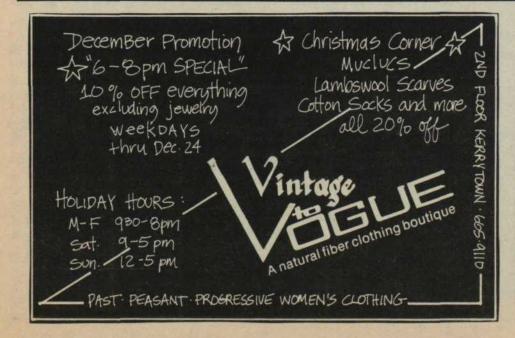
In evaluating the true motives for the recent corporate withdrawals we must remind ourselves that most of these companies have been operating in South Africa for several decades, willingly and knowingly participating in and benefiting from the exploitation of the Black labor force. It was only after the struggle for social justice intensified in the mid-1970's that U.S. corporate executives were suddenly concerned about the desperate plight of the country's 23 million Blacks.

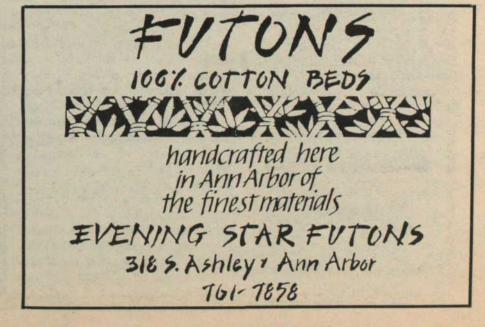
We must also look closely at the actual process for implementing these divestment policies. As usual the concern is profit, not people, despite the humanitarian concern Roger Smith might have expressed for "his Black

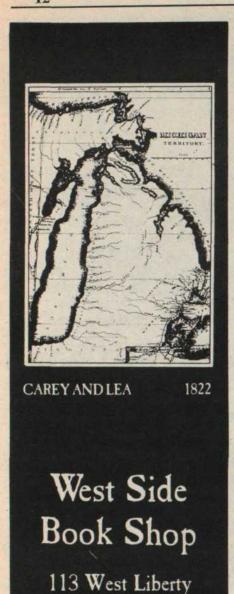
South African workers." In the face of strong objections by GM's Black workers in South Africa, many of whom have been on strike for the past three weeks to protect their pension benefits, GM made a deal to sell its South African operations to the local management, which would continue to make and sell GM parts. Of course, GM stock-holders will continue to benefit from access to that market. This has long been the strategy of Japanese capitalists operating in South Africa. They profit from Apartheid through franchise operations and licensing agreements with local investors, and thereby avoid direct domestic and international pressures to divest. The Pretoria regime has been so grateful for this continued financial support that Japanese businessmen in South Africa are given the dubious title of "Honorary Whites." U.S. corporations have finally seen the writing on the wall and recognize that Apartheid is doomed: declining profits and political pressures are leading to their withdrawal.

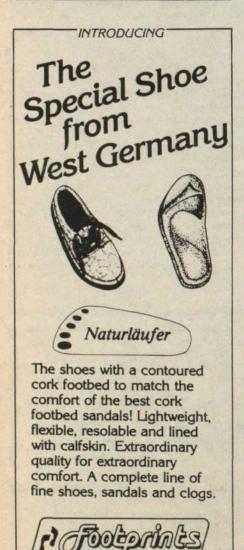
We should applaud the forces that have applied those pressures, as well as South African workers who are making Apartheid an increasingly costly and unprofitable enterprise. However, to applaud multi-millionaire executives would be like thanking an attacker for finally ceasing to beat you. If multi-national corporations want respect for their moral rectitude then let them start talking not only of pulling out of South Africa but of reparation for all the years of exploitation they have benefitted from. For GM in particular, laying off close to 30,000 American

(see S. AFRICA, page 31)









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photo by Gregory Fox

Ed Pierce laying cornerstone for AMISTAD water and soil testing lab in Managua

Ann Arborites to Make Concrete Ties with Nicaraguans

by Claudia Green

In January, 25 Ann Arborites will travel to Nicaragua armed with hammers, trowels and electrical conduit to work with Nicaraguans on a solidarity and technical assistance project. In the first construction brigade to represent the state of Michigan, North and Central American plumbers will fit pipes together, Michigan electricians will learn how to wire under an electrical embargo, and local students will exchange views with their Nicaraguan peers. The

group is called "AMISTAD," which is the Spanish word for friendship and the acronym for the Ann Arbor-Managua Initiative for Soil Testing and Development. Their goal is to help build a soils and water testing and research laboratory in Managua and to increase cooperation and understanding between the peoples of the U.S. and Nicaragua.

On November 5, the project which has been in the works for over 18 months, was finally brought to life when Ann Arborites and Nicaraguans joined together to "break the ground" for the soils lab. As part of their ten-day visit to Nicaragua, members of Ann Arbor's sister city delegation, including Mayor Edward Pierce and State Representative Perry Bullard, lay the first concrete blocks of the building at the construction site just outside Managua.

AMISTAD member Lise Anderson was present for the ceremony in Managua. "As somebody who has worked on the fundraising up here and having seen the enthusiasm in Ann Arbor, it was great to see the enthusiasm on the part of the Nicaraguans too. It was fantastic to imagine that energy will be expended in this spot by people that care about Nicaragua. It's not only that (Nicaragua) needs a soils lab, but also that the act of solidarity is very important to the morale of Nicaraguans."

Like the 17-member delegation which travelled to Nicaragua to establish a sister city relationship with Juigalpa, the construction brigade is symbolic of a movement afoot in the United States to declare solidarity with the Nicaraguan people and reject the U.S. Government's war on Nicaragua.

In Alaska, workers at the fisheries have established working ties with fisheries in Nicaragua. In Colorado, disabled persons have closed ranks with Nicaraguans disabled by the war. On the Lower East Side of Manhattan, New Yorkers boast T-shirts publicizing their new relationship with a tiny barrio on the Atlantic Coast of Nicaragua called "Nueva York." In Ann Arbor, members of AMISTAD's parent organization, HAP-NICA have been working with Nicaraguans on agricultural research and development for several years.

The new soils facility and accompanying educational facility are consistent with the goals of both the Nicaraguan revolution and HAP-NICA to provide Nicaragua with the tools for agricultural self-sufficiency. Today, as Nicaragua attempts to meet the needs of its people through agrarian reform and agricultural development and is being severely hindered in that effort by the U.S.-sponsored contras, a soils laboratory will aid in making best use of available land and resources.

When the project is completed, large and small producers across the country will be able to test their soil to determine appropriate fertilization and irrigation levels. Lab technicians will be trained to work on some of the finest equipment available, and students of agriculture will be provided with hands-on training and space to conduct classes on long-range agricultural development.

HAP-NICA's involvement in the soils testing lab began in the summer of 1985 when the Higher Institute of Agricultural Sciences (ISCA) requested assistance on the construction of a building to house the soil analysis equipment donated by the Italian Government. HAP-NICA's role would be to raise money for the tools and materials and to actually participate in the construction of the facility.

Their decision to take on the project, which would be by far the largest to date, was based largely on the eagerness of a few people in Ann Arbor to work on a construction brigade. One of them was Marian Milbauer who had just returned from her second trip to Nicaragua.

"I recognized the importance of combining the work in Nicaragua with work in the U.S.," she explains. "It was not only important to educate people in this country about the realities of life in Nicaragua, but to counteract the destruction of the Reagan Administration. I thought a construction brigade would be a step toward peace and solidarity with the Nicaraguans that we could work on here in Ann Arbor."

AMISTAD's first months in the fall of 1985 were difficult. Meetings were small, and questions numerous. After a brainstorming session at which the name "AMISTAD was conceived, a sketchy informational pamphlet was researched and written and a slogan bearing the group's message "Peace with Nicaragua... Make it Concrete" was stamped onto home-made buttons. Without 100% assurance on the cost or other details of the soils facility, AMISTAD then began holding regular meetings and have since been joined by a "mini-brigade" of carpenters from Madison, Wisonsin.

On the Nicaraguan end, HAP-NICA coordinator Miguel (cont. on NEXT PAGE)

The Allen Creek drainage area

"We caught the big fish"

by Bonnie Nevel

As we have recently seen in international news, water pollution causes devastating effects on entire ecosystems. Our most recent example appeared in November, with the Swiss chemical factory fire, in which more than 30 tons of toxic chemicals spilled into the Rhine River. In that case, pesticides and mercury poisoned more than 185 miles of river and continues to settle out into the North Sea basin.

Water pollution is a local fact as well. The Huron River is infamous for its water quality. People constantly joke about the dangers of falling into the Huron while canoeing; they complain about the unappealing color of the river and the taste of the drinking water.

Historically, dumping pollutants into a river system was considered an appropriate and socially acceptable way of disposing wastes, as indicated in the popular saying: "Dilution is the solution to pollution." Today, people are generally more aware of the perils of dumping wastes into a river system. But the dumping continues regardless of this knowledge.

In 1985, according to the Health Department and Drain Commisioner's Office, eight significant petroleum spills occurred in the Allen Creek, Swift Run, Traver Creek, and Pittsfield-Ann Arbor drainage areas. In one case, several thousand gallons of fuel oil were accidentally released into a storm drain in the Stone School/Packard/ Eisenhower area, from the storage tank of a delivery truck. The oil was not trapped on site, because the oil-interceptor unit was already filled to capacity and had not been maintained since its installation in the late 1970's.

The Allen Creek storm drain exemplifies water pollution problems in the Ann Arbor Area. The impact of pollutants entering the Huron River via Allen Creek has been studied for more than 13 years by the Washtenaw County Health Department,

Drain Commissioner's Office, the Michigan Water Resources Commission, the City of Ann Arbor Building and Engineering Departments, as well as independent researchers from the University of Michigan School of Public Health.

The Allen Creek drainage is a predominantly urban area of about 3,800 acres on the west side of town, and empties out just below Argo Dam. Since the area is mostly residential, the first study (in 1963-64) of the Allen Creek drainage area examined the amount of bacteriological contamination discharged into the Huron River. At that time, Allen Creek contained "significant quantities of microorganisms of fecal origin," according to the Allen Creek Status Report of 1984.

Further studies conducted throughout 1966-79 indicated that fecal coliform bacteria levels were higher than acceptable immediately after storm activities. However, studies in 1982 indicated that "fecal pollution was not a significant problem", but that the real problem in Allen Creek was chemical wastes dumped into the storm drains by way of illegal drain connections. The major polluters (86%) were determined to be automobilerelated businesses. These busi-nesses dumped oils, detergents, radiator wastes and solvents into the storm drains, rather than into drains connected to the Ann Arbor water treatment facility.

Why were these businesses allowed to dump directly into the storm drains? According to Chapter 33 of the Ann Arbor City Code it is illegal to place anything other than storm water into the storm water system. But like so many other pollution problems, when the contamination is small it tends to go unnoticed, and only with the accumulation of many polluters over a long period of time does the problem attract attention. And by that time a situation like Allen Creek develops, where the smell of the oils and solvents became so strong that local residents began to complain to the

City.

Before the new Ann Arbor water treatment plant was built, many businesses connected their floor drains and plumbing fixtures directly to the storm drains. Ann Arbor City Inspectors even approved a few of these drains, even though they violated the City ordinance. Many of the drains did not even have separaters to collect spilled oils from the water before it was discharged into the storm drain.

The City of Ann Arbor reacted to the Allen Creek problem by commensing structural repair work on culverts and weakened sections of the storm drain. They also conducting chemical and dye tests on businesses in the drainage area. The businesses were categorized as Priority I or Priority II, based on their chemical discharges. Approximately 72 businesses, primarily auto-related, were targeted as Priority I. According to the City of Ann Arbor Building Department, all Priority I businesses with illegal storm drain conections have been forced to comply with the city ordinance, and now send their discharges to the water treatment plant.

The City also identified almost 250 Priority II businesses, including "building and construction trades, publishing companies and printers, hardware and paint supply stores, laundries and dry cleaners, and photographic laboratories" (from the Allen Creek Status Report). The City currently emphasizes its investigations on furniture and dry cleaning establishments.

Although the City has accomplished a great deal in cleaning up the Allen Creek storm drain system, levels of pollutants remain high. As Adrian Araola, Project Engineer, stated, "We caught the big fish, but there are still many tiny ones out there." The city apparently hasn't the money to continue inspecting all of the lower priority businesses with potentially illegal drain connections, but has not pursued alternative measures either, such as erecting and maintaining oil catches or restrictions at the mouth of the creek to prevent oil and large particles from entering the Huron.

Activities of residents in the area also contribute to the overall water quality of Allen Creek. Anything dumped into the city streets goes directly into the storm drain, and eventually into the Huron River. This includes cigarette butts, beer bottles, lawn fertilizers, carwash detergents and motor oil. Everyone impacts the system, and reducing the impact is not easy. But in the long run, the consequences of a polluted water system is even more difficult yet.

is even more difficult yet

local bars and organizing an auction and the "Bowl for Peace" Bowl-a-thon.

Early last spring, as brigade members began feeling that their fundraising was alienating them from the political spectrum, they launched plans for a celebration of the seventh anniversary of the Nicaraguan revolution. The July 19th Bash brought together North and Central American solidarity workers, unionists, musicians, poets, and members of the 1936 Lincoln Brigade to celebrate an historical triumph in the struggle against imperialism oppression. "The anniversary celebration was a public statement that we were not only against the U.S. support of the contra war, but that we support the revolutionary process in Nicaragua," says Milbauer,

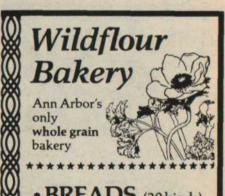
helped to organize the event. "On that day we reaffirmed our committment to the struggle for freedom in Central America and around the world."

Fourteen months of organizing the brigade has brought together a cohesive group of very different people, united by their opposition to intervention and imperialism. The brigade has inspired dialogue, fears, and even participation among friends and family members. For some members of the group, the war that has already taken thousands of lives in Nicaragua and the prospect of increased military aid in early 1987 has caused family tensions surrounding members' decision to go with the brigade in Janaury. The promise

(see AMISTAD, page 31)







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AuClair-Valdez began working in March of this year to hammer out details and logistics. Eduardo Vera of East Lansing took over this task in October and is now working full time as AMISTAD's project organizer in Managua making preparations for the brigade's arrival. Both of them have played an indispensible role in coordinating the complicated communications between the U.S. and Nicaragua necessary to make the project go forward.

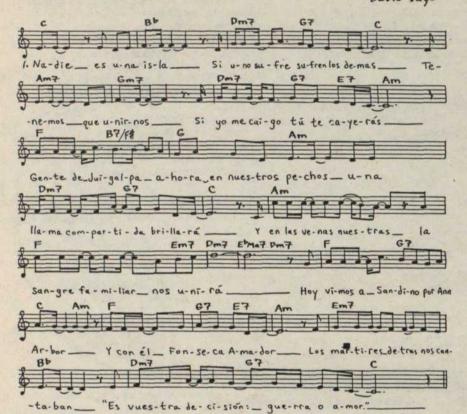
Fundraising here in Ann Arbor began with a small benefit featuring a local band at the Halfway Inn in East Quad. Soon brigade members were doing everything from collecting cans and bottles, cooking chicken and pasta for thousands of people at the Ann Arbor Art Fair, booking concerts at

DE CIUDAD A CIUDAD / FROM CITY TO CITY

Dedicada cariñosamente al pueblo de Affectionately dedicated to the people of Ciudad hermana de Sister city of

JUIGALPA, NICARAGUA ANN ARBOR, USA

> letra y música/ words & music: David Vayo



De Ciudad a Cuidad/ From City to City

2. Ann Arbor no da su apoyo Al daño hecho por nuestro gobierno Sentimos por Ustedes Sentimientos no violentos sino tiernos Como pájaros que viajan entre el norte y el sur Y en ambas tierras tienen su hogar Los corazones nuestros A Juigalpa ya van a volar Hoy Washington y King andan en Juigalpa Cada puerta tocan ellos, y detrás Los americanos que han despertado cantan "No aceptamos las mentiras nunca más."

1. No one is an island The suffering of one will hurt us all We will stand together For if we don't each one of us will fall. People of Juigalpa, now that we've joined together In our breasts there burns a common flame And now that we are family The blood that courses in us is the same And today we saw Sandino in Ann Arbor And with him was Fonseca Amador And behind them marched the martyred Nicaraguans Telling us it's in our hands to stop the war

2. Ann Arbor will not share in The damage that our government has done The friendship of our cities Is not a thing of land mines or of guns And like the birds that travel every year from north to south And make their home in both of our sweet lands Our hearts will travel to you And though we're far apart we'll clasp your hands Now Washington and King walk in Juigalpa And together they are knocking on each door And behind them stand the once-deceived Americans Saying "We will not be lied to any more."

