The Public i: A Project of the UCIMC

The Urbana-Champaign Independent Media Center (UCIMC) is a grassroots collective whose mission is to provide forums across all media types for community members to voice ideas, issues, and opinions which are underrepresented in the mainstream media. We are part of a global network of over one hundred IMCs on six continents dedicated to creating news, independent of corporate or government control. We will empower people to “become the media” by providing tools, training, and support needed for the production and distribution of independently produced information.

A Message from The Public i Team

We hope you enjoy this edition of the Public i, an independent newspaper that is produced entirely by volunteers. The paper is supported by sustainers and accepts no advertising. We edit the paper by consensus and though we thoroughly believe in the process, it can also be quite cumbersome. It involves a lot of discussion, much passing of information back and forth, endless chasing down final versions, and attending to details over and over again.

Producing a paper in this way is a demanding job and we need help. Whatever the paper is going to be in the future rests in the hands of those from the community who are willing to step forward to produce it. Because of the transitory nature of the community we live in – some of our key players have moved or are moving on – We need experienced writers, and novices too. We need Mac Quark layout help. We need distributors. We need a photographer. We need artists. We need contributors who can come to weekly meetings. We need proofreaders. We need a poetry coordinator. We need your monetary support. We aren’t kidding.

We are collecting submissions now for future issues. We want as many different forms of electronic media as possible. We would like a future issue to focus on Crime and Punishment. Here are just a few of the submission possibilities: Writings from prisoners. Your own personal reflection on crimes of your past. The death penalty. Guns and gun control. Book or movie recommendations. In-depth look at the State’s Attorney office. Cost of local parking tickets. Enron and corporate crooks. C & P at an intersection. Another future issue is planned around religion.

First draft deadline for the August issue (no theme) is Thursday, July 17. First drafts for the Crime and Punishment issue are due Monday, August 1.

Determination of future issues depends on who responds directly to this request. You can email us at imc-print@ucimc.org or come to a meeting. Our weekly meetings take place Thursdays 5:15-6:30pm at the UCIMC 218 W. Main, Urbana IL. We will take a few weeks off and start meeting again on Thursday, July 11. Looking forward to a hearty response.

Sustaining Contributors

The Public i wishes to express its deep appreciation to the following sustaining contributors for their financial and material support:

- World Harvest International and Gourmet Foods
  556 E. University, Champaign
- The AFL-CIO of Champaign County
- The Union of Professional Employees (UPE)
- The Natural Gourmet
  2225 S. Neil, Champaign; 355-6365
- United Car Center: Quality Cars, Wholesale Prices
  606 E. University, Champaign; 352-7870
- The Social Equity Group, Financial West
  Socially Responsible Investing
- Illini Quality Used Auto Sales
  318 W. University, Urbana; 367-5044
- That’s Rentertainment
  516 E. John, Champaign; 384-0977
- Caffe Paradiso
  801 S. Lincoln, Urbana; 384-6066
- Staff of GJ Technologies
  www.gjtech.com
- National Fish Therapeutic Massage
  113 N. Race, Urbana, 239-3400

Government control. We will empower people to “become the media” by providing tools, training, and support needed for the production and distribution of independently produced information.

Get Involved with the Public i

You don’t need a degree in journalism to be a citizen journalist. We are all experts in something, and we have the ability to share our information and knowledge with others. The Public i is always looking for writers and story ideas. We invite you to submit ideas or proposals during our weekly meetings (Thursdays at 5:30pm at the UCIMC), to post a story to the web site (http://www.ucimc.org), or to contact one of the editors.

- Become a citizen journalist; write a news story or opinion piece.
- Make a tax-deductible contribution.
- Help distribute the Public i around the Champaign-Urbana area.
- Help with fund-raisers.
- Join the editorial board.

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Food Democracy

by Mary Gambol

Originally from the south side of Chicago, Mary Gambol has spent 8 of the 10 years in the CU area. Envisioning her most prominent role in education, she actively chose to make education her profession finding the largest source of hope for the future of the “real” people. Things like education are considered as “opportunized, healthy, smart loving” (and rarely, she is most proud of recalling the 3 days, bringing them home, and giving them a family”. When asked to imagine herself in 5-10 years she responds, “I try not to plan that far into the future because I don’t want to get stuck on one path. Today, in an era of globalization, the movement and trade of food has intensified tremendously. People, products, and ideas cross national borders with increasing quantity and speed. It becomes live, work, and raise families in countries different than their home-land. When immigrants’ geographic ties to their country are severed, they often retain their national identity by continuing to use their native language and foods.