DE CIUDAD A CIUDAD/FROM CITY TO CITY was performed for the first time on October 26, 1986, at the send-off party at St. Thomas Church parish hall for the first delegation from Ann Arbor to Juigalpa, our sister city in Nicaragua. Oscar Ballester sang the Spanish lyrics and played guitar; Paul Tinkerhess sang the English lyrics and played banjo; composer David Vayo accompanied on piano. Cassettes and sheet music were sent to Nicaragua along with the delegation, and the song was performed again in Nicaragua, this time by choruses from both countries

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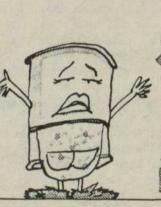
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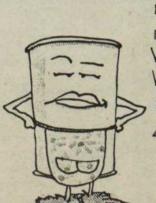




O, WHAT'S A SOUP CAN FOR? I'M THERE FOR YOU WHEN YOU'RE SICK. AND WHAT THANKS DO GET? DO I GET

.OF COURSE NOT!! WHY DO SOMETHING WORTHWHILE LIKE RECYCLING YOUR OL' SOUP CAN ?!!!





MEAN, WHY WOULD I WANT TO BE RECYCLED? WITH MY LUCK, I'D COME BACK AS YOUR SOUP CAN





La Ventana

Tenías dos pechos igual que yo
Y el pelo largo igual que yo
Y la boca pintada como yo la queria
Y usabas falda igual que yo
De tela floreada igual que yo
Y llevabas sandalias como yo
Y te arrastraban dos policías
Y dabas gritos en mitad de la calle
Y llevabas de rastras las sandalias

Y te sangraban los pies Y desde adentro me llamó mi abuela

Y vino Y cerró la ventana

Y me arrastró del pelo Hasta lo más oscuro de la sala.

The Window

You had two breasts like me and long hair just like me and you had your mouth painted like I wanted mine and you wore a dress just like mine with a flower print on it like mine and you wore sandals like me and two policemen were dragging you and you were screaming in the middle of the street and you had your sandals half-off and they were bloodying your feet and my grandmother called from inside and came and closed the window and dragged me by the hair into the darkest part of the room.

Virginia Grutter Translated by Matthew Kopka

GRAFFITI

When Everything Hurts Deep Inside You

When everything hurts deep inside you and alone, face to face with your image you find it distorted by unsuspected mirrors; when all things live dark in your shadow, when your voice sounds like somebody else's and your blood's rhythm flees from your body; when you can perceive nothing more than dead surfacesthen.

like a salmon
leap back into the current
with all of the fury of your anger.
Do not lose hope
the water will wear down the stones.

Cuando Todo Hiere en lo Hondo

Cuando todo hiere en lo hondo
y solo, frente a tu imagen,
la encuentras deformada por espejos ignorados;
cuando las cosas viven ante tu sombra,
curando tu palabra te parece ajena
y el ritmo de tu sangre huye de tu cuerpo;
cuando tus manos te son lejanas
y no reconoces las huellas de tus pies;
cuando casi olvidas el rostro que se acerca;
cuando no percibes más que superficies muertas;
entonces.

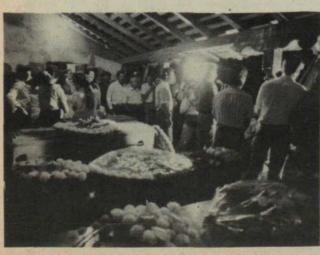
como el salmón remonta la corriente con toda la furia de tu ira. No desesperes el agua rompéra las piedras.

Michele Najlis Translated by Matthew Kopka

Photos by Gregory Fox

- 1. The car ambushed by contras just outside Comalapa—5 of 7 riders were killed, 2 severely wounded
- 2. Funeral of Alfonzo Nuñez-Comalapa
- 3. Wake for Juana Duarte, age 65. She was on her way to Juigalpa to visit her 21 year old son.
- 4. Mass funeral—Comalapa
- 5. Daughter and mother of contra victim Alfredo Miranda—Comalapa
- One of two survivors of the Comalapa contra attack, Norman Eli Duarte Talens, age 31, with his wife.
 He is seriously injured and may not live—in Juigalga Hospital.





STREET









To publicize Calendar events send formatted listings to: Agenda Calendar, P. O. Box 3624, Ann Arbor, MI 48106 Format: Date, Event, Sponsor, time and place,1 to 2 sentence description, phone number.

Unless otherwise noted, all events listed in the Calenda are free and open to the general public (including all of the committee meetings). Also, unless otherwise noted, all addresses are in Ann Arbor.

All Month

Educational Art Exhibit: Amber Waves of Grain 35,000 piece miniature clay replica of the U.S. Nuclear Arsenal. Rainbow Hall, Unity Institute for Holistic Living, 17425 2nd Blvd., Detroit. 345-4848

1 Monday

General Meeting: South African Political Prisoner Bracelet

Program 5 pm at 250l Braebum Circle. Please call 973-2016 to confirm the location.

General Meeting: Industrial Workers of the World (IWW) 6 pm in Room 4304, Michigan Union. 483-3478

General Meeting: World Hunger Education-Action Committee

(WHE-AC)
6:30 pm at the Michigan Union. Ask at the front desk for the room location.
663-3560

General Meeting: Free South Africa Coordinating Committee

(FSACC) 6:30 pm in Room 111, West Engineering Bldg (comer of S. University and E. University). 971-7994 or 769-8549

7994 or 769-8549

Writers Series: Guild House
8 pm at Guild House, 802 Monroe, E.H.
Creeth and Dan Fader, 662-5189

Lecture Series: "Reflections on
Liberation Theology"
8 to 10 pm in the Modern Languages
Building, Aud. 3. Lectures by Rev.
Gustavo Gutierrez, "father" of
Liberation Theology and Professor in
the Dept. of Theology and Social
Sciences at Catholic Pontifical
University in Lima, Peru. 764-4475
Leshian Gay Male Beligious

Lesbian-Gay Male Religious Groups Open House: Gay Liberation 8 to 11 pm at Canterbury House, 218 N. Division. 665-0606 or 763-4186

Benefit: A2MISTAD Construction Brigade and
Amnesty International.
Nectarine Ballroom. English
folk/rock/punk hero, Billy Bragg will be
performing. 761-7960

2 Tuesday

Evening Chanting: Zen Lotus Society 7 to 8 pm at the Zen Buddhist Temple, 1214 Packard, 761-6520

General Meeting: National Organization for Women (NOW) 7:30 pm at 1917 Washtenaw. 995-5494

7:30 pm at 1917 Washtenaw. 995-5494
"Roses in December": Religious
Coalition for Central America
(Interfaith Council for Peace
Fundralser)
7:30 pm in the Wesley Lounge, First
United Methodist Church. A brief
worship service to commemorate the
struggle for peace of the four North
American Churchwomen killed in El
Salvador on December 2, 1980 and the
film "Roses in December." \$5
suggested donation, students \$2.50.
663-1870

3 Wednesday

Beans and Rice Dinner: Central America Education/Action

America Education/Action
Committee
6 to 7:30 pm at Guild House, 802
Monroe. All proceeds beyond the
costs of the dinner go toward material
aid projects in Central America.
Sponsored by LASC and Guild House.
\$2 adult and \$1 child age 6 to 12
suggested donation. 663-1870

"The Sound of Music": Hill Street Cinema 7 pm at the Hillel, 1429 Hill Street. \$2

Hunger Task Force Meeting: Interfaith Council for Peace 7 to 9 pm at the First Baptist Church, 512 E. Huron. Bill Stapp of the U-M

CALENDAR

School of Natural Resources will give a slide presentation on the famine in Sudan. 663-1870

The Connection Committee meeting: Michigan Alliance for Disarmament (MAD)
7:30 pm at the Michigan Union. Anyone interested in writing, graphics, or journalism should come. 995-5871

Monthly Meeting: Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF) 7:30 pm at 2137 Medford # 15, 971-4702

Women's Self Defense Workshop: Women's Crisis

Center
7:30 to 9:30 pm in Anderson 'D',
Michigan Union. First of one-night,
monthly Women's Self-Defense
Workshops. \$3 donation if possible
requested. 761-9475

General Meeting: Latin American Solidarity Committee

(LASC)
8 pm at the Michigan Union. Ask for the room number at the front desk. 665-8438

4 Thursday
General Meeting: HAP-NICA
5:30 pm at the Michigan Union. 769-

General Meeting: Ann Arbor Central America Sister City Task Force 7:30 pm in the 2nd Floor Conference Room, Fire Station, 111 North 5th Ave. 994-2766 or 769-5051

General Meeting: FLOC 7:30 pm in Room 4318 of the Michigan Union. 764-1446

General Meeting: Peace and Justice Committee 7:30 pm in 3909 Michigan Union, 936-2456 or 763-3241

Coordination Meeting: Women's Crisis Center 7:30 pm at WCC, 306 N. Division. Committee coordinators, volunteers, and interested community members can get together to plan WCC directions and actions.761-9475

5 Friday

Noon Forum: Guild House Noon at Guild House, 802 Monroe. Katherine Yih: "Ethnicity and Autonomy on the Atlantic Coast of Nicaragua. Homemade veg. soup \$1. 662-5189

Disarmament Working Group
Meeting: Interfaith Council for
Peace
Noon to 1:30 pm in the Wesley Lounge
of First United Methodist Church.
Discussing future educational efforts
around Star Wars and planning events
for the coming year. 663-1870

Womyn's Afternoon Tea or a
Happy Hour Alternative for
wimmin: Lesbian Network and
Women's Crisis Center.
5 to 7 pm at the Women's Crisis
Center, 306 N. Division - Lawrence St.
entrance of St. Andrew's church.
Gather to share with and meet women
like you, and unlike you, all women like you, and unlike you, all women welcome. 761-9475 or 763-4186

General Meeting: N29 5 to 6 pm in the Union. Ask at the information desk for the specific

General Meeting: Association of Arab American Graduate Students 6 pm in the Union. Ask for room number at front desk. 769-2776

at front desk. 769-2776
Kenneth Anger Film
Retrospective: Ann Arbor Film
Festival
7:30 pm at Performance Network, 410
W. Washington. A retrospective on the
work of Kenneth Anger, filmmaker and
author of the controversial book,
Hollywood Babylon. All of Anger's
available films (some have been lost or
confiscated) will be shown, including:
"Fireworks", "Inauguration of the
Pleasure Dome", "Scorpio Rising" and
6 other films. Tickets \$3, 995-5356 or
763-4186
"Feminist Friday": National

"Feminist Friday": National Organization for Women (NOW) Time and place to be announced. Monthly get-togethers to meet other

feminists and discuss whatever is on your mind in an informal atmosphere. 662-6429

6 Saturday

General Meeting: Gray
Panthers of Huron Valley
2 to 4 pm in the 2nd floor conference
room, Ann Arbor Fire Station, 107
North Fifth Avenue. Strategies for
action to inform the public on the need
for a National Health Service, a work
session on "Changing the Health Care
Delivery System". 663-0786

El Salvador: Another Vietnam:
East Quad Film Series
7 pm in Rm. 126 East Quad. 1981 film
examines the civil war in El Salvador in
light of U.S. military and economic
policy in Central America.

"Red River": Hill Street Cinema 7 and 9:30 pm at the Hillel, 1429 Hill St.

Monthly Introductory Talk: Zen Lotus Society 7 to 8 pm at the Zen Buddhist Temple, 1214 Packard. Zen Buddhism in North America: history, philosophy and practice. 761-6520

Nocturnal Missions: Works in Progress Series, Performance Network
8 pm at the Performance Network, 410 W. Washington. A benefit for the Works in Progress Series, these three linked one-act plays by local playwright Lyn Coffin touch upon a variety of contemporary topics, including sexual perversions and psychiatric practices (and vice versa). These stage readings, directed by Linda Kendall and David Freiman inaugurate the latest Works in Progress Series. Tickets \$5.663-0681
Benefit: A2MISTAD
The Ark. Folksinger John McKutcheon returns to A2 to entertain with partial proceeds going to AMISTAD. 761-7960

7 Sunday

Vegetarian Potluck In-Service: Women's Crisis Center 12 to 2 pm at the WCC, 306 N. Division. We will talk about WCC business and determine committee coordinators at this month's gathering.761-9475

this month's gathering.761-9475

War Toys and the Importance of Play: Interfaith Council for Peace and Women's Action for Nuclear Disarmament

3 to 4:30 pm in the Wesley Lounge of First Methodist Church. A panel discussion by the former director of Pound House Children's Center, a social worker at U of M Children's Psychiatric Hospital, a professor of Early Childhood Education at EMU and a parent. There will be time for questions and discussion from the audience. 663-1870

Nocturnal Missions: Works in

Nocturnal Missions: Works in Progress Series, Performance Network 6:30 pm (see 6 Saturday) 663-0681

6:30 pm (see 6 Saturday) 663-0681

3rd Annual Alternative Holiday
Fair: First Baptist Church and
Interfaith Council for Peace
4 to 7 pm at the First Baptist Church,
512 E. Huron. An event to celebrate
the holiday season in a different way
by promoting and demonstrating less
consumptive ways of giving and
celebrating. Gifts purchased are sent,
in the name of the person you are
purchasing the gift for, to villages in
Third World countries. Gifts range from
chickens, goats, and heifers to items
which support the work of local peace
and relief organizations. Participating
organizations include: A2 Hunger
Coalition, A2 Central America Sister
City Task Force, Catholic World Relief,
Church World Service/CROP, Ecology
Center, and Interfaith Council for
Peace. 663-1870

Meditation Service: Zen

Meditation Service: Zen Buddhist Temple-Ann Arbor 5 to 7 pm at 1214 Packard Road. 761-

Monthly meeting: Women's
Action for Nuclear
Disarmament (WAND)
7 to 9:30 pm at St. Aidan's
Episcopal/Northside Presbyterian
Church, 1679 Broadway. Meeting will
feature a panel discussion of proposed
changes in U-M research guidelines

which would allow increased military research on campus, a review of the Nov 4th election and further discussion of action to take in opposition to defense research on campus. 761-1718

General Meeting: A2MISTAD Construction Brigade 7:30 pm in the Michigan Union. Ask for the room at the information desk. 761-

Braeli Folk dancing: B'nai Brith Hillel Foundation 7:30 pm at 1429 Hill St. One hour of instruction followed by two hours of open dancing. For beginning and advanced students. 663-3336

Feminist Interest Group
Meeting: New Jewish Agenda
7:30 pm upstairs, at 332 E.
Washington. We are continuing to
discuss and share ways to bring
alternative family models into our
Jewish lives. New members always
welcome. 665-7371

welcome. 665-7371

2 Films on The Economy:
Bullard Film Series
7:30 pm in Aud. A of Angell Hall. "God and Money": In 1986 U.S. Catholic bishops issued a pastoral letter on the economy which boldly questioned fundamental American economic ideas, challenging people to go beyond traditional charity to explore systemic economic changes which will empower the poor and dignify labor. This film follows the vigorous dialogue around the pastoral among leading Catholic thinkers and in a typical parish. "The Swedish Solution": This film explores the successes and failures of Sweden's political and economic past, its current struggle for stability and fairness, and its innovative prescriptions for the future.

"The Well" and "A Generation Apart": Hill Street Cinema 8 pm at the Hillel, 1429 Hill St. \$2 admission.

8 Monday

General Meeting: South African Political Prisoner Bracelet Program 5 pm (see 1 Monday)

General Meeting: Industrial Workers of the World (IWW) 6 pm (see 1 Monday)

General Meeting: World Hunger Education-Action Committee (WHE-AC) 6:30 pm (see 1 Monday)

General Meeting: Free South Africa Coordinating Committee (FSACC) 6:30 pm (see 1 Monday)

6:30 pm (see 1 Monday)

Planning Meeting: Michigan
Alliance for Disarmament
(MAD)
7:30 pm on the 4th Floor LSA Bldg. Use
the left entrance on Maynard St.
Planning for activities and actions.

Lecture Series: "Reflections on
Liberation Theology"
8 to 10 pm (see 1 Monday)
Leshian Gay
Male
Religious

Lesbian-Gay Male Religious Groups Open House: Gay Liberation 8 to 11 pm (see 1 Monday) 665-0606 or 763-4186 Religious se: Gay

9 Tuesday

Evening Chanting: Zen Lotus Society 7 to 8 pm (see 2 Tuesday) 761-6520

General Meeting: "Pursell Watch Task Force" 7:30 pm, Michigan Union. 662-5341

General Meeting: National Organization for Women (NOW) 7:30 pm at the Unitarian Church, 1917 Washtenaw. Free child care is available during the meeting. 995-5494 U.S. Group 61 meeting:Amnesty International

meeting:Amnesty International (AI) 7:30 pm at Michigan Union. Ask for room number at front desk. 761-1628 or 761-3639

Evaluation Meeting: Religious Coalition on Central America
7:30 pm at Beth Israel Temple, 2000 Wastenaw. Finishing evaluation of Nov. 2 symposium and Ellen Rusten will give a report on her recent trip to El Salvador. 663-1870

10 Wednesday

Beans and Rice Dinner: Central America Education/Action Committee 6 to 7:30 pm (see 3 Wednesday)

The Connection Committee meeting: Michigan Alliance for Disarmament (MAD) 7:30 pm (see 3 Wednesday)

7:30 pm (see 3 Wednesday)
Planning Meeting: Democratic
Socialists of America
7:30 pm in the 4th Floor Conference
room at City Hall. 662-4497
Land, Food and Justice
Committee Meeting: Interfaith
Council for Peace
7:30 pm at the First Baptist Church,
512 E. Huron. Bill Ames of Washtenaw
Cooperative Extension Service will talk
about his work with farmers in Wash.
County. 663-1870
General Meeting: Latin

General Meeting: Latin American Solidarity Committee (LASC) 8 pm (see 3 Wednesday)

"Paper Moon": Hill Street Cinema 8 pm at the Hillel, 1429 Hill St. \$2

11 Thursday

General Meeting: Ann Arbor
War Tax Dissidents/U.S. Peace
Tax Fund
12 to 3 pm at Wesley Foundation
Lounge, 602 E. Huron. Meeting will
include a planning session for a series
of community education programs
tentatively starting in Jan. and a
continuation of gathering data
regarding bank procedures when the
IRS becomes involved with the
conscientious objector-tax resister.
663-2655
General Meeting: Peace and

General Meeting: Peace and Justice Committee 7:30 pm (see 4 Thursday) General Meeting: Bread for the World

World
7:30 pm in Ann Arbor (2nd District)
meetings are held at the First
Presbyterian Church, 1432
Washtenaw, For information call Jim
Rutz at 668-4064. In Ypsilanti (15th
District) contact Robert Krzewinski at
487-9058

General Meeting: Ann Arbor Central America Sister City Task Force 7:30 pm at the First Baptist Church, 512 E. Huron. 994-2766 or 769-5051

Meeting: Arrestees at Carl Pursell's Office 7:30 pm, Student Legal Services Library, Michigan Union. 995-9770

12 Friday

Womyn's Afternoon Tea or a Happy Hour Alternative for wimmin: Lesbian Network and Women's Crisis Center. 5 to 7 pm (see 5 Friday) General Meeting: N29 5 to 6 pm (see 5 Friday)

General Meeting:Association of Arab American Graduate Students 6 pm (see 5 Friday)

7 pm at the Depot Town Freight House. A pot-luck so bring a dish (whole foods) to pass, 483-1520

Christmas Party: Ypsi Food Co-

13 Saturday

Deadline for News and Feature Articles: AGENDA By mail to P. O. Box 3624, Ann Arbor, 48106. Hand deliver to 1 Jefferson Ct. or call 996-8018

General meeting: Ann Arbor War Tax Dissidents/U.S. Peace Tax Fund
12 to 3 pm at Wesley Foundation
Lounge, 602 E. Huron. Brown bag
lunch, beverages provided. 663-2655

General Meeting: Gray 2 to 4 pm (see 6 Saturday), Topic; "Health Care Reform Needs" 663-0786

NJA Feminist Interest Group Shabbat Celebration: NJA 5 pm at 328 S. Seventh. 769-1714

Winter Solstice Sangha
Gathering: Zen Lotus Society
5 pm at the Zen Buddhist Temple, 1214
Packard. Chanting service and
Dharma talk followed by a community
meal and evening celebration. 7616520

"Hair": Hill Street Cinema 7 and 9:15 pm at the Hillel, 1429 Hill St. \$2 admission.

Benefit Performance:
Performance Network
8 pm at the Performance Network,
410 W. Washington. Join The 410 W. Washington. Join The Chenille Sisters, singer/songwriter Jay Stielstra, musicians Michael Smith and Kevin Lynch, "Talking Mime" O.J. Anderson, Dance Gallery, versatile musician Larry Reynolds, People Dancing, and other friends for an evening of music and entertainment. Refreshments available. This benefit for Performance Network kicks off our Capital Development Campaign. We are raising funds for building improvements, equipment and new space. and new space. Tickets \$10, 663-0681

14 Sunday

General Meeting: Wellness Networks, Inc-Huron Valley (WNI-HV) 3:30 to 5:30 pm at St. Joseph Mercy Hospital Education Center. 662-6134

Monthly Meeting: New Democratic Movement 4 pm at the Michigan League, check listing in lobby for room number. 996-8408

number. 996-8408

Volunteer Training Session:
World Hunger EducationAction Committee (WHE-AC)
4 pm Ann Arbor Shelter at 420 W.
Huron. The Shelter provides a safe warm place for the homeless to spend the night. It is already operating beyond capacity as its service becomes more critical in the winter months. If you would like to volunteer, contact Bumble Marshall at 994-3179.

Meditation Service: Zen Buddhist Temple-Ann Arbor 5 to 7 pm (see 7 Sunday)

5 to 7 pm (see 7 Sunday)
Spacebridge of the
Americas: Women's Action
for Nuclear Disarmament and
Beyond War
5 to 7 pm in the U of M Modern
Languages Building. A live
television sattelite "downlink"
during which Beyond War's annual
award will be presented to the
presidents of the four Latin
American Contadora nations.
Audiences in 8 cities in both
continents will participate. 7611718
Holiday dinner and

Holiday dinner and
Perspective on Nicaragua:
Women's Action for Nuclear
Disarmament
7:30 pm for the dinner and 8:30 pm
for the speaker at St.
Aidan's/Northside Churches, 1679
Broadway. Joyce Chesborough
from the Ann Arbor Sister City
Delegation to Nicaragua will speak
about her experiences. There will
also be some singing of peace and
holiday songs. Cost of the dinner is
\$2 per person. 761-1718
General Meeting: A2MISTAD

General Meeting: A2MISTAD Construction Brigade 7:30 pm (see 7 Sunday)

Israeli Folk Dancing: B'nai Brith Hillel Foundation 8 pm (see 7 Sunday)

Week Long Celebration of Winter Solstice: Women's Crisis Center Workshop and ritual wil be held for women and men at Guild House 802 Monroe. For time and day call 761-9475 or 662-5189

15 Monday

Deadline for Ad space reservations: AGENDA By mail to P. O. Box 3624, Ann Arbor, 48106. Hand deliver to 1 Jefferson Court or call 996-8018.

General Meeting: South African Political Prisoner Bracelet Program 5 pm (see 1 Monday)

General Meeting: Industrial Workers of the World (IWW) 6 pm (see 1 Monday)

General Meeting: World Hunger Education-Action Committee (WHE-AC) 6:30 pm (see 1 Monday)

General Meeting: Free South Africa Coordinating Committee (FSACC) 6:30 pm (see 1 Monday) Lesbian-Gay Male Religious

Groups Open House: Gay Liberation 8 to 11 pm (see 1 Monday) 665-0606 or 763-4186

16 Tuesday

Evening Chanlease ting: Zen Lotus Society 7 to 8 pm (see 2 Tuesday) 761-6520

17 Wednesday

Beans and Rice Dinner: Central America Education/Action Committee 6 to 7:30 pm (see 3 Wednesday)

The Connection Committee meeting: Michigan Alliance for Disarmament (MAD) 7:30 pm (see 3 Wednesday) General Meeting: Latin American Solidarity Committee (LASC) 8 pm (see 3 Wednesday)

18 Thursday

General Meeting: HAP-NICA 5:30 pm (see 4 Thursday)

Riding on Stars: Young
People's Theatre
7 pm at the Performance
Network, 400 W. Washington. A
children's play written by the
students of Young Authors'
Workshop. The story tells of
celebrating the joy of overcoming
personal, societal, and even
inter galactical difficulties
through greater understanding of
our diverse cultures and
universal hopes and fears,
touching on holidays celebrated
by diverse cultural groups in our
area, including Christmas,
Chanukah, Kwanza and the
Chinese New Year. A special free
preview performance 663-0681
General Meeting: Big

General Meeting: Big Mountain Support Group 7:30 pm at 2619 S. Main Street. 663-9119

General Meeting: Peace and Justice Committee 7:30 pm (see 4 Thursday)

General Meeting: FLOC 7:30 pm (see 4 Thursday) General Meeting: Ann Arbor Central America Sister City Task Force 7:30 pm (see 4 Thursday) 994-2766 or 769-5051

Coordination Meeting: Women's Crisis Center 7:30 pm (see 4 Thursday) 761-9475

19 Friday

Deadline for Community Resource Directory (CRD) and Calendar listings: AGENDA By mail to P. O. Box 3624, Ann Arbor, 48106. Hand deliver to 1 Jefferson Ct. or call 996-8018

Womyn's Afternoon Tea or a Happy Hour Alternative for wimmin: Lesbian Network and Women's Crisis Center. 5 to 7 pm (see 5 Friday) General Meeting: N29 5 to 6 pm (see 5 Friday)

General Meeting:Association of Arab American Graduate Students 6 pm (see 5 Friday)

Shabbat Potluck: New Jewish Agenda
7 pm at 324 Hilldale, Claudia
Kraus will show slides from her
trip to the Soviet Union this fall.
Bring a veggie dish to pass.
Please RSVP, 662-9217

Riding on Stars: Young People's Theatre 7 pm (see 18 Thursday) Tickets \$5, \$3 students and seniors.

Brigadista send off party: Information can be obtained at the /HAP-NICA office. 769-1442

20 Saturday

Campus X-Mas Break Begins. Please Call to Verify Whether Regualr Meetings will Occur as Scheduled.

Riding on Stars: \\
People's Theatre
2 and 7 pm (see 18 Thursday)
Tickets \$5, \$3 students and

General Membership Meetings:Ypsilanti Food Co-

7:30 pm at 1115 Hawthom, Ypsilanti. Open to the public, including members and new inquirers. A pot-luck dinner (whole foods) follows so bring a dish to pass. 483-1520

pass. 483-1520

Book Signing-Reception:
Dawn Treader Book Shop
8 pm at Dawn Treader Books, 1202
S. University. Former Ann Arbor
resident, Boston author Bob Black
will be signing his new book, "The
Abolition of Work and Other
Essays." 663-3773 or 665-2270

21 Sunday

Deadline for camera-ready ads: AGENDA By mail to P. O. Box 3624, Ann Arbor, 48106. Hand deliver to 1 Jefferson Ct. or call 996-8018

Riding on Stars: Y People's Theatre 2 and 7 pm (see 18 Thursday) Tickets \$5, \$3 students and

General Meeting: A2MISTAD Construction Brigade 7:30 pm (see 7 Sunday)

Israeli Folk Dancing: B"nai Brith Hillel Foundation 8 pm (see 7 Sunday)

22 Monday

General Meeting: South African Political Prisoner Bracelet Program 5 pm (see 1 Monday)

General Meeting: Industrial Workers of the World (IWW) 6 pm (see 1 Monday)

General Meeting: World
Hunger Education-Action
Committee (WHE-AC)
6:30 pm (see 1 Monday)
General Meeting: Free South
Africa Coordinating
Committee (FSACC)
6:30 pm (see 1 Monday)

Planning Meeting: MAD 7:30 pm (see 8 Monday)

Middle East Interest Group: 662-8760 or 662-9217

Religious ouse: Gay Lesbian-Gay Male Rei Groups Open House: Liberation 8 to 11 pm (see 1 Monday) 665-0606 or 763-4186

23 Tuesday

Evening Chanting: Zen Lotus Society 7 to 8 pm (see 2 Tuesday) 761-6520

24 Wednesday

The Connection Committee meeting: Michigan Alliance for Disarmament (MAD) 7:30 pm (see 5 Wednesday)

General Meeting: Latin American Solidarity Committee (LASC) 8 pm (see 3 Wednesday)

25 Thursday

Merry Christmas

General Meeting: HAP-NICA 5:30 pm (see 4 Thursday) Feminist Interest Group:

7:30 pm at1208 Chapel Ct. Get to know us and help set goals for the year. 665-2825

General Meeting: FLOC 7:30 pm (see 4 Thursday)

General Meeting: Peace and Justice Committee 7:30 pm (see 4 Thursday)

General Meeting: Ann Arbor Central America Sister City Task Force
7:30 pm place to be announced.
994-2766 or 769-5051

Membership meeting: NJA 7:15 pm at Temple Beth Emeth, 2309 Packard, 971-5382

General Meeting: Michigan Alliance for Disarmament (MAD)

7:30 pm at the Michigan Union. Professor Daniel Axelrod and Janis Michael, MAD's chair, will give keynote talks and fall activities will be discussed. 995-5871

26 Friday

Womyn's Afternoon Tea or a Happy Hour Alternative for wimmin: Lesbian Network and Women's Crisis Center. 5 to 7 pm (see 5 Friday)

General Meeting: N29 5 to 6 pm (see 5 Friday)

General General
Meeting:Association of Arab
American Graduate
Students
6 pm (see 5 Friday)

27 Saturday

Happy Hanukkah Third Rail:

Performance

Network
8:30 pm at the Performance
Network, 410 W. Washington. The
reunion performance of the Ann
Arbor based rock band, featuring
the band's original members and
mostly original material, ranging
form their 1985 release "Above the
Clouds" to more modern, compelling
and textural compositions. Tickets
\$3.663-0681 Network 8:30 pn

28 Sunday

Meditation Service: Buddhist Temple-Ann Arbor 5 to 7 pm (see 7 Sunday)

29 Monday

General Meeting: South African Political Prisoner Bracelet Program 5 pm (see 1 Monday)

General Meeting: Industrial Workers of the World (IWW) 6 pm (see 1 Monday)

General Meeting: World Hunger Education-Action Committee (WHE-AC) 6:30 pm (see 1 Monday)

General Meeting: Free South Africa Coordinating Committee (FSACC) 6:30 pm (see 1 Monday) Planning Meeting: MAD 7:30 pm (see 8 Monday)

Middle East Interest Group: NJA 662-8760 or 662-9217

Lesbian-Gay Male Religious Groups Open House: Gay Liberation 8 to 11 pm (see 1 Monday) 665-0606 or 763-4186 Religious

30 Tuesday

Evening Chanting: Zen Lotus Society 7 to 8 pm (see 2 Tuesday) 761-6520

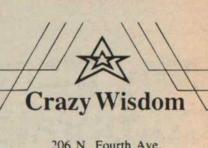
31Wednesday

Worldwide Hour for Peace
7 to 8 am. At 12 noon to 1 pm,
Greenwich Mean Time, that's 7 to 8
am our time, people around the
world are gathering in spirit to sing,
dance, pray, meditate and
celebrate peace in whatever form is
most meaningful to them. Church
bells will ring in Atlanta, lights lit in
Chicago and flowers floated out to
sea from Jupiter Beach, Florida. In
addition, there will be day-long
activities at the Friends Meeting
House, 1420 Hill St., concluding
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Quote of the month

"It's deja vu all over again"

—Yogi Berra



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READERS WRITE

Why Mandatory Drug Testing is **Corporate Mind Control**

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Aldous Huxley author of Brave New World

Government contracts should not be awarded to companies that fail to implement drug programs, including suitable drug testing.

final report of President Reagan's Commission on Organized Crime

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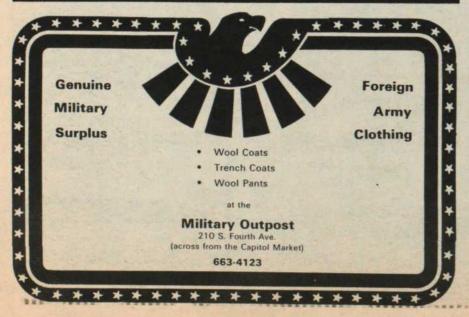
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by Henry E. Hardy

Certain psychedelic chemicals have the ability to produce in the user a state of mind similar to that sometimes achieved by religious mystics. President Ronald Reagan's government has stooped to dishonest tactics reminiscent of the Watergate era of Republican corruption in order to enforce universal mandatory corporate drug testing. These plans, if implemented, would amount to universal mind control regulations prohibiting the use of drugs capable of leading to states of mind not approved by the State and its corporations.

The portion of the Final Report of the President's Commission on Organized Crime which was released on March 3, 1986, called for universal mandatory drug testing to be implemented by all corporations government agencies in the United States. However, this recommendation was never approved by the Commission.

In fact, the President's Commission never even saw the version of the report which included the statement quoted in the box until after the report was released. In a front page article on Thursday, March 6, 1986, the New York Times revealed that several members of the commission never approved of, or were ever informed of the section on drug testing which was published by the White House as their "final report."

One conservative member. panel Readers Digest Senior Editor Eugene Methvin of McClean, Virginia, said that he and the other members of the commission never saw the final version of the report and never met to discuss it. He said that the White House had not acted on commission member's requests that they be permitted to meet and discuss the report and others to be issued in the name of the commission.

Commission members were told by the White House that there was no more money available for them to meet and discuss the report which was to be issued in their name. Methvin was quoted by the New York Times as saying that he had been told that "they didn't have enough money" to pay the travel expenses for the commission members to meet. The "poor financial planning and mismanagement" was "unforgivable," Methvin

Thomas McBride, Associate Dean of the Stanford Law School and member of the commission, said. "I found that two key phrases had been inserted in the final version that I had not seen." He added that the two phrases were the ones referring to the drug testing proposal.

Charles H. Rogovin, a commission member who is Professor of Law at Temple University in Philadelphia, said that, in addition to the quote from the commission report at the beginning of this article, the following language had been inserted into the report without the knowledge or approval of the commissioners: "The President should direct the heads of all Federal Agencies to immediately clear with implementing guidelines, including suitable drug testing programs."

Thus, a falsified document issued in the name of a blue ribbon "panel of experts" has been used to manipulate the President, the Congress, and the people of the United States into supporting universal mandatory drug testing as a part of the "war on drugs."

The most controversial element of the commission's report, which dealt with drug testing, was never approved, or even seen, by all of the members of the commission in whose name it was issued. But is the proposal a good idea?