Through food exports and imports, globalization helps some immigrants to retain their national identity. But this is only part of the story—globalization affects people very differently across the developing world, people have depended on local foods to meet their nutritional and cultural needs. Local foods are fresh, inexpensive, easy to obtain, and represent hundreds, sometimes thousands of years of national or cultural heritage.

“EXPORT FIRST” – THE GLOBAL MARKET

Globalization and its most powerful component (the global market, transnational corporations, and bioengineering promoters) present a major threat to what Vandana Shiva terms food democracy. In the recent past, the “equitable distribution and access to safe, culturally appropriate food.” As the global market grows uncontrollably, some nations look to global food interests over national or local food interests. This is not always by choice. Countries that receive money from the World Bank must follow World Bank developmental policies. Currently, the World Bank is well on its way to developing countries to shift from “food first” to “export first” policies.

The “export first” policy is based on the premise of guaranteeing food security by feeding its feed. What the World Bank believes that food security doesn’t depend on self-sufficiency, but rather in international trade. Local food production is simply incompromisable to most farmers around the world. Saving seeds and trading seeds with others is an integral part of the farming culture. This time-honored tradition is now illegal under patent laws. If farmers happen to develop and trade seeds that have been patented by corporations.

Claiming that their seed patents were being violated, Monsanto has taken direct actions against farmers. In 1987, Monsanto sued the Winterbrothers, a family who sold their soybean crops to other farmers as seed. Since the original seed from which the soybeans were grown was patented to Monsanto, a judge ruled in Monsanto’s favor. In 1998, Monsanto hired private detectives to investigate farmers illegally growing genetically engineered soybeans, which were then being sold for years before Monsanto had patented. Seed-saving farmers in Kentucky, Iowa, and Illinois were forced to pay fines up to $35,000 each.

As the movement of intellectual property rights continues to gain momentum, farmers are losing control of their crops. In an effort of farmer of over fifty years. Monsanto is using its property (genetically engineered patented). Schmeiser, an organic farmer, is one of the few who have not been genetically modified corn from the Monsanto fields nearby. Recently, the Supreme Court of Canada agreed to hear Schmeiser’s appeal of a pro-Monsanto ruling in a lower court.

“FEED THE WORLD” – BIOENGINEERING’S PROMISE

There are many terms used to refer to biotechnology and its products: bioengineering, genetic engineering, genetically modified organisms (GMOs) or transgenics. Choose to call it what you wish. Monsanto has, for the last 10 years, used to refer to genetic engineering and its products to markets and people), and unfair global trading policies represent no use for farmers who can’t afford even traditional Western farming techniques (like fertilizer and machinery). The large amount of pesticides, herbicides, and petroleum that monocrocs (genetically engineered or not) are simply not available to most of the world’s farmers. In the end, biotechnology is engineering and wonder, the crop contact processing to come first, rather than the local ecology, nutritional needs, or cultural tastes of poor people.

“CONTROL” – THE REAL BIOENGINEERING AGENDA

Let us see a closer look at what bioengineering is and what some unstated goals and possible consequences are. All living organisms have genes, which are specific sequences that convey sub-cellular and cellular level instructions. Selecting and moving a gene can transfer certain characteristics. In a laboratory setting, genetic engineering involves changing the genetic makeup of an organism across species to produce, hopefully, the desired characteristics. Bacteria and viruses are inserted into corn and soybean genotypes to make them resistant to pests. Fish that have been inserted into tomatoes so that tomatoes have a longer shelf life.

Unfortunately, bioengineering has led to more corporate control and fewer profits. For example, Monsanto is the Roundup Ready Soybean. This soybean is designed to be resistant to Roundup herbicide, a chemical that is highly toxic to plants and fish but not to people or other mammals. Monsanto developed a crop resistant to an herbicide that it manufactures, so sales of the seed inevitably lead to sales of the product. This matching of seeds to specific chemical uses is the same logic used by the chemical industry to promote and sell pesticides. These pesticides are used to control weeds and other pests that compete with crops, thus increasing the demand for more pesticides. It is clear that is profits, not people, are Monsanto’s main concern!