Many drugs which affect the mind, such as caffeine, alcohol, and Valium, are legal. It is primarily those psychedelic drugs which may lead to the experience of "illumination" or 'enlightenment", which are discouraged. While it is certainly true that drugs such as psylicybin and LSD have profound effects, there is no clear evidence that they are more harmful or addictive than alcohol or cigarettes. These drugs are banned because of their ability to produce states of mind which are forbidden by the State, at least when they are achieved with the help of drugs.

"LSD lowers the barrier between conscious and subconscious and permits the patient to look more deeply and understandingly into the recesses of his own mind," wrote philosopher and author Aldous Huxley. "The deepening of self-knowledge takes place against a background of visionary or even mystical experience. Thus a person who takes LSD or mescaline may suddenly understand--not only intellectually but organically, experientially-the meaning of such tremendous religious affirmations as 'God is love' . . . It goes without saying that this kind of temporary transcendence is no guarantee of permanent enlightenment or a lasting improvement of conduct."

Such experiences lead one to question the official versions of reality that one is taught by the church, corporate advertising and the state-run school system. Why buy a Buick when trips to other worlds and states of consciousness cost only a few dollars? Why tune into Pat Robertson and his fellow bigotted perverters of Christianity when God can talk to you in your own brain?

"It will sometimes happen that your individual identity will disappear," wrote the French poet Baudilaire in 1858, "and the objectivity characteristic of the pantheistic poet will develop so unusually within you, that the mere contemplation of external objects will cause you to soon forget your own existence, and become inextricably fused with theirs. Your eye fastens upon a tree as it is bent by the wind; in a few seconds, something that would be a most natural comparison in the poet's mind, will become a reality in yours." (from the Poem of Hashish, in Artificial Paradise, 1860.)

It is undeniable that there are dangers in experimenting with altered states consciousness. But there can also be great benefits. Shouldn't the decision of whether or not to use psychotropic plants or psychedelic chemicals be left up to the individual and not to the whim of the State and the corporations?

We are willing as a nation to risk the lives of our astronauts and teachers in the quest for knowledge of outer space. Should we not

(see DRUG TESTING, page 30)

University Terrace destined for demolition?

At what price parking?

by Gerald Huntley

University Terrace (UT) is a forty-year old apartment complex consisting of 9 buildings and 193 units inhabited by married and single students. Unfortunately, University Terrace lies on land adjacent to University Hospital and has been identified as a site for future Medical Campus expansion. Almost 100 units have already been lost. Back in the late 60's, two buildings were torn down to make room for the East Washington parking structure; more recently, two additional buildings were appropriated for use as office space by the Replacement Hospital Project. Now, despite a housing crisis so severe that many students are being forced out of the Ann Arbor area, residents have recently found out that the Hospital wants to tear down several of the remaining buildings to make room for an extension for the visitor's parking structure. There are no plans to replace these units with additional housing.

This was not the first time when UT residents had been placed in a position where they had to defend their community. Last May the Housing Office was informed, without prior warning or consultation, that virtually all of the parking at UT would be lost. Since married students are frequently dependent on having their own transportation, this meant that many families would be forced to look for another place to live. Residents organized and demanded that hospital planners guarantee parking for present and future residents, stating that if no agreement was reached, the hospital dedication would be picketed.

The hospital refused to negotiate; instead, a proposal was made, through the Housing Office, that would guarantee parking for current residents only. This offer was unacceptable because it did not protect the interests of future residents, a right that current residents felt uncomfortable giving away. On June 1, over 40 UT residents, supported by friends from the Tenants' Union and the Michigan Student Assembly, conducted a peaceful demonstration in front of the hospital on the day of the ceremony. This was done for three reasons: first, because the residents had previously agreed not to accept any offer which bargained away the rights of future neighbors; second, to protest the refusal of hospital planners to negotiate with them; and third, to draw attention to problems created by a shift in priorities which has seen student needs sacrificed in the scramble to maintain the prestige of the University at a time of decreased public support.

It is always an ugly thing when housing is torn down to build a parking facility; to do so during a housing crisis is completely unconscionable. How is it possible for the University, which is supposed to be a humanitarian institution, to be so insensitive of the rights and need of students and their families? A clue is given in the original 10 year plan, in which UT was identified as a site for future Medical Campus expansion. Nowhere in the entire 190 page document was there any consideration of the impact on the University community of tearing down UT. The closest thing to an admission that real people lived there was the single, terse comment: "Because of the limited site availability in this area of the Campus, medical use must take precedence over married housing accommodations. Elsewhere in the report, it is stated: "The cemetery, arboretum, valley and river . . . are considered essential ingredients of community life. All are enthusiastically supported, represented, and protected by local residents . . . "

Why are the cemetery, arboretum and river valley immune from the ravages of hospital expansion? Certainly not because of the concern of the planners for the interests of people and the environment. They have spared because there are concerned citizens willing to speak up and defend their interests and the interests of their community. Students, on the other hand, are here only for a few years and are usually too busy trying to get their degrees to worry about the future of their community—or so the University seems to think. Perhaps the most significant thing about the protest at University Terrace was not so much the demonstration itself but the fact that residents explicitly rejected attempts to buy them out with offers which bargained away the interests of their future neighbors.

Residents first became aware of plans to tear down UT last summer, when a report, prepared by JJ&R (Johnson, Johnson & Roy—the same land use consultants who prepared the Master Plan for Medical Campus Expansion in 1980), recommended University Terrace as a site for the expansion of hospital parking facilities. It should be noted this expansion is in no way a necessary solution to a "parking emergency" as originally claimed—by the time construction starts, the new Glen St. structure will have been completed and there may actually be a surplus of parking spaces in the Medical Campus area—rather, it is an attempt to meet projected needs that will not become critical until the 1990's. Furthermore, the report discussed two possible sites for new parking facilities: University Terrace and an area adjacent to the Childrens' Psychiatric Hospital (CPH). Both sites had advantages and

(see U. TERRACE, page 30)

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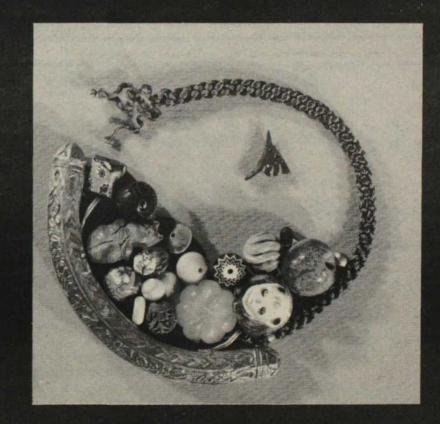
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keep check lists of constituent opinion. By Wire: Personal Opinion Messages may be sent to State and Federal Representatives at a cost of \$4.45 for 20 words or less plus your name and address through Western Union at (800)325-6000 or mailgrams are \$3.50 for 100 words and telegrams are \$15 per 50 words only in the United

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0052. Telex's to Central American countries cost \$4.50 for 35 to 40 words and cablegrams cost \$.30 per word for messages overseas through BAUD 9600. Upon request 10% of the cost of your telegram will be donated to CUANES (Central American Urgent Action Network) if you are affiliated with CUANES. By Letter: The League of

Women Voters advises that you use correct titles, names and addresses, that you address only one issue per letter, that you time the letter to arrive when the issue is current and that you not forget to send letters of commendation when officials do things which

meet your approval.

Ann Arbor Mayor and City Council

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Lowell Peterson(D) 1594 Jones Drive Ann Arbor, MI 48105 663-9069

Larry Hunter (D) 217 N. Division,#3 Ann Arbor, MI 48104 485-4300 or 668-6165

Ward II

Richard Deem (R) 1024 Greenhills Drive Ann Arbor, MI 48105 663-7671

Seth Hirshorn (D) 3382 Bluett Ann Arbor, MI 48105 665-9385

Ward III Jeff Epton 1125 S.Forest Ann Arbor, MI 48104

Jeanette Middleton (R) 1130 Fair Oaks Parkway Ann Arbor MI 48104 663-4723

761-8283 or 662-3747

Ward IV Larry Hahn (R)

2380 S.Seventh St. Ann Arbor MI 48103 769-8520 or 996-2742

Gerald D. Jernigan (R) 3252 Alpine Drive Ann Arbor, MI 48105 764-8216 or 971-5274

Ward V Doris Preston (D) 1731 Fair Street Ann Arbor, MI 48103 663-6321

Kathy Edgren (D) 606 Linda Vista Ann Arbor, MI 48103 995-9437

Governor and State Representatives

Governor James Blanchard (D) The Capitol, P.O.Box 30013 Lansing, MI 48909 (517)373-3400

Senator Lana Pollack (D) P.O.Box 30036 State Capitol Lansing, MI 48909 (517)373-2406

2065 Columbia Avenue Ann Arbor, MI 48104 663-9151 or 668-6066

State Representative Perry Bullard (D) State Capitol P.O.Box 30014 Lansing, MI 48909 (517)373-1289

1220 Pontiac Trail Ann Arbor MI 48105 761-9543

President and Federal Representatives

President Ronald Reagan The White House Washington D.C.20500

U.S. Senator Carl Levin (D) 140 Russell Senate Office Building Washington D.C. 20510 (202)224-6221

1860 McNamara Building 477 Michigan Avenue Detroit, MI 48226 (313)226-6020

U.S. Senator Donald W. 105 Dirksen Senate Office Building Washington, D.C. 20510 (202)224-4822

1850 McNamara Bldg. 477 Michigan Ave. Detroit, MI 48226 (313)226-3188

U.S. Representative, 2nd District Carl Pursell (R) 1414 Longworth Building Washington, D.C. 20515 (202)225-4401

361 W. Eisenhower Parkway Ann Arbor MI 48104 (313)761-7727

Via Local Media:

AGENDA P.O.Box 3624 Ann Arbor, MI 48106 Ann Arbor Observer 206 S. Main Ann Arbor, MI 48104 769-3175

The Michigan Daily Student Publication Building 420 Maynard Street Ann Arbor, MI 48109 764-0552

Ann Arbor News P.O.Box 1147 Ann Arbor, MI 48106 994-6989

Ypsilanti Press 20 E. Michigan Ypsilanti, MI 48198 482-2000

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The Metro Times 800 David Whitney Building 1553 Woodward Ave. Detroit, MI 48226 (313)961-4060

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Community Resource DIRECTORY

Agenda Publications P. O. Box 3624 Ann Arbor, MI 48106 (313)996-8018

Purpose

AGENDA is a monthly newspaper that focuses on the concerns and activities of grassroots organizations in the Ann Arbor/Ypsilanti area. The largest section of the paper, the "Community Resource Directory" (CRD), provides local community action organizations the opportunity to give basic information on their background and current work. The "Calendar" emphasizes meetings and community events and "Readers Write" is a forum in which individuals or groups can write in depth about a concern or topic. AGENDA's news and feature articles provide coverage of events that do not find their way into the local media on a regular basis.

We welcome students, activists, and community residents to help us with this enormous effort and are especially in need of: advertising representatives (commission paid), typists, distributors to take half-hour to one-hour routes every month, writers, proofreaders,

photographers, business experts, and fundraisers. If you are a student, you can receive credit through an independent study or a field work assignment.

Current News

AGENDA is currently gearing up for a mini-phonathon in search of new subscribers. The exact dates depend upon when we send out the advance mailer to potential subscribers. The tentative dates for the phone work is somewhere around Dec. 8 to 10. If you can spare a few hours to make phone calls for AGENDA, please call our office to volunteer.

We still need tons of help doing everything from typing to artwork to editing to writing to ad sales. A little time or a lot—AGENDA needs your help to function as a voive for Ann Arbor's grassroots community and not-for-profit alternative news source.

Deadlines for January Issue

Dec. 13: Deadline for Feature/News drafts.

Dec. 15: Deadline for ad space reservations.

Dec. 19: Deadline for CRD for November issue. If hand delivered, please call 996-8018 for our new address. Deadline for photos and graphics. Deadline for Calendar listings.

Dec. 21: Camera-ready ads due. (2080)

ARTS & CULTURE

Performance Network 408 W. Washington Ann Arbor, MI 48103 313/663-0681

Purpose

The Performance Network of Ann Arbor is a collectively-run, intimate theater including additional shop, storage, and workshop space. It is designed to promote the development, production, and presentation of politically-committed experiments and original work in all

the performance arts. The Performance Network is available to other arts organizations or individuals for rent at a nominal fee as a performance space, shop, or workshop. We provide resources to the community in the form of space and equipment, outreach and educational programs, and creativity in the various media.

We exist to provide an arena for artists to do the work they love and to share their vision with the public. Ultimately, we hope—as our name implies—to function as a liason for artists, political organizations, and the community.

See the CALENDAR for December Events. (1250)

ENVIRONMENT

Ecology Center of Ann Arbor 417 Detroit Street Ann Arbor, MI 48104 (313)761-3186

Purpose

The mission of the Ecology Center is to channel community resources into meaningful action on environmental issues. The Center does this through advocacy, education, and service on both local and statewide levels.

Community Services

Membership in the Ecology Center is available for \$15/year. Members receive several benefits including ten issues/year of the Ecology Center newsletter. Send membership dues to the Ecology Center.

All houses in Ann Arbor are eligible for a curbside pickup of your used newspapers, glass, and cans. Call 665-6398 to find out your recycling day, or bring materials by our drop-off station at 2050 South Industrial, open 9:30-4:30 every Friday and Saturday.

Ecology Center 100% Recycled Paper greeting Cards

are now available!! Found at the Farmers Market, several local stores, and at 417 Detroit Street, proceeds from cards benefit the Ecology Center. New designs by Jonathan Wright and Greg Wilkinson.

The Leslie Science Center may be scheduled for use as an environmental field trip for groups of students of adults. Call 761-3186 to set up your FREE tour. Also open to the public is the Ecology Center's 3,000 volume environmental library at 417 Detroit St. Come in and browse 1:00-5:00 Mon-Fri, 9:30-1:00 Saturdays.

Now At The Center

This month is a cold one, and the Ecology Center's Home Energy Works program has been booming. Home Energy Works is an energy conservation program designed to benefit homeowners, renters, and landlords by training residents to use no-cost and low-cost weatherization procedures, and distributing weatherization materials. A free service to income-eligible residents, the Center's Energy Team makes house calls, even in this day and age!

On a typical Home Energy Visit, the team will arrive at a home at a pre-determined time. It is important that the resident of the home be there while the home visit is going on. A Home Visit may start out with the Energy Team and

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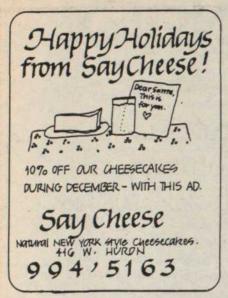
January Issue Deadline: December 19

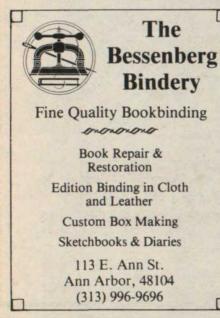
the resident going through the home together, looking for obvious sources of heat loss. Some, like a door that does not seal tightly may be obvious. Other causes of energy loss, like a refrigerator placed right next to a stove, are less blatant, and are remedied.

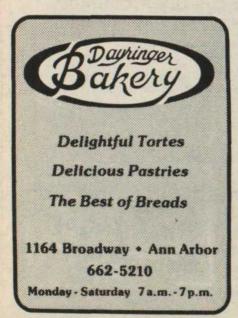
By the end of the Home Visit, the Energy Team has begun much of the weatherization work helpful to a home. The Team has trained the resident on how to apply such energy-saving materials as caulk and hot water heater blankets, and will leave extra materials for the now-proficient resident to apply. What better way to prepare for winter than ann educational hands-on program where weatherization materials are left, free of charge, with residents? To schedule your Home Energy Visit, call 761-3186 for an appointment. (2886)

Attention Readers:

See the CALENDAR for a more complete listing of December events









Greenpeace 400 W. Washington Ann Arbor, MI 48103 761-1996

Purpose

Originally founded in Canada in 1971 to oppose U.S. nuclear testing at Amchitka Island in Alaska, Greenpeace is now a global network extending across 15 nations. We are ecologists actively working to protect a fragile world. Ecology teaches us that all forms of life are interconnected and interdependant and that we need to respect the diversity of life as we respect ourselves.

For that reason we are involved in a variety of environmental campaigns: curbing the use of toxic chemicals, halting the dumping of nuclear and other toxic substances, stopping the whale and seal slaughters, challenging the nuclear powers to stop testing as a first step to ending the arms race, supporting the people of the Pacific in their efforts to keep their islands nuclear free, and seeking to make Antarctica a world preserve.

Current News

The Greenpeace "Water for Life"

campaign continues. The campaign's most recent Great Lakes news comes from Midland, Michigan, home of Dow Chemical and from Hammond, Indiana.

In Midland, Greenpeace toxic experts met with Dow executives to discuss waste reduction. Fundamental differences in thought were apparent but it gave Greenpeace an opportunity to present it's zero discharge philosophy of source reduction technology and recycling of toxics to the people who need to know it most. No direct actions by Greenpeace against Dow were conducted at the time but future actions are not ruled out.

Afterward, on Sept. 19, a press conference and meeting between Greenpeace and top level officials in the Governors' office in Lansing was held to address again the source reduction topic.

As was reported in Sept.'s AGENDA Greenpeace carried out a direct action against the Stauffer Chemical Co. of Hammond, Indiana. Stauffer is in the business of incinerating toxic wastes. Documented environmental problems have already been caused by the company. This year they applied for a permit through state and federal agencies to burn 342 more chemicals shipped in from various parts of the country. The hanging of a 75-foot "Ban

the Burn" banner by Greenpeace members on a Stauffer smokestack drew enormous plublic awareness to the problem. Success! In Oct., Stauffer withdrew it's permit application citing "public opposition" as a major factor in their decision.

Greenpeace is preparing for our Antarctic expedition. Along with scientific research, one goal is to bring attention to this almost forgotten but very unique and important ecosystem. Greenpeace is working to have Antarctica given World Preserve status.

This would prevent the exploitation of its resources and protect it in the interest of all humankind. By setting up camp for a year, we would then be eligible to be included in the Antarctic Treaty Organization and have input to stop plans of future oil and mineral exploitation.

We are circulating an Antarctica Declaration internationally, which will be presented to the United Nations showing world support for World Preserve status. Copies of this petition are available at the Greenpeace office in Ann Arbor, for interested individuals.

In Ann Arbor, we are gearing up for our winter canvass. Any committed people should give the Ann Arbor office a call. (3280)

GAY RIGHTS

Gay Liberation 4117 Michigan Union Ann Arbor, MI 48109 INFO: 763-4816

HOTLINE: 662-1977

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 all, regardless of sexual orientation; (4) help lesbian and gay men's groups organize; (5) link to other community groups.

Meetings and Membership

Our meetings vary according to purpose; we do most of our work in subcommittees (counseling, groupwork, education, civil rights). Call for time and place

Our group includes U-M students, staff, and faculty, and people from the larger community. We have a President, Vice-president, Secretary and Treasurer. At present we have approximately 50 members. We're a registered nonprofit organization.

Community Services

Hotline: Crisis intervention, peer counseling, referral.

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

Speakers Bureau: Call for information.

Human and Civil Rights: Information and referral to help people who are being discriminated against because of their actual or presumed sexual orientation or their presumed "cross-gender" characteristics; lobbying for human and civil rights.

Community Organization: Information and help on organizing groups, setting goals and objectives, addressing conflict, linking to other groups and resources.

Current News

A person's home may be her or his castle but having a castle necessitates first finding a home. Although the U-M and City of Ann Arbor have non-discrimination policies concerning housing, discrimination against lesbians and gay men continues.

A few weeks ago two women applied for a one-bedroom apartment at an Ann Arbor rental management office. They were told that they could not rent an efficiency or a one-bedroom apartment, although unmarried female-male couples could rent such units. The secretary was sympathetic to the women's request but could not override management's policy. People can file formal complaints about housing discsrimination on the basis of sex as well as on the basis of sexual orientation. Some complainants may wish to conceal their orientation and can do so by filing solely on the basis of sex.

Students experiencing housing discrimination at the U-M are invited to speak with their residence hall advisors, with the Lesbian-Gay Male Programs Office at 763-4186, or with the Affirmative Action Office at 764-3423.

Anyone experiencing housing discrimination at private dwellings, including apartment complexes, within the Ann Arbor city limits is invited to call the Lesbian-Gay Male Programs Office or the Human Rights Office at City Hall, 994-2803. Complainants are also urged to call the Michigan Dept. of Civil Rights at 313/256-2663 or 517/373-7634, and the ACLU contacts, Ann Marie and Don Coleman, at 662-5189.

The Lesbian-Gay Male Programs Office maintains a list of attorneys who are skilled and experienced in litigating cases involving civil rights discrimination.

Thirty years ago Adlai Stevenson urged us "to feel strongly, to be impatient, to want mightily to see that things are done better." Today we can only respond, "Yes, and I'm acting on my feelings that my rights are respected and preserved." (3602)

HEALTH ISSUES

Wellness Networks, Inc.—Huron Valley (WNI-HV) P. O. Box 3242 Ann Arbor, MI 48106 662-6134

Purpose

WNI-HV aims to educate the general

public about Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS) as well as to provide support and direct care to people with AIDS (PWA's), people with AIDS-Related Complex (ARC), and individuals concerned about AIDS. Our service area encompasses the greater Huron Valley area.

Membership and Meetings

Any individual is welcome to work with the organization as a volunteer and/or

board member. Current membership includes men and women from all walks of life: health care professionals, educators, therapists, members/representatives of high risk groups, and individuals from the general public.

General meetings are held the second Sunday of every month and are open to all. The next meeting is December 14, 3:30 to 5:30 pm at St. Joseph Mercy Hospital Education Center, Ann Arbor (enter through outpatient entrance). (944)

HUMAN RIGHTS

Big Mountain Support Group 2619 S. Main Ann Arbor, MI 48104 663-9119

Purpose

The Big Mountain Support Group formed in response to requests for aid from the Dineh (Navaho) people at Big Mountain in Arizona. Ten-thousand native families face relocation to hostile environments, so that the U.S. Government and energy companies can gain complete access to the uranium and coal in this area to meet perceived U.S. energy needs

The issues surrounding relocation are complex. The situation has been misrepresented in the media, which has consistently reported that a land dispute between the Hopi and the Dineh lies at the root of relocation, rather than addressing the manipulation of both groups by the U.S. government, the blatant and severe violation of human rights in removing people from their homes and from their social and economic support systems, and the continuing destruction of the environment with no regard for life.

The original deadline for relocation indicated in PL 93-531 was July 7, 1986, but because costs had not been met, relocation was postponed. The actual costs of relocation are five to seven times the amount determined in the 1974 law. Despite the delay plans for relocation are going forward and it is essential that we continue to listen to the voices from Big Mountain and act to stop U.S. government intervention in native affairs.

We are working on community education and on fundraising to help meet the needs of the people at Big Mountain, with the ultimate goal of repealing PL 93-531.

Activities

We want to thank everyone for their support at the showing of Broken Rainbow and the benefit dance in early November. Future activities include continuing the sale of t-shirts and of raffle tickets for rugs made by Dineh elders, a letter-writing day to express our views on relocation to members of Congress, another benefit to be held in January, and future showings of Broken Rainbow. The slide show "Trouble in Big Mountain" is available free to groups for showing. We welcome all suggestions concerning education and fundraising. Meetings: Call 663-9119 or 996-4937 for time and place. (2144)

November 29th Committee for Palestine (N29) c/o MSA 3909 Michigan Union Ann Arbor, MI 48109 764-6958, 764-5011

Purpose

N29 is an American activist organization dedicated to working for the human and political rights of the Palestinian people. We view the U.S. as the leading deterrent to a just resolution to the Palestinian-Zionist conflict; therefore, the majority of our activities are geared to educating the American people about the history of the Palestinian-Zionist conflict, and about the true nature of Palestinians' fight for their rights. We believe that such educational work will help develop public pressure on the administration, to cause it to change its policies in the Middle East. Also, we analyze the Palestinian struggle in the context of struggles for liberation around the world. We seek to build solidarity among groups working in support of liberation movements.

Meetings and Memberships

N29 meets every Friday at 5 pm in the Michigan Union. Specific locations for meetings are available at the information desk. Members must agree with N29's bylaws and principles of unity. Officers are elected yearly; decisions are consensual. We do not discriminate on the basis of gender, race, or religion.

Recent Events

Our most recent event has been three days of "Middle East Awareness, in Solidarity With the Palestinian People," which we cosponsored with the Ann Arbor chapter of the Arab-American University Graduates. Rabbi Elmer Berger spoke on "The Israel-America Axis: Peace Seekers or Rejectionists?"; we showed the films "Gaza Ghetto" and "On Our Land"; and we celebrated Middle Eastern

culture with poetry, music, dancing, and a slideshow on the Middle East.

News from Palestine

Unsurprisingly, upon taking office, Yitzhak Shamir expressed his government's support for the continued and expanded building of settlements in the West Bank. Israel at this time controls approximately 60% of the West Bank's land and resources. Contrary to popular belief, the Labor government years have been no kinder to Palestinians inside the green line and in the West Bank and Gaza Strip. Over the past fifteen months, since August of 1985, over 30 Palestinians have been expelled from their homeland; over 150 Palestinians have been placed under administrative detention without charge or trial; the use of collective punishments such as house sealings or demolitions and the harassment of entire communities continues to be used as part of the "Iron Fist" policies.

Amnesty International's recent report of Israeli human rights abuses documents cases of torture in Palestine and in Lebanon, where—despite the "withdrawal"—1,000 Israeli soldiers remain. Al highlights the case of Adnan Mansour Ghanem, who was tortured while held in an Israeli prison from Dec. 1985 until Feb. 1986, when he was deported to Jordan. Lea Tsemel, Ghanem's lawyer, said Ghanem's was the worst case of torture in her long career of defending Palestinian prisoners.

According to Kathleen Smith of Al's New York press office, Ghanem's case is "typical of other cases." Al has previously documented the brutal conditions faced by prisoners in Ansar prison in southern Lebanon, where Israel held approximately 12,000 Palestinians and Lebanese prisoner in 1982-83. Israel now helps the South Lebanon Army run Khiam prison in Israel's "security zone" in southern Lebanon, which Israel has occupied since 1982. Copies of the Al factsheet on Israeli human rights abuses are available from: Amnesty International, 322 8th Ave., New York, NY 10001. (4146)



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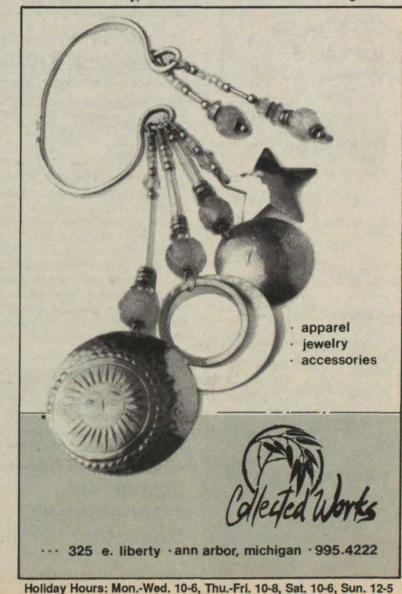
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INTERGENERATIONAL ISSUES

Gray Panthers of Huron Valley 1209 Island Dr., #103 Ann Arbor, MI 48105 663-0786

Purpose

Part of a national organization whose concerns are alleviation of injustice, of deprivation, of threats of global nuclear destruction, among other social ills, the local network this year is concentrating on bringing awareness of the need for HEALTH CARE REFORM to the area public. Plans are under way in coalition with like-minded organizations and agencies, to mount a

public forum some time in early 1987.

Meetings

Monthly, Sept. through June, at 2 to 4PM, in the 2nd Floor Conference Room, Ann Arbor Fire Station, IO7 N. 5th Ave. This month, Sat., Dec. 13th, is to lay the groundwork for the planned forum. Topic: "Health Care Reform Needs" Open to all interested parties, 663-0786.

Membership Profile

Any age individual willing to be an activist for addressing and alleviating some of the many social inadequacies still afflicting our nation and world. Actionoriented people are the mainstay. We work in coalition with other groups for common goals. Our community service often lies in

contribution of time and effort with other agencies.

Organizational Structure

Through a Steering Committee, open to any member, and with two elected officers-a secretary and a treasurer. Planning and action emerges

Current News

Some fast-breaking developments are anticipated for reporting in the near future. Reminder, also, that COVENANT Kits (for a World Free of Nuclear Weapons, \$5) with updated Buyers' Guide, continues to be available from the Interfaith Council for Peace. (1598)

ABOR

Graduate **Employees** Organization (GEO) 802 Monroe #3 Ann Arbor, MI 48104 (313) 995-0221

Office Hours: MF:12:30 pm-4:30 pm, TW: 9:30 am-1:30 pm, Th: 10:30 am-12:30 pm, 2:30-4:30

Purpose

To represent all Graduate Student Assistants in collective bargaining with the University of Michigan, thus protecting

Staff and Teaching Assistants against deterioration in economic compensation, real wages, working conditions; and to address graduate employees' common concerns, such as excessive class size, teacher training, reallocation of University funds from administration overhead to actual teaching, and the ideals of nondiscrimination and affirmative action.

Meetings

Regular membership meetings are held monthly, announced ten days in advance and posted on GEO bulletin boards and published in the "University Record." The next membership meeting will be Jan. 14, 1987, 7:30 pm in the Kuenzel Rm of the Michigan Union.

Current News

In Oct. the University failed to make dues and fees deductions at the new rate-determined last March-and they deducted at fractions of about half the true fractions. Your total payment should be your fraction multiplied by \$72.50. Be prepared for a second deduction in Nov.

Members are being sought for the GEO bargaining team, which goes to work in March. Besides pressing economic issues, the team will work toward limiting class size and clarifying job descriptions. Send your input to the team via the GEO office.

Members for the ad hoc Research committee, which will look into the U's long term plans for TA's, are still being sought. If interested contact Bill Shea at the GEO office. (1760)

Industrial Workers of the World (IWW)

Southeastern Michigan General Membership Branch 42 S. Summit Ypsilanti, MI 48197 483-3478

Purpose

To promote the ownership and control of all means of production and distribution by the working class which creates all social wealth through its labor. In the short run, the IWW helps workers organize for increased democracy in the workplace, as well as for increased wages and benefits. The Union promotes its purposes through workplace organizing and education with an emphasis on direct action as the most effective means for workers to achieve their goals.

Meetings and Membership

Every Monday (except holidays) 6 pm, Room 4304, Michigan Union, 530 S. State, Ann Arbor. Observers are welcome.

Area membership includes the majority of the employees at: Ann Arbor Tenant's Union, People's Wherehouse, University Cellar, and several other employees, both employed and unemployed, homemakers and students who are in agreement with the Union's principles. The IWW 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.

Community Services

Labor-organizing: Members of the IWW 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 IWW. We also participate in efforts to support workers struggling for justice from their employers and their Unions by joining in picketing, promoting boycotts, fundraising and other direct

Current News

In Nov. members of the I.W.W. here hosted a visit by Denny Mealy, a member of P-9 of the United Food and Commercial Workers in Austin, Minnesota (home of Hormel Foods). The P-9 workers have been engaged in a protracted

struggle against both Hormel and the United Food and Commercial Workers Union to obtain a decent contract under which to return to work. A former UFCW lawyer now working to defend the P-9 workers has accurately described the situation as a Union sponsored lockout of the workers. Mealy headed back to Minnesota with a palette of food for the strikers donated by the People's Wherehouse (IWW branch), and a check for \$100 donated by the U-Cellar branch.

The People's Wherehouse branch has successfully negotiated a new contract with the Michigan Federation of Food Cooperatives. The contract features a base wage (after probation) of \$7.50 per hour, rising to \$7.70 in Oct. of 1987. The package also provides for 2 1/2 to 3 1/2 weeks vacation for workers. A high degree of worker participation in decision making negotiated in the previous contract was protected. No strike was necessary to achieve the contract, although a widespread bout of nausea, perhaps brought on by management's requests for concessions, did cause cancellation of an inventory scheduled to occur in the midst of negotiations. (2984)

Maoist Internationalist Movement (MIM) P.O. Box 3576 Ann Arbor, MI 48106

Purpose

MIM is a communist group that upholds Mao and the Cultural Revolution and views the current Soviet Union and China as state capitalist. MIM members are world citizens. not Americans, and therefore uphold internationalism as a guiding vision.

The MIM strategy for revolution and

social change is premissed on the building of a vanguard party that upholds the mass line and leads anti-imperialist and antimilitarist educational work. Concretely, MIM distributes a free literature list, MIM Notes, a newsletter, and MIM Theory. MIM Notes and MIM Theory are 30 cents. The literature

December Events

There will be a "Contemporary Relevance of Mao Study Group." The first discussion will be on the Cultural Revolution on December 7 at 7 pm—place to be announced. Readings

include Jean Daubier's "A History of the Chinese Cultural Revolution" or Jean Esmein's "The Chinese Cultural Revolution," E. L. Wheelwright and Bruce McFarlane's "The Chinese Road to Socialism." (1088)

Socialist Labor Party (SLP) P.O. Box 7505 Ann Arbor, MI 48107 747-8210

The Socialist Labor Party (SLP) works for the establishment of a socialist society in which the economic machinery and process as well as the services will be owned by

everyone in common and operated democratically for the benefit of all. All vestiges of capitalism will be abolished.

Southeast Michigan members and sympathizers of the SLP distribute socialist literature in the area promoting classconsciousness and providing the information necessary for a successful socialist revolution. You are welcome to become a member or sympathizer and join us in our activities. National Office: SLP, 914 Industrial Ave., Palo Alto, CA 94303. (718)

LATIN AMERICA

AMISTAD Construction Brigade 802 Monroe Ann Arbor, MI 48104 761-7960

The AMISTAD Construction Brigade's acronymm stands for the Ann Arbor-Managua Initiative for Soil Testing and Development. The brigade is a group of local people who will be travelling to Nicaragua in January in order to construct a soil and water testing laboratory on the campus of the Institute for Advanced Agricultural Sciences (ISCA) in Nicaragua. The facility will be used to test soil and water so that farmers may better determine how much to fertilize and irrigate their land. The facility will also be used to train technicians.