GENE TRANSFER

Perhaps the biggest threat to food is not at our tables but in the fields through potential of gene transfer. Wind and insects are natural carriers of pollen. Studies have demonstrated that wind could easily carry pollen from genetically engineered plants. University of Nebraska researchers have demonstrated that an estimated 10% of all fields carrying genetically engineered crops.

A particular side effect of genetic engineering involves the consumption of genetically modified foods that unintentionally incorporate non-native allergens into a food product. A study from the University of Nebraska revealed that ingestion of genetically engineered soybeans containing Brazil-nut gene reactions induced allergies in both Brazil and soybean-fed rats. A gene spliced into a living organism (e.g., soybeans) changes the growing plant to produce an allergen or toxin which may remain intact after the plant is harvested and undergoes processing. The allergen or toxin may cause harm to a human or other living creature which ingests it.

(continued on Page 8)
Kraft and Genetically Engineered Foods

Sam Packard

Genetically engineered foods come from plants that have their genetic makeup altered in order to achieve new characteristics, such as producing pesticides, resistance to chemicals, or simply adding nutrition and increasing yield. The crops are simple enough, but the issue is getting more and more controversial while genetically engineered foods become more and more prevalent and increasingly difficult to avoid. While we live in a pretty decent town, serving as a home to the Common Ground Food Co-op, Strawberry Fields, World Harvest, and various other sources of organic and international foods, we are also home to the largest Kraft Foods plant in the country (see sidebar), a company which is not only the most prominent supplier of foods here in America, estimated to have its products found in 99% of American households, but the largest supplier of GE foods worldwide. The fact is, unless your cupboards are completely bare of brand name foods, you’re probably hosting one kind of GE food or another. Some go so far as to say you’re participating in the biggest biological experiment in history. 

"Wait, hold on one minute here," says the American consumer, “that’s one hell of a claim to be making. What exactly do these people mean, and why haven’t we heard about it yet?" Well, generally speaking, the only time a big uproar about corporate practices hits the American mainstream is when they are taking part in some sort of public relations event, oozing with human rights and political conflicts of interest. A good percentage of the American public doesn’t have a lot of faith in major companies such as Gerber, McDonalds, and Kellogg proclaiming themselves GE free. Kraft has repeatedly refused to reveal its position on this topic. Which, to some extent, some would see as reasonable, right? If there are benefits to be reaped from the development of these foods without affecting the effects to the American consumer and to the environment, and it is in their economic interest, who could blame them? This is not the case, though, claims Kate Matlag, a member of the Illinois Public Research Interest Group, and a part of the GE Food Alert Campaign, a coalition of organizations working to raise public awareness on the issue, and engage Kraft in dialogue about it. They say that companies that have been experimenting and producing GE foods, such as Monsanto and Gerber, have seen no related financial difficulties. In fact, many of them have increased their profits. So it is clear that many of the characteristics that are being developed in foods using this method can be, and have been, achieved using conventional methods. When I asked Kate what her motivations could be for continuing with these programs, she responded, "I’m baffled." As alarming as this may be, Kate also tells me that Kraft seems to have started responding to pressure. During the early development of the campaign, the coalition formed a group of Kraft foods, and found GE corn in many of them. Last October, they tested products again, and found many of them without the GE corn. This points to Kraft phasing these ingredients out, but they have yet to see a conclusive indication, she says. In Europe, the determining factor for many of the crops is consumer pressure and activism, and there has been some activism here in the US as well. Although 60 events that have been held across the country since last year of consumer advocates from 150 cities converged in New Jersey for a week of education and demonstrations. If progress were to be seen, we would have to see an increase in participation, not only from political and environmental activists, but also from consumers, farmers, and everyone who has been affected by this issue. In fact, there has already been quite a diverse crowd involved. "Our activities are led by mothers," says Kate, "by farmers who don’t want their crops contaminated, by students, and by employees who don’t want to work for a company who is irresponsible in their use of genetically engineered foods. We need a mainstream campaign, this affects everyone."

YOUR POSITION:

Hold the Pepperoni

by Ricky Baldwin

Striking meatpackers at Tyson Foods have called for a boycott of the company. Tyson-made pizza toppings – particularly at Tyson’s biggest pepperoni customers, Pizza Hut and KRAFT FOODS, makers of DiGiorno, are best known for its chicken processing, is muscling into bean and pork, which led it to purchase Fresh Mark (formerly Iowa Beef Processors) in 2001. The pepperoni plant that’s on strike, in Jefferson, didn’t have a really big cutting edge on food. 