AMISTAD is as project of HAP-NICA--the Humanitarian Assistance Project for Independent Agricultural Development in Nicaragua--which is part of an international effort to construct a soils analysis facility in Managua. The Italian government is providing the laboratory with \$2,000,000 worth of soil and water testing equipment while the Dutch government is providing \$20,000 to help build the facility. AMISTAD is responsible for \$30,000 to buy and ship the tools and materials necessary to construct the building.

The AMISTAD project is conducted in a spirit of solidarity with the Nicaraguan people and their revolution which is currently being threatened by the contra war waged against them by the U.S. government. The group hopes that lasting ties between the people of

Nicaragua and the United State can be made through projects such as this one.

Meetings

A2MISTAD's meetings are open to all, Sundays at 7:30 pm in the Michigan Union. Ask for the room at the information desk. AMISTAD is a group of about 30 Ann Arbor community residents and students. The group is still recruiting people who would like to work on the construction in Nicaragua for at least four weeks between March and July. Skilled persons including plumbers, masons and health care workers are especially encouraged to join us.

Current News

The month of November was one of AMISTAD's most exciting to date! On the 5th, the first concrete blocks of the soils laboratory were laid at the construction site in Managua by Nicaraguans and members of the Ann Arbor Sister City Delegation who were on their way to Juigalpa. AMISTAD would like to thank the delegation for representing Ann Arbor at this ceremony. Ten days later, the group here in Ann Arbor loaded up construction tools and materials headed for Nicaragua, hopefully to arrive just before the brigadistas do on January 6.

A send-off party for the construction brigade will be held on Friday, Dec. 19, time and place to be announced. Everyone is invited. On Dec. 1, English folk/rock/punk hero Billy Bragg will be performing at the Nectarine Ballroom in a benefit for the AMISTAD Construction Brigade and Amnesty International. On Dec. 6, folksinger John McKutcheon will return to Ann Arbor to play at The Ark, with partial proceeds going to AMISTAD. Please join us for these spectacular musical events. (2962)

PEACE & DISARMAMENT

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

c/o Mary Lou Kerwin 1427 Broadway Ann Arbor, MI 48105 662-2838

Purpose

Ann Arbor War Tax Dissidents (AAWTD) 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.

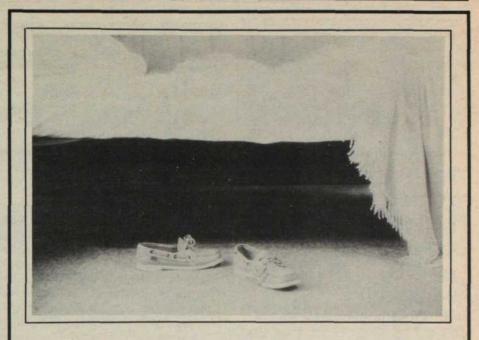
AAWTD is affiliated with the National War Tax Resistance Coordinating Committee (NWTRCC) and with the National Campaign For a Peace Tax Fund (NCPTF). AAWTD is of an informal nature with a diverse membership and a volunteer coordinator.

Meetings

AAWTD generally meets the third Saturday of each month in the Pine Room, Wesley Foundation, 602 E. Huron, Ann Arbor.

Community Services

AAWTD provides the community with a speakers bureau, workshops, forums,

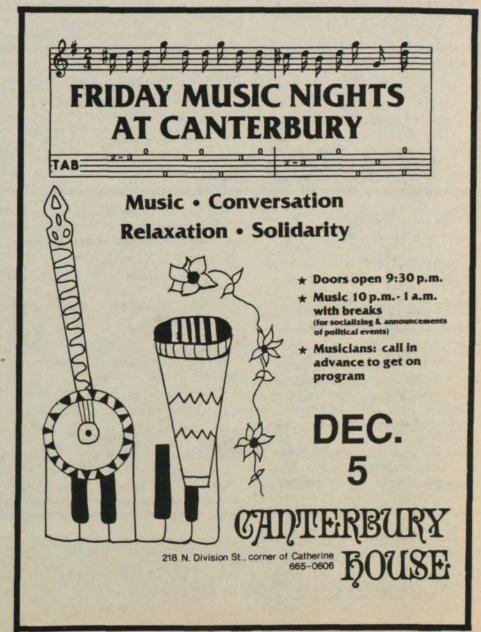


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See the CALENDAR for more extensive listings of December events information hotlines (contact appropriate number listed below), and "Taxes for Peace" (a slide show). For information, contact:

Mary Lou Kerwin at 662-2838 for general information about AAWTD.

David Bassett at 662-1373 about the U.S. Peace Tax Fund bill.

Fran Eliot at 663-2655 about war tax resistance.

Upcoming Events

No regular meeting in December or January. Planning and working meetings are being held. If interested, please call Mary Lou Kerwin. A series of three workshops on "Conscience & Military Taxes: The Role of the Individual Taxpayer in Supporting Military Taxes" will be starting on Jan. 15 to discuss legal and alternative uses for our tax money. The topic January 15th is national and international efforts to create legal "alternative service" for tax dollars, 7:30 to 9:30 pm in the Ann Arbor Public Library Meeting Room. (1754)

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

Purpose

WAND's primary purpose is to educate ourselves and the public about the dangers of continued nuclear arms buildup and to influence our congressional representatives by informed lobbying. Another overall goal is to empower women personally and politically.

Washtenaw County WAND is affiliated with the national WAND organization which was founded in 1980 by Dr. Helen Caldicott. The local group currently has around 400 members and affiliates; there are more than

25,000 national members in 125 chapters.

Meetings and Membership

Meetings are open to the public on the second Sunday of the month at St. Aidan's Episcopal/Northside Presbyterian Church, 1679 Broadway, Ann Arbor. Doors open at 7 pm for conversation and sales of WAND items, the meeting begins at 7:30 with the program or speaker at 8:30; the meeting concludes at 9:30 and babysitting is provided. Call 761-1718 for details.

Membership is open to anyone interested in stopping the arms race. Membership fees are \$25 per year with scholarships available for those unable to pay the entire amount. Contact Barb Carson at 662-7851 for more details.

Activities

In the past, WAND has sponsored the Mother's Day Festival of Peace in West Park twice, participated in commemorations of the bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki and in other rallies, participated in Peace Week at Huron High, sponsored several speaker-

training workshops, and helped found the Second Congressional District Coalition for Peace. Call our Information Hotline at 761-1718 for a message announcing important lobbying information, meeting times, and upcoming community events.

Our Speaker's Bureau provides trained speakers who will address groups, classes, and public forums and rallies on a variety of issues. Interested persons including non-WAND members may participate in Speaker Training workshops. Contact Jean Carlson at 426-2232.

Current News

WAND's Dec. 14th meeting will be a combined event with Beyond War. From 5 to 7 pm, they will present the Spacebridge of the Americas in the Modern Languages Building, a satelite downlink during which Beyond War's annual award will be presented to the presidents of the four Latin American Contadora nations. Audiences in 8 cities in both continents will participate.

Immediately following the Spacebridge on Dec. 14 WAND will hold a holiday dinner

and perspective on Nicaragua at St. Aidan's/Northside Churches, 1679 Broadway. Joyce Chesborough, from the seventeen member Ann Arbor Sister City Delegation to Nicaragua, will speak about her experiences. There will also be some singing of peace and holiday songs. The dinner will begin at 7:30 with the speaker at 8:30. Cost of the dinner is \$2 per person.

In Oct. and Nov. WAND sponsored a panel on U-M research policy changes and participated in the forums at Rackham. The final meeting was preceded by a candlelight vigil on the steps of Rackham with about 50 participants.

Ten or fifteen WAND members plus family and friends went to Washington on Nov. 15 to commemorate the end of the Great Peace March.

WAND sponsored an adopt-acandidate phone fundraiser for Harold Wolpe from the neighboring 3rd U.S. Congressional District and many WAND members had also actively worked for Dean Baker. The election results were hopeful, especially Baker's challenge to Pursell, the most effective in ten years. (3500)

POVERTY & HUNGER

Bread For The World 706 Dwight Street Ypsilanti, MI 48198 487-9058

Purpose

Bread for the World (BFW) is a citizens lobbying organization that deals with hunger and health related legislation. Although BFW does not send any direct aid itself, the organization has given crucial

support to domestic and international hunger programs since it's founding in 1971. Members are encouraged to contact their legislators on hunger issues and are kept informed through newsletters, backround papers, and informational meetings about pertinent legislation.

Meetings

Bread for ther World is organized by Congressional Districts. In the Ann Arbor/Ypsilanti area there are two chapters and due to the holiday season neither group will be meeting in December. For more information contact Jim Rutz (Ann

Arbor area) at 668-4064 or Robert Krzewinski (Ypsilanti area) at 487-9058.

Current Events

With the adjournment of Congress recently, Bread for the World reached many important victories in terms of hunger legislation. Foremost was the passage of the Universal Child Immunization Act that would seek to achieve worldwide infant immunization by 1990. Other successes include passage of domestic child nutrition programs, continued support of the International Fund for Agricultural Development (which helps third world

farmers achieve self-sufficiency) and also further funding for famine relief programs.

In 1987 Bread for the World will continue to fight for passage of hunger legislation, especially that which addresses the growing problem of hunger annd malnutrition in our own country. Until Congress convenes those concerned about hunger issues are urged to contact their elected representatives to support reauthorization of the House Select Committee on Hunger, which in the past has helped make hunger an important issue and has also given crucial support for the funding of such issues. (1900)

World Hunger Education-Action Committee (WHE-AC) 4202 Michigan Union Ann Arbor, MI 48109 663-3560

Purpose

WHE-AC is a campus-based organization whose focus is on educating the community on the causes of—and solutions to—world hunger. Our goal is to understand the complex social, political, economic, and environmental forces that both create and promote world hunger. We recognize that true development can only be achieved by empowering people on a grass roots level. We organize projects

with this perspective in mind. Consequently, we work with Oxfam America and the Institute for Food and Development Policy.

Meetings

All are welcome to come and be a part of WHE-AC. General meetings are on Mondays at 6:30 pm in the International Center (check at the front desk for room). Project meetings will be held during the week. If you are unable to attend on Mondays but would like to be involved, contact WHE-AC.

Current News

WHEAC would like to thank everyone who participated in this year's Fast for a World Harvest, Oxfam America's nationwide fundraiser for its self help development projects. In addition WHEAC uses the fast to raise funds for hunger programs in Ann Arbor and Detroit. We also use the opportunity to raise awareness of

hunger in the community. We were fortunate to have John Hammock, the executive director of Oxfam America, in Ann Arbor on the day of the fast. He spoke on "Hunger, Technology, and Change." Other events took place in the dorms as a part of the fast. If you missed the fast, it is not too late to make a contribution. Checks may be sent to WHEAC to be distributed to Oxfam and local food programs.

Another major project WHEAC is organizing is Hunger Watch, a joint effort with Pirgim to document hunger and the services provided to the hungry in Ann Arbor, Ypsilanti, Detroit, and Lansing. Interviewers are in the process of talking to directors, staff, and participants in the various programs. This study is the first of its kind done in Michigan by an independent organization. WHEAC and Pirgim will be publishing the findings in March. Hunger Watch is a big project, and the more

volunteers we have, the more information we can gather. If you would like to get involved or would like more info, contact Cindy at 662-9765.

WHEAC member Sandra Steingraber, who spent 3 months in Sudan interviewing Ethiopian refugees, has published an article about her experience in the latest issue of "Cultural Survival."

In addition to studying local hunger, WHEAC is planning to volunteer as a group at the shelters and in some of the meal programs in town. We will be discussing this in our Dec. meetings. On **Dec. 14** there will be a Volunteer Training Session at 4 pm Ann Arbor Shelter at 420 W. Huron. The Shelter provides a safe warm place for the homeless to spend the night. It is already operating beyond capacity as its service becomes more critical in the winter months. If you would like to volunteer, contact Bumble Marshall at 994-3179. (2988)

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PROGRESSIVE RELIGION

B"nai Brith Hillel Foundation 1429 Hill Street Ann Arbor, MI 48104 663-3336 Purpose

Hillel is a central cultural and educational resource for both the Jewish and non-Jewish communities of Ann Arbor. Programs range from cultural arts series to political series to a Jewish Learning Center. Counseling is provided for anyone on an appointment basis. Call Hillel at 663-3336 for more information. (400)

Interfaith Council for Peace (ICP) 604 E. Huron Ann Arbor, MI 48104 663-1870 Office Hours: 9:30 to 5:00, M-F.

Purpose

Interfaith Council for Peace (ICP), a nonprofit 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, ICP focused on protesting U.S. involvement in the Vietnam War. Over the past 20 years Interfaith's work has expanded to address justice concerns related to hunger and agriculture in addition to the ongoing work for peace.

ICP, a local chapter of the national Clergy and Laity Concerned (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 at the above address.

ICP's membership includes 60 area congregations and approximately 3,100 individuals. A Steering Committee oversees the work of the staff and the work of four task forces: Disarmament Working Group, Land, Food, and Justice Committee, Hunger Task Force, and the Religious Coalition on Central America

Community Services

ICP publishes a monthly newsletter, 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.

"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. The second edition of "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). (2026)

New Jewish Agenda (NJA) 2208 Packard Ann Arbor, MI 48104 662-9217

Purpose

New Jewish Agenda (NJA) is comprised of Jews from a variety of backgrounds and affiliations who are committed to progressive human values and the building of a shared vision of Jewish life. Our history and tradition inspire us.

We believe that Jewish experience and teachings can address the social, economic and political issues of our time. Many of us find inspiration in our people's historical resistance to oppression, the Jewish presence at the forefront of movements for

social change, the Jewish religious concept of *tikun olam* (the just ordering of human society and the world), and the prophetic tradition of social justice.

We are committed to building an inclusive Jewish community and therefore place particular importance on addressing issues which traditionally exclude many lews

NJA participates in a wide range of activities. Our cultural and religious celebrations include a monthly Shabbat potluck and holiday get-togethers. Our most active interest groups are the Middle East Interest Group and the Feminist Interest Group. Both groups work to define a progressive Jewish approach to these issues and build coalitions with others in the wider community. NJA members are also active in Central America work and social justice issues at home. Join us. (1360)

The Zen Lotus Society Zen Buddhist TempleAnn Arbor 1214 Packard Road Ann Arbor, MI 48104 761-6520

"It is you whho must make the effort. The masters only point the way" The Dhammapada

The Zen Lotus Society, a nonprofit religious organization and North American Buddhist Order, was founded by Samu Sunim in the late summer of 1967 in his flat in Manhattan, NYC. It was established with a view to spreading Buddhadharma in America

through teaching the practice of Zen and promoting Buddhist culture. Zen Buddhist Temple-Ann Arbor was established in 1981 and now serves as the U. S. office of the Zen Lotus Society.

Zen Buddhist Temple Ann Arbor was established in 1981 and now serves as the U.S. office of the Zen Lotus Society.

The temple's memmbers and residents form a community of people devoted to spiritual growth through meditation practice—sitting quietly on a mat, walking in mindfulness, chanting, and working in the world. Inner peace and self-awareness which can extend intop everyday life are developed.

Zen practice can be valuable to the activist or politically oriented person and to anyone's everday life really. This runs (cont. on next page)

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Zen Lotus Society

counter to the popular belief that spiritual practice involves only "inner" development and is therefore apolitical or an escape from reality. Such is not the case. Many Zen practitioners have been active in

peace/anti-nuclear, environmental, and rights issues, are mothers, professionals, tradespeople, students, etc. Meditation practice gives one an "inner home" from which to mparticipate in the world. Understanding peace on an individual level

fosters a deeper intuition for peace on other levels. Through spiritual practice the centered, calm, awakened mind is carried eventually into all other endeavors. One can act without hatred, anger, ego, or burnout. The Meditation Service at the temple each Sunday from 5 pm to 7 pm, and Tuesday evening chanting from 7 to 8 pm are open to the public. Beginners Courses in Zen Meditation and Practice are offeered regularly. (2036)

SENIOR CITIZENS

Housing Bureau For Seniors 1010 Wall St. Ann Arbor, MI 48109 763-0970

Carolyn Hastings, Executive Director Carole Lapidos, Volunteer Coordinator

The Housing Bureau for Seniors provides housing counseling to senior citizens and their families in Washtenaw County. Main offices for the Bureau are located in the tower building of the Kellogg Eye Center, 990 Wall St., in Ann Arbor.

Out-county outreach sites are located in Ypsilanti, Ypsilanti Township, Whitmore

Lake, Chelsea, Saline and the Burns Park Senior Center.

Housing Counselors are recruited and trained to provide information and to assist with housing-related decisions. When helping seniors find suitable housing in this area, housing counselors have needed to turn more and more often to private apartments. Ann Arbor's senior population is rising; the number of subsidized housing units for seniors has remained constant for a number of years. Even in the private senior housing market, few rooms are available county-wide at any given time. Increasingly, seniors are making do in individual apartments.

As rents increase, therefore, more and more seniors are beginning to feel pressured. In a survey of local apartment

complexes conducted in Dec., 1985, the Housing Bureau found no one-bedroom apartments available in Ann Arbor for less than \$300 a month. Only two buildings, in fact, had a \$300 rent for a one-bedroom apartment. According to the Ann Arbor Community Development Office, the average apartment in town rents for \$425 a month. This is more than most seniors, the majority of whom live on social security alone, can afford. Housing Counselors at the Bureau are preparing to take action on this issue, joining forces with other concerned citizens to become advocates for affordable housing initiatives.

In particular, housing counselors have sided with tenants in support of a resolution to require that property owners give a year's notice before converting apartment buildings to condominiums. Carolyn Hastings, Executive Director of the Housing Bureau for Seniors, recently addressed a public hearing of the Ann Arbor City Council on behalf of this measure.

Future plans for the Bureau will be directed toward taking a more active stand on behalf of senior tenents in this community. Individuals or other agencies wishing to join with the Housing Bureau are invited to contact the Bureau at 763-0970.

If you have questions or concerns about senior housing, for yourself or for a friend or family member, contact the Housing Bureau for Seniors, 763-0970. Ask to talk with one of our counselors. Though donations are happily accepted, Bureau services are free. (2658)

SOUTH AFRICA

Adopt a Political Prisoner of Apartheid (APPA) 906 South University Ann Arbor, MI 48109

Purpose

Formed in the fall, APPA is a new organization on the University of Michigan campus which is working in conjunction

with the natioal APPA movement. This nationwide project, started by two members of the House of Representatives, Congressman Conyers and Congressman Gedjenson of Michigan and Connecticut, is modeled after Amnesty International's Prisoner of Conscience Campaign for Soviet Jewry.

This humanitarian project seeks to achieve two goals. It will create a human link between the people of South Africa and the United States by writing the prisoner's

family. APPA will also strive to prevent the torture of political prisoners by lobbying in the United States and abroad.

Meetings

APPA meeets 6:30 to 7:15 pm every Thursday night in Room 111, West Engineering Bldg. Meetings are organizational in structure. Our immediate goal is to gain the endorsements of as many faculty and student organizations as possible.

Current News

APPA has gained widespread support in a short time. Plans are being made for the presentation to the Regents of the University on January 14, 1987, as well as a press rally near that date. It is our goal to have the University of Michigan adopt two political prisoners. Anyone who is interested should plan to attend our next meeting. (1378)

Free South Africa Coordinating Committee (FSACC) c/o Michigan Student Assembly 8309 Michigan Union Ann Arbor, MI 48109 971-7994 or 769-8549

Purpose

Formed in the spring of 1985, FSACC is a multi-racial campus-based group which is committed to opposing the brutal system of Apartheid in South Africa as well as racism in this country. FSACC produces literature

and organizes educational events which examine Apartheid and expose ways in which U.S. institutions (including the University of Michigan), underwrite that system.

FSACC is also involved in grassroots efforts to change the policies and practices of our government and university which provide direct support to the Apartheid regime or reflect insensitivity to the aspirations of the majority of the country's disenfranchised Black population.

Current News

On Thursday, Nov. 6, FSACC joined the University of Michigan Center for Afroamerican and African Studies to host a talk entitled "Will South Africa Explode?" by Dr. Marsipula Sithole, a visiting scholar from the University of Zimbabwe teaching

this term at Michigan State University. Addressing an audience of about 100, Dr. Sithole drew comparisons and contrasts between the situation in South Africa today and that of Zimbabwe (formerly Rhodesia) on the eve of its independence in 1979.

Responding to a question about the military might and alleged invincibility of the South African Defense Forces, Dr. Sithole recalled that former Prime Minister of Rhodesia Ian Smith pronounced less than a decade before independence that "it will be a thousand years before we tolerate black rule in Rhodesia." It was a very short 1,000 years

The following Monday, Nov. 10, FSACC hosted an anti-Apartheid reggae benefit at Rick's Cafe which earned several hundred dollars for operating expenses and our Material Aid Drive for South African

refugees. In addition, FSACC will soon have an office/resource center—more like a large closet—on the fourth floor of the Michigan Union. So step by and visit.

Upcoming Events

Regular Monday night meetings will continue through December at 6:30 pm in Room 111 of the West Engineering Bldg. There will be a break for the Christmas and New Year holidays. FSACC members will also be speaking at the Nov. 20 Regents meeting to remind them of our intentions to win University recognition for Nelson Mandela and support for local anti-racist issues. The latter include efforts to improve financial aid resources, minority endowment and retention: quality of campus life; and make Martin Luther King's birthday a University holiday. (2590)

WOMEN'S ISSUES

Women's Crisis Center (WCC) P.O. Box 7413 Ann Arbor, Michigan 48107 Business line: 761-9475 CRISIS LINE: 994-9100

Purpose

The purpose of the Women's Crisis Center is to help women help themselves gain control and dignity in their lives by providing nonjudgemental support, education, and resources.

WCC volunteers provide free peer counseling and crisis intervention for all women in the Washtenaw County area. We also organize educational and supportive groups, workshops, and activities.

WCC is a not-for-profit, collectively run organization made up of community women concerned with the needs of all women. Our funding is primarily from private donations. We depend on community support to be able to continue providing the services we

have been for the past 14 years. We strongly encourage all women who want to work to change society to get involved in active, empowering work with other women.

Community Services

The Crisis Line: 994-9100, operates everyday, 10 am to 10 pm. Callers are guaranteed anonymity and can talk with a peer counselor who is there to provide non-judgemental support.

Referrals: WCC offers over 500 referrals to agencies and individuals in and around Washtenaw County. WCC also sells low-cost do-it-yourself divorce kits.

December Events

(See the CALENDAR section additional meetings and events) Wed., Dec 3: First of one-night, Women's Self-Defense Workshops, 7:30 to 9:30 pm, Anderson 'D' in the Michigan Union, \$3 donation requested. Week of Dec. 14: "Celebrating Winter Solstice" workshop and ritual wil be held for women and men at Guild House (802 Monroe). Call 761-9475 or 662-5189 for time and day. All month: WCC sponsored sale of Syracuse Cultural Worker's 1987 Peace Calendar -\$7.95—They're really beautiful!!—and "Cooking for the Oral Majority" Cookbook - \$2.50. Available in many locations—coops, bookstores, and at the Women's Crisis Center.

Current News

We've had an exciting fall and are anticipating a great winter full of lots of warming activities. There is lots of news and lots that's new!

We had a hugely successful phone-athon during the week of Nov. 10. Thank you!!! to every volunteer that gave their time, offices that let us use phones, area pizza companies that donated pizza, and to each person that made a pledge of financial contributions. We raised about \$6,000 in pledges! (That's about 25% of our annual budget!) Though we called lots of giving people in the community we were unable to reach many others. If we missed you and you would like to make a contribution, please call us or send a donation. (Keep in mind that this is the last year charitable donations are tax-deductible using the short form. Next year the long form will have to be used and itemized to make deductions.)

We are working to address the need in this county for more temporary emergency housing for women and children. Interested in helping develop a network of homes? Nov. 23 was our first planning meeting. Call WCC for information on what's being planned and how to get involved.

WCC is working together with the Assault Crisis Center and U-M Sexual Assault Prevention and Awareness Center to set up a new volunteer Court Accompaniment Program. Volunteers will work with ACC counselors and sexual assault survivors who are prosecuting assailants. We need volunteers with flexible schedules (to coincide with court unpredictability). Training will begin in Jan. or early Feb. Call WCC or ACC for more information.

We are also looking at trying to start

working on making some of our dreams come true-including an Ann Arbor Women's Center. WCC is starting to look into how to get a house to establish as an Ann Arbor Women's Center for us and other feminist organizations. If you have any helpful ideas (or an extra house!) call us! Another idea is starting a women's newspaper (annual, monthly, monthly?-it all depends on volunteers, energy, and lots of work. Another idea is to provide more workshops, films, groups, and networking farther from U-M campus area. The best way to find out about us is to get active in what we're doing. Call or come by any time! (4202)

OTHER

Washtenaw County ACLU 277 E. Liberty Ann Arbor, MI 48104

Purpose

The American system of government rests on two principles. The first, widely understood and accepted, is that the majority of people, through elected representatives, govern the country. That is the democratic principle. The second, less understood and often abused, is that the power of even a democratic majority must be limited to insure individual rights.

That is the libertarian principle.

The concept of limiting the majority is part of the genius of the traditional American system, invented nearly 200 years ago. While the rest of the U.S. Constitution authorizes the government to act, the Bill of Rights sets limits. It describes what the government may not do. Even a democratically elected government is not permitted to take away from the people their inherent rights to freedom of expression, belief and association, to procedural fairness, to equal treatment before the law, to privacy.

To protect these rights, to enforce these limits on government, is the sole

purpose of the American Civil Liberties Union. Without legal guarantees of individual liberty, even American democracy can revert to acts of tyranny, to a despotism of the majority. The ACLU believes that any infraction of liberties weakens all liberties. The ACLU exists to make sure this does not happen, and to fight it when it does.

Meetings

The Washtenaw County ACLU Executive Committee generally meets on the third Sunday of the month at 7:30 pm at the First Unitarian-Universalist Church, 1917 Washtenaw Avenue, Ann Arbor. Visitors

are welcomed but should call Jean King at 662-1334 to confirm time, date and location of any particular meeting.

Public Events

Sunday, Dec. 14 public meeting celebrating the First Annual Bill of Rights Award honoring attorney Tom Downs and his work against the death penalty: "The Death Penalty in Michigan; A Horror Receding," Lawyer's Club Lounge, U of M Law School (corner of South University and State Street) 4 to 6 pm. Co-sponsored with University of Michigan Student ACLU and Michigan Coalition Against the Death Penalty. (2124)

Ypsilanti Food Co-op 312 N. River St. Ypsilanti, MI 48198 483-1520 **Purpose**

The Ypsilanti Food Co-op is a not-forprofit organization. We provide wholesome, nutritious food at the lowest possible prices. You can buy in small quantities or order in bulk. Although the co-op is set up like a store and open to the public, members and shoppers have input to choose the food items and products that are sold in the store. The co-op is based on a one member-one vote democratic system for successful management of the store.

Membership

The Ypsilanti Food Co-op can be whatever the members want it to be. The co-op serves the entire community, however membership is easily obtainable and entitles you to several benefits. Upon

membership you become part owner of the co-op, enabling you to vote on issues of concern within the co-op.

A newsletter is published monthly to keep the community informed of the happenings of the co-op. New members are always welcome. See the CALENDAR for details about the Co-op's Christmas party on Dec. 12! (1043)

CELLARS

(cont. from page 7)

Example #2: How cellar units continue without variances

In the spring of 1983 when a sewer backed up in an illegal apartment at 733 Oakland, #5, causing the tenants to become sick due to fecal and strep bacteria, the tenants complained to the city. Prior to these complaints the building was inspected and then certified by Housing Inspector Peterson. However, Mr. Peterson accordingly noted in the Inspection report: "Basement apt. not entered, Black (owner) didn't have keys." When Inspector Peterson returned to the house to inspect the cellar apartment in response to the tenants' complaint, he found two pages worth of violations, with the cellar unit being illegal under city and state codes. He noted, "This unit is to be vacated and remain vacant until it conforms to the Housing Code or gets the necessary variances."

The cellar unit at 733 Oakland was apparently illegally added at some time between 12/66 and 3/70, without the proper building, zoning, electrical, plumbing, or heating permits and had numerous violations of the minimal Housing Code.

At this point, despite Inspector Peterson's two page Housing Inspection Report (5/2/83) ordering c ompliance, Housing Supervisor William R. Yadlowsky decided not to ask for permits or zoning compliances, or to issue tickets for non-compliance, or ask for for HBA approval of variances, or for the apartment to be vacated, or to follow any normal legal procedures.

The County Health Department had also confirmed fecal and strep bacteria present in the unit. Mr. Yadlowsky sent a letter to the owner, Mr. Duane Black, on 5/16/83, giving him permission to continue renting the unit, although admitting it does not meet the code requirements. In fact, he stated he found the unit dry, although there is no record of his visiting the unit. Subsequently, on 5/31/83 the Housing Bureau granted the owner a Certificate of Occupancy and allowed him to continue to rent the unit even though this violated laws they are charged with enforcing. 833 Oakland was again recertified 10/8/85 by the Department and the unit is currently being rented.

In summary, although 833 Oakland was found to be an illegal unit, not meeting the codes, the Housing Department granted the owner a Certificate of Compliance, therefore refusing the enforce their own codes. The Housing Supervisor has no legal authority whatsoever, to grant variances of the law although our investigation shows it was a common practice. In fact, there appear to be numerous other cases in which units

continue to be rented which were granted illegal variances directly by the Housing Department, foregoing the legal process of pursuing a variance from the HBA.

Is your cellar dwelling legal?

Cellar conversions are extremely lucrative for the landlord/speculators that convert them illegally. They get high return with little investment and a significantly higher sales price when the house is sold due to the inflated income from the illegal unit. The naive new owner is often saddled with an expensive problem to correct in the cellar, with little funds to do it. The result is a vicious cycle of inflated rents and sales prices and deteriorating housing. In addition, the unwillingness of the city to enforce cellar apartment regulations allows poor quality and illegal units to continue to be rented to the detriment of the tenants.

The cellar units discussed in this article are but two examples of how and why cellar units are rented contrary to the law. There are numerous other examples all over the city similar to these. Any tenant presently living in a cellar unit can contact the City Housing Bureau (994-2678) for information regarding their unit. Although the Housing Bureau can not readily tell what units have received a legal HBA granted variance, this information is obtainable from Housing records and available to the public.

DISCRIMINATION

(cont. from page 7)

exclusively by single gay men is the landlord who refuses to rent to an individual, or who cancels a lease, because the person has AIDS (Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome), ARC (AIDS-related complex), or is sero-positive (has the antibody to the HIV in his blood). In Michigan, it is against the law to discriminate against a person with AIDS, ARC or who is sero-positive.

It is also against the law to descriminate against an individual on the basis of the "peception" of a handicap. Several housing cases in which a landlord has sought to evict a tenant with AIDS, or a landlord has sought to evict a person in contact with a person with AIDS, have been litigated outside of the state of Michigan under housing or human rights ordinances.

If you believe that your landlord has discriminated against you because of concern about AIDS, or that a landlord has refused to rent to you as a gay male out of concern about AIDS, you should file a complaint immediately with the Ann Arbor Department of Human Rights and the Michigan Department of Civil Rights. You should also contact a gay/lesbian civil rights advocacy group, such as the Michigan Organization for Human Rights

(see DISCRIMINATION, page 30)

SENIOR HOUSING

(cont. from page 7)

Carolyn Hastings, Executive Director of the Housing Bureau. "In fact, we try to get families to start thinking about future housing problems long before they become problems.

Planning ahead for senior living makes sense. Many area housing facilities for seniors have waiting lists. The length of the wait may vary from one location to another, but that doesn't help families who find that they have to make a decision for an aging parent now.

The first option that often comes to

mind is having the parent move in. This often presents many problems; more in fact than it solves. Studies indicate that it is not desirable solution convenient alternatives can be found.

'Most clients wait until there's a crisis before coming to us," observes Lapidos. 'That's really sad because people don't always make good decisions in a crisis. And for the senior involved, this is a very important decision. It should not be made

A good idea for seniors and their families is to look ahead and to shop around. There are a variety of convenient

living locations in this country. In addition to senior highrises and retirement homes, there are many private apartments and a wealth of in-home services to make independent senior living easier. In learning about senior living arrangements, adult children may even learn to provide for themselves and their own future housing needs.

Anita Perry, currently a resident at Lurie Terrace in Ann Arbor, is a good example of an adult child who first came to the Housing Bureau asking for help with her mother. "In mother's case," Perry says, "she really wasn't able to be helped very much. She had health problems that precluded many of the possible choices. Then again, she didn't really know what she wanted, which made choosing any alternative to a nursing home very difficult."

Perry found that she herself profited from the Housing Bureau, however. "They

helped me understand this process better, and after my mother's death, I decided to put myself on the waiting list at Lurie Terrace. When I moved in I was the youngest tenant!"

Perry now works as a volunteer at the Housing Bureau once a week.

DISCRIMINATION

(cont. from page 29)

(see address information below), for help and/or advice.

For gay and lesbian couples who believe that they are being discriminated against in rental housing within the city of Ann Arbor, a complaint should be filed at the City of Ann Arbor Department of Human Rights. The Department will investigate the complaint under the ordinance provision protects Ann Arbor residents from discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation. In order to make the Ann Arbor ordinance meaningful, gay men and lesbian women must be willing to report instances of discrimination. In some incidences a landlord, after a gay or lesbian couple look

at a rental property, will decide that the property was just rented that morning or that the dwelling is only open to a family rental. While discrimination based on sexual orientation, marital status or sex may be difficult to prove, advocacy groups need to document these cases as part of our case when we go to the Michigan legislature to reintroduce the state civil rights amendment for gays and lesbians. A case supporting the need for protection cannot be made in a vacuum; we need the stories happening to real life individuals. We need the stories locally, in Ann Arbor and at the University of Michigan, to enforce the protections that are already in place in the city and at the University and to lobby for changes in the city ordinance providing for more effective enforcement

proceedings.