Kraft Foods is the largest food company in the world. The plant in Champaign, at the center of Mabton and Bradley Avenues, is their largest in the country (1.6 million square feet). It is also the largest industry in Champaign-Urbana and the largest employer (1,300 people), after the University and Carle Clinic and hospital. Look at a map of the country and you’ll see the area of the food industry in Illinois is a result of an agreement made in 1987 that established this as a self-contained and independent entity, outside the city limits, accountable to its own special rules and concerns concerning such things as building inspections, security, and refuse. According to the City planning department Kraft makes payments for fees and services that are equivalent to property taxes. But one wonders, who is the mayor of Kraft? 

Some go so far as to say you’re participating in the biggest biological experiment in history. If you want to protest Kraft’s role in the game, I’m behind you. For the time being, this situation is a mess, and greater responsibility needs to be seen on behalf of the FDA and companies like Kraft to recognize that GE foods are not the same as conventional foods, and should require proper testing and labeling. You can find contact information for Kraft’s major players and a plethora of information on Kraft’s involvement at www.krafty.org, and at the GE Food Alert Campaign (www.gefca.com). There are numerous other organizations active right now, and there is so much information available online, it’s a shame not to hop on a search engine and educate yourself.
June-July 2003

THE BIGGER PICTURE

Community Supported Agriculture is a system in which consumers receive food directly from the farmers who produce it. But unlike a farmers market system, supporters of community agriculture actually share in part of the farmers' risk. That is, they pay in advance for a portion of the farmers' total crop. Crops that do well will be abundant in the share, crops that do less well will be less abundant. For their part, the farmers have a stable income that doesn't depend on sunny weather on farmers market days.

Why would anyone support CSA farmers when they could just as easily go to the supermarket or pick what they wanted from a farmers market stand?

CSA members receive their produce at prices that are slightly cheaper than at the farmers market.

CSA members' food is typically produced via sustainable organic methods. Unlike typical monocrop production systems, CSA members' crops are produced as part of a larger, organic cropping system that relies on crop rotations and other natural methods to control weeds and pests. While CSA members might like mizuna lettuce in their shares each week, they accept that a variety of greens and crops are necessary to help their farmers maintain an organic system. They know that the maintenance of this system is essential to their having favorites like mizuna lettuce for years to come.

Unlike conventional agricultural production, an organic CSA production system isn't based upon the degradation of natural resources. CSA members' food is produced without harming our water supplies with pesticides and silt, and without contributing to pollutants that result from transporting food cross-country. CSA supporters have a say not only in how their food is produced but also with regard to the environment, but with regard to society. They can mandate that farmworkers earn fair wages and have good working conditions. Too much organic produce in our country is produced by farmworkers who earn substandard wages. Paying nonliving wages to workers ultimately hurts the economy. They can mandate that farmworkers earn fair wages and have good working conditions. Too much organic produce in our country is produced by farmworkers who earn substandard wages. Paying nonliving wages to workers ultimately hurts the economy.

Gourmet Feast of the Senses
by Dorothy Martinez

I feel enriched when I have to miss the Farmer's Market in Lincoln Square on Saturday mornings. There's just something very appealing about open-air markets, this one especially so because of its incredible variety. There is everything from produce, baked goods, meats and poultry to arts and crafts, information about various community groups and services, and live music and theater. You could call it an informal community social event. I like to sample the baked goods (I call it breakfast) while I shop. You'll find fresh produce, herbs, cut flowers, potted plants, bedding plants, and hydroponically-grown crops. The very best of fresh, local produce, much of it grown without pesticides and herbicides is available here. The types of produce tend naturally to vary with the seasons. Strawberries and asparagus are plentiful now, and apples and butternut squash will appear in the fall. One doesn't usually associate meat with farmer's markets, and while I don't eat a lot of meat and poultry, when I do, this is my favorite place to buy. There are two meat and poultry stands at the farmer's market. Moore Produce and More, and Maple Lane Pork Farm. Jim and Diann Moore sell hormone and antibiotic-free, pasture-fed lamb, goat, pork and beef, and free-range poultry. Maple Lane sells a variety of items including smoked and cured meats, and uses antibiotics sparingly and only when necessary.

More information about both of these family-owned operations is available here: http://co-op.champaign.il.us/flip/local-food/meat.html
Wrap Your Peace Sign in the Red White & Blue When Spending Your Green

by Joan Cole

"every day, millions of Americans pledge allegiance to the flag, sing America the Beautiful" and "this land is your land," and memorize the words on the Statue of Liberty without knowing the names of their authors, their political inspiration or the historical context in which they were written. ... Most Americans are unaware of our patriotic culture - including many of the leading icons and symbols of American identity, among them artists and writers of decided left-leaning and even socialist sympathies." (Patriotism's Secret History by Peter Dreier & Dick Flacks. The Nation, May 16, 2002)

On March 19, Adbusters, the culture jamming activist network, publishers of the magazine of the same name and known for such campaigns as Buy Nothing Day and the Corporate America Flag, launched "Boycott Brand America" as an action to protest the impending war on Iraq. Yes, it is correct to blame the transnational corporations' domination of our government for their involvement in that war. And yes, avoiding McDonalds, Philip Morris, Texaco, Wal-M art, Peps, Coca-Cola, Gap and the like is a commendable action. But does the slogan "Boycott Brand America" only reinforce the autonomy of the wealthy few and their desire to instead disassociate the transnationals and use patriotic iconography to conceal how they are destroying community and enslaving us in a regime of taxation without representing traitors? Wouldn't it be a more effective "culture jam" than "Boycott Brand America" if McDonalds, Philip Morris, Texaco, Wal-M art and Halliburton were forced to remove cane sugar from their products, to remove Taylor's, T exaco, Toberman's and the like from their corporate logos, and to put "shame on their game" posters in their windows?

Today, as McDonalds, Philip Morris, Texaco, Wal-M art and Halliburton are increasing their number of employees in the oil field, they are removing people of color from their ranks. As McDonalds, Philip Morris, Texaco, Wal-M art and Halliburton increase their profits, they are increasing the number of people of color in their ranks. If we had a boycott that included not just "shame on their game" posters in their windows, but boycotts of those who have too much; it is whether we provide enough for those who have too little."

That's the cause of Boston is the cause of us all. At the birth of this nation, the patriotic side of the struggle was the side struggling against being nothing more than a profit center for a multinational corporation. Nearly 200 years after its founding in 1600, the East India Company had grown massive and worldwide. But its debt-financed growth brought it to the brink of bankruptcy. Its stockholders, who just happened to be most of the members of the British government, including the King, passed a series of laws granting it monopoly and exempting it from taxes. Colonists had been protesting with nonimportation (a refusal to use imported English goods) since the Stamp and Currency Acts of 1764, but this particular attack on the New England-based tea wholesalers and small tea houses led to one of the most famous acts of civil disobedience in American history. On the evening of December 16, 1773, members of the Sons of Liberty dressed up as Indians and tossed overboard 90,000 pounds of tea from the first tax-free shipment. A popular pamphlet of the time, The Alarm, written by "Rusticus" asked: "Are we in like manner to be given up to the Disposal of the East India Company, who have now the Assurance, to stand by in Aid of the Ministry, to execute his Plan, of enslaving America?" Their Conduct in Asia, for some Yeares past, has given simple Proof, how little they regard the Laws of Nations, the Rights, and the new Pacts of Nature, the Redress of all the Grievances, which the British governor and his Servants have done, will make it easier for us to face the future. As a proponent of patriotic symbols and the "patriotic" culture of the American Revolution, the contemporary American conservative is forced to accept the symbols of the Founding as he does the American Revolution as a "white man's war".

"The Provincial Deputies of North Carolina having resolved not to drink any more tea, nor wear any more British cloth, &c many ladies of this Province have determined to give a memorable proof of their patriotism, and with accordantly entered into the following honourable and spirited association, I send to you, to shew your fair country-women, how zealously and faithfully American ladies follow the laudable example of their husbands, and what gratitude they expect to receive from a people thus firmly united against them."

This is just a single story from a long history of the unfinished struggle for independence in this country. As a progressive, I think it's important to embrace patriotic symbols and remind people what the 'flag' stands is supposed to stand for. Do not acquiesce to the idea that the flag stands for McDonalds and Wal-M art and Halliburton. We need to hold America to her promise of fairness, freedom, equality, freedom and justice.

Franklin Delano Roosevelt said: "These economic royalists complain that we seek to overthrow the institutions of America... What they really complain of is that we seek to take away their power. Our allegiance to American institutions requires the overthrow of these institutions... they seek to hide behind the flag and the Constitution. In their blindness they forget what the flag and the Constitution stand for."

LIFESTYLE CHOICES

By Joan Cole

* Pay attention to where you spend your money. Spend less in the transnational corporation ruled economy; spend more in your local economy, with locally owned independent businesses and cooperatives.
* Use less energy.
* Buy more food locally from farmers and local processors. Grow some of your own food.
* Drive less, walk, bike, use public transportation more.
* Never borrow money for consumer purchases or entertainment, pay cash or don't buy.
* You are not your wardrobe.
* Waste not want not. Avoid buying new stuff whenever possible. Patronize the aftermarket - buy used, bargain, garage sales, etc.
* Don't let the perfect become the enemy of the good. Do what you can, with what you have, where you are.

found that: "For every $100 in consumer spending at Borders, the total local economic impact is only $13. The same amount spent with a local merchant yields more than three times the local economic impact. Local merchants spend a much larger portion of total revenue on local labor to run the enterprise and sell the merchandise. They keep their profits in the local economy, rather than immediately shipping it out to absentee shareholders. As Michael Shuman notes in his book Going Local, "A community in which money flows out quickly and never returns slowly bleeds to death."

The first step is to show people that they really can make decisions for themselves about production, work, technologies, food and lifestyle. The mental habit of self-reliance is supported via community self-reliance, which boils down to producing locally for local needs, being businesses locally and recycling finance locally. All across the country, small businesses and farmers have been abandoned at every level from city councils and chambers of commerce to state and federal legislatures. They are fighting back by affiliating in local and national networks, co-operatives and alliances.Typical Independent Business Alliance schemes involve consumer education efforts; directories of local businesses, decals in participating business windows, and even discount cards for consumer members of the alliance.

Every effort makes a difference. Don't let the perfect become the enemy of the good. Do what you can, with what you have, where you are. And let's do it all with a "peace" and a "flag" sticker in our window.

Joan Cole is a stay-at-home mother who was radicalized by the entry of her son into this world. She got active with the Prairie Greens of East Central Illinois during the Nader 2000 campaign, and is also involved in primary caregiver rights issues at a national level. In her previous life, she worked in IT. Joan says, "I know that I am 'just an egg' in the endeavor of living more sustainably, and I know there are people in this community who have been at this much longer than I have. I would like to see a group get together and begin working on economic democracy projects, such as a local business directory. If you would be interested in getting involved with this, get in touch with me and we'll get something started."

Joan can be reached at jscole@advancenet.net.

THE CAUSE OF BOSTON, WHOSE CAUSE IS THE CAUSE OF US ALL!

As we enter the 21st century, the spirit of Boston is alive in the struggle for a more just and equitable world. The first step is to show that people really can make decisions for themselves about production, work, technologies, food and lifestyles. The mental habit of self-reliance is supported via community self-reliance, which boils down to producing locally for local needs, being businesses locally and recycling finance locally. All across the country, small businesses and farmers have been abandoned at every level from city councils and chambers of commerce to state and federal legislatures. They are fighting back by affiliating in local and national networks, co-operatives and alliances. Typical Independent Business Alliance schemes involve consumer education efforts; directories of local businesses, decals in participating business windows, and even discount cards for consumer members of the alliance.

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SOME SOURCES:


Livable City - Quality of Life for all of Austin http://livablecity.com/ (source of the study on Borders bookstore).
Local Grocery Shopping

Sandra Ahten

Grocying presents a real quandary for those wanting to "shop local." In a time gone by the "homemaker" allowed much of her (or his) work to include time for food including growing our own, meal planning, shopping, and preparation. Today it feels like an indulgence to allow time in our schedule for this kind of work. Or, if not an indulgence, it may seem like an impossibility because of time constraints. I go through periods where it feels like my busy lifestyle dictates that I buy my groceries in a one-stop-shopping mode.

As a practical matter we also have to consider the economic impact of shopping at locally owned stores, which are smaller and don't have the "buying power" of the chains. It may be better for the community's economics. But is it more economical on my bottom line?

My strategy for shopping is to try my best to shop with integrity, but how do I feel about it? When I live my life with integrity, when my values match my actions, I find that I can be fully alive. I