Most Americans, regardless of race, sex, religion, or sexual orientation, want the same things: opportunities for decent work, decent housing, and a life free from the threat of harassment and assault. By passing the Human Rights Ordinance, the City of Ann Arbor decided discrimination against gay men and lesbian women has no place in our city. It is up to us to report suspected violations, and to make housing issues as they affect gays and lesbians part of the broader housing issue coalition in Ann Arbor, Civil Rights do not come easily for any group; they are struggled for and demanded. One way in Michigan to stop discrimination against gays and lesbians is to include in state laws the provision forbidding discrimination in housing, public acommodations, employment and education on the basis of sexual orientation. On the local front, stand up for you rights and vigorously pursue complaints filed with the city Human Rights Department. On the state level, contact an advocacy group for information, such as MOHR.

Michigan Organization for Human Rights (MOHR) 17520 Woodward Avenue Detroit, Michigan 48202 (313) 869-6647

City of Ann Arbor Department of **Human Rights** 994-2803

TENANTS' UNION

(cont. from page 8)

and homeowners and helps preserve buildings. For several years the Housing Inspection Bureau has been, regularly and as a matter of policy, violating the city laws it was established to enforce, as well as contradicting the intent of those laws.

Bureaucrats with deep ties to the

development and landlord industries may not like this idea, but housing code enforcement is essentially pro-tenant. The current practice of ignoring the law is clearly pro-landlord. Both positions have their supporters, but bureaucrats are paid to carry out the laws, not manipulate public power for private gain.

Chizek's use of the city's disciplinary mechanism as a means to attack inspector Ayer for whistleblowing made clear his negative position on bureaucratic reform. The comments to The Ann Arbor News served to document that negative position.

In our opinion, city council will have to remove Chizek, Donaldson, and Yadlosky for threatening to fire Ayer as punishment for Ayer doing his job as it is intended to be done instead of as political influence would have it. Threatening the loss of a job, given current (and projected) unemployment rates, can be as damaging and intimidating as threatening physical violence. This cannot be endorsed as city policy.

The city cannot solve the national housing crisis. The city, however, can end those policies which make the crisis worse locally. In examining how to do that the question is "whose town is it?" must be

AFFORDABLE

(cont. from page 9)

Many say seniors are wealthy. I guess a few must be. But a 1985 Michigan study says 57% depend on social security and 23% of Michigan seniosr live below the poverty line.

We hear from seniors who are homeless and from seniors who fear becoming homeless. One client, homeless, told us this story. In 1980 he was renting a single room for what he considered an affordable \$125 per month. By 1986 the rent had been raised to \$180, an increase of 44% in six years. When he

could not pay \$180, the owner gave him a 30-day notice. He moved into the homeless shelter in early September. He feels he can pay \$160 per month for one room. Since early August he has searched unsuccessfully for a private room to rent for that amount.

Seniors renting apartments complexes about town tell us it is increasingly hard to sign a year's lease. They say leases are short so landlords can raise the rent more often. When the Housing Bureau surveyed Ann Arbor apartments one year ago while compiling information for our Housing Guide, we found two apartment buildings (102 units)

with one bedroom apartments renting at \$300, none lower. Our older people fear that the rent will rise and they, too, will be evicted. In Michigan 15% of seniors are renters.

We have heard from Tower Plaza tenants who are now scared about housing. At first we reassured some, saying seniors were protected by law from condo conversions. We tried hard to get a copy of the regulations, which weren't easy to find. When we found them, there were so many whereases and such, we couldn't understand them, much less reassure clients. Legal Aide told us to send each senior to them-individual legal advice was

necessary. Now we hear you must be 71 or paraplegic to be eligible for an extended lease. We also learned that seniors at Tower Plaza are not necessarily wealthy. Some choose to pay over 50% of their income on rent because of the in-town, convenient location. Seniors do feel concerned and panicky about having to relocate from Tower Plaza.

I urge you to seriously identify and implement ways to keep affordable housing in our city. Most of our older adults are not wealthy, and I don't think they deserve to be run out of town. If Ann Arbor decides to make affordable housing a top priority, I know we can do it. Thank you.

DRUG TESTING

(cont. from page 18)

also encourage the exploration of inner spaceas well, despite the dangers?

Some years ago I myself made some observations on this aspect of nitrous oxide intoxicaton, and reported them in print. One conclusion was forced upon my mind at that time, and my impression of its truth has ever since remained unshaken. It is that our normal consciousness, our waking consciousness as we call it, is but one special type of consciousness, whilst all around it, parted from it by the filmiest of screens, there lie potential forms of consciousness entirely different. We may go through life without suspecting their existence; but apply the requisite

stumulus, and at a touch they are there in all their completeness, definite typed of mentality which probably somewhere have their field of application and adaptation. No account of the universe in its totality can be final which leaves these other forms of consciousness quite disregarded. How to regard them is the question--for they are so discontinuous with ordinary states of

consciousness. Yet they may determine attitudes though they cannot furnish formulas, and open a region though they fail to give a map. At any rate, they forbid a premature colosing of our accounts with reality.

William James The Varieties of Religious Experience, 1902

U. TERRACE

(cont. from page 19)

disadvantages; the main reason for choosing the UT site seems to have been a desire to retain the CPH site for future development because of its more central location. Nowhere in the report was any consideration given to the impact of the destruction of UT upon the community.

In September, in a meeting with Vice President Brinkerhoff, assurances were given that this matter would not be brought before the regents before December, at the earliest. It was noteworthy that Mr. Brinkerhoff stated, during this meeting,

that he was aware of the housing crisis, and in particular, he was aware that many students were being forced to move outside Ann Arbor and commute to classes. The response of the University was to plan the expansion of commuter parking lots. He was also aware that many working poor were being forced ouside of the city; this was an especially grave concern, for the University was having a hard time recruiting clerical and maintenance staff. This, he said, was the reason that the University was encouraging the use of car pooling and, ultimately, planning additional parking facilities. In any case, residents assumed that there would

be time to discuss the UT issue, and accordingly, planned to present their case before the regents during the public comments session on November 20.

Residents have decided to revive the University Terrace Solidarity Committee. Building captains and stairwell captains were appointed so that all residents could be quickly mobilized to respond to any eventuality, and individual residents volunteered to 'adopt' a regent prior to the Nov.20 meeting. Residents are going ahead with plans to present their case before the regents at this time.

Tearing down U. Terrace to build a parking structure which is not really needed

when there are alternative sites available is bad enough. To do so during a housing crisis is an act of social contempt that staggers the imagination. Such an act by University planners would have been utterly unthinkable a few years ago; that it is possible today reflects badly, not only upon the University administration, but also upon students and other members of the University community for having allowed apathy to grow to the point where such abuses were possible. It may be too late to save UT, but residents are determined to make sure that University official will never again dare to treat the needs of the community in such an off-handed way.

Rev. Virginia Peacock (cont. from page 5)

this desire is shared, despite the presence of some who are embittered, even by many who were among the more

privileged prior to the revolution of 1979.

Despite some fear that we might hear only one version of the truth, I was encouraged to find that we were encouraged by officials to talk with anyone we wanted. Thus, it was possible to talk with some who are dissatisfied, disgruntled, unhappy with the state of things in their land. Such people did not seem to fear talking with us. The reality seems to be what the government apparently is confident of, that the continuing revolutionary process has the support of the majority of the people. Wherever this continuing process leads-and there is strong determination that it will continue despite contra tactics of attempting to instill fear among the poorest of the people and to demoralize the spirit of the vision of the new Nicaragua—what we heard over and over again, from people holding a variety of opinions, was the expression of the desire for Nicaraguan self-determination without U.S. interference.

3. My story is not really a story as much as it is an impression gained during a visit to a Christian base community in Juigalpa. These people were shy among us. A woman emerged as their spokesperson. That she was poor showed. She had teeth missing. Yet, she spoke with assurance. She was a woman empowered, even though she had experienced opposition to who she was and what she was about from her bishop (Vega). I was impressed by

her courage, her lack of fear.

My experience of this woman stands somewhat in contrast to an experience I had had the evening before which involved the deferment of three women, one, my hostess, a woman of about fifty, very active in her neighborhood, her sister, probably in her thirties, and an older, grandmother-aged woman, who sat in a rocker with a child on her lap, to a man, who clearly had been drinking, and who was trying to impress my Ann Arbor companion and me with his intelligence and knowledge. I had the feeling that the three women probably could run circles around this man under any circumstances.

What I brought home with me about the women of Nicaragua (illustrated in these two experiences together—the one of the poor woman who had had the courage to stand up to the authority of her male bishop, and the other of the three women deferring to the self-important man) is both a distinct impression of the role that empowered women have played and might continue to play in what is going on today in Nicaragua, and a fear that in the course of things this will be lost and it's authority undercut (either through culturally conditioned deferment or through a perceived necessity); especially under the pressures of a war and the strong desire to get on with a task in spite of it. If that does happen, if the importance of the role of the women is lost and their authority lost, there will be something of a betrayal of the vision of a revolution.

Jim Ringold

1. The Reagan administration's continuation of America's immoral policy of terrorism aimed at civilian populations in Central America has concerned me for some time. As a person of conscience I cannot sit idly by and see my government and my country's tax dollars used to promote the rape, torture and murder of my fellow human beings. For this reason I was attracted to the

Proposal A campaign from the beginning. I have been impressed by the wisdom of the task force and by the wisdom of the voters in Ann Arbor for condemning current U.S. policy in Central America and supporting aid to the people of Nicaragua rather than to mercenary terrorists.

I have been doing door to door work for SANE for a year and a half; thus I have discussed some of the issues of the day with over I2,000 people. Though I am more informed about some U.S. policies than most Americans, this isn't saying much. My knowledge of U.S. policy in Central America, for instance, was fairly intellectualized. By joining the sister city delegation I sought to get more of a feeling for the real problems facing Nicaragua so that I could be more effective both in communicating this to the public and in training others in door to door work. In addition, the sister city delegation offered the opportunity to investigate the needs of Juigalpa, to form initial sister city ties, to bring material aid and to have virtually unfettered access to government officials, opposition figures and the people of Nicaragua.

The karma of U.S. will return to us. Let us choose

sister cities rather imperialist subjugation.

2. I was aware of the history of U.S. military occupations of the area. I knew that my country had invaded Central America over 50 times, and that some military occupations of Nicaragua had lasted 20 years. I was aware that the U.S. had, among other things, installed several members of the Somoza family following marine invasions. And I was aware that Anastasio D. Somoza had been among the most oppressive of dictators as well as the wealthiest individuals in the world (due to graft).

I supported the popular Sandinista revolution, but I was careful not to "idealize the Sandinistas." I did not want to be accused of following the same path of Russian revolution sympathizers who were seemingly blind to Stalin's abuses. I was prepared to understand the complexities of the situation rather to be a "Sandinista ho"

sort of person.

After extensive talks with a wide range of ordinary Nicaraguans, government officials, opposition forces, and the U.S. embassy, I now find myself firmly in support of the Sandinista party and the popular Sandinista army as well as the revolution. Though I personally aspire to nonviolence, I can understand how ironic this suggestion would be coming from an American.

Two of the major objections to the FSLN raised by the Reagan disadministration is their supposed oppression of the press and church. We saw the closed CIA funded newspaper "La Prensa" and I am satisfied that the closing of an enemy government's mouthpiece during wartime certainly does not exceed U.S. actions such as the internment of Japanese citizens during WWII. In the case of La Prensa, which was a good newspaper until its leader was assasinated and until 85% of its staff joined Nueva Diario, I find the mere closing merciful. As for the alleged oppression of the church and the much used example of Vega, I was again most unimpressed by the evidence. We visited Vega's church, which is in Juigalpa and spoke to members of his ex-congregation, which is now a Christian base community. It is clear that the Nicaraguan government's refusal to allow Vega to return from Honduras (he was not expelled) was based on the matter of treason rather than the matter of religion. He openly supported Contra aid and American sponsored invasion abroad, chastised his congregation for revolutionary activities and used his position in the religious hierarchy to support a return to the Somoza way of life. Under the new draft of the constitution, which is quite explicit about religious freedom, Vega would simply lose his Nicaraguan

citizenship for such collaboration with those who sought to reimpose the colonialist yoke.

All in all, I find my supoport for the Nicaraguan people and my commitment to ending the war strengthened and at a much less intellectual level. I am convinced that if most Americans could see a warehouse of coffins they

wouldn't support Contra aid.

3. The family that I stayed with in Juigalpa was absolutely wonderful. I was amazed in general that the Nicaraguan people could forgive the atrocities of my country and welcome me in peace and friendship. I was the only delegate to stay alone, and I don't speak a word of Spanish. This presented no problems. I stayed above a resturaunt/bar with the Sandinista defense and health coordinator for the area of Juigalpa we were in. Though they were quite poor, they were loving and gracious and offered me everything they had. I was to sleep in the biggest bed, to refuse would be an insult. Though there was no running water they would have filled a barrel for my shower by the time I woke up.

After saying "good morning" to a cold bucket of water I would drift downstairs to find a full breakfast of eggs, beans, rice, tomatoes, cheese, tortillas and coffee awaiting me. A daughter would have found my shirt from yesterday and washed it (despite the revolution, the Nicaraguans are Latin in their attitudes towards women, they didn't know what to do when I made my bed). The whole family and I, from grandpa to grandson, would play guitar and sing. When I returned at night I was encouraged that even if I spoke no Spanish, beer would loosen my tongue. I plan to correspond with my sister family at my

sister house in my sister city.

Clearly the Nicaraguan people dance and sing and love each other like people all over the world. They also pick up carbines and defend their revolution. My sisters and brothers in Juigalpa and I want to relax with each other and drink a cerveza, we don't want to kill each other for the interests of multinational corporations.

Alan Wald

1. As a citizen of Ann Arbor, I went to Juigalpa to implement Proposition "A" to the best of my ability. As a teacher and scholar, I went to examine the effects of the revolution on culture and education. As a socialist political activist, I went to study the revolutionary process.

2. While news coverage of the Nicaraguan Revolution in the popular press has been profoundly innacurate (not only in detail, but in the formulation of issues and in categories used in analysis), I found that left-wing papers and journals such as The Guardian, In These Times, and Monthly Review have been providing fair representation of the complex situation. Since I was already aware of many of the difficulties and contradictions of the revolutionary process, I was surprised mainly by the honesty, openness, and self-critical spirit with which members of the FSLN, Sandinista Defense Committees, and other mass organizations were confronting these dilemmas.

3. The people as a whole were impressive. Plagued with immense poverty, and faced with U.S.-backed counter-revolutionaries massing on their borders, most that we encountered acted with a dignity, seriousness, and sense of self-empowerment that has been engendered by the revolutionary process. Although much of the population was armed, there was no arrogant swaggering such as we often see in the armed forces of the U.S. Most impressive of all were the young militants of the FSLN, pledged to reconstruct their society along

humanitarian lines.

S. AFRICA (cont. from page 11)

workers should tell us something about the depth of the corporation's concern for not only workers 10,000 miles

away but those right here in Michigan as well.

Nevertheless, despite companies' less than admirable

reasons for pulling out of South Africa, the gesture is not meaningless. It indicates that the political situation in South Africa is ripe for fundamental social change. The people of South Africa have determined that there will no longer be business as usual in that country until Apartheid is abolished and economic and social justice are realized. Their courage and resolve is what really deserves our

applause. And it is that courage and resolve which should continue to inspire those of us in the American solidarity movement to keep up the pressures and to keep the issue alive until the fascist system of Apartheid is, in fact, dead and buried.

of first-hand experience in a country undergoing a revolution has drawn other family members into the group.

In the DeBroux family, 3 out of the 4 brothers are driving taxis in Ann Arbor to make enough money to go to Nicarauga in January. In electrician Don Oswell's family, he has stimulated discussion about Nicaragua and even suggested to his children that they accompany him on his trip to Nicaragua. Don, in his mid-40's, has watched groups like AMISTAD with admiration for years and has finally found a way that he could become involved.

"In the 60s, I saw groups like this going to Cuba, and at that point and time in my life I believed that Cuba was not a threat. I thought those people were very courageous," says Don. "I began to sense that the U.S. response to the Nicaraguan revolution was similar that it was an attempt to

maintain control over disadvantaged people in other countries. I saw (AMISTAD) as a creative response to the destruction being done by the contras . . . Building is the thing that I do best in my life, so it's the best contribution I can make."

Don and others in the group have recently been consumed by the gathering of tools and materials to send off to Nicaragua before the group arrives in January. Several tons of equipment, for the most part not available in Nicaragua due to the economic war being waged by the U.S., has been purchased and collected from donors in the

In the six weeks still to go before they set off for Managua, brigadistas will be attempting to add an additional \$10,000 to the \$20,000 they have already

raised, to cover additional tool purchases. AMISTAD's work will also continue beyond January. Throughout the projected six months of construction, additional brigadistas will arrive in Nicaragua and others will return to join a support group in Ann Arbor to continue fundraising. A film about the construction brigade is already in the works and will be used for educational and organizing purposes after the work in Nicaragua is completed.

A send off party for the first wave of brigadistas will be held December 19. Information can be obtained at the AMISTAD/HAP-NICA office.

The AMISTAD Construction Brigade is still in need of financial and organizational support. Contact AMISTAD/Guild House, at 802 Monroe, Ann Arbor MI, 48104 or 761-7960. See CRD.

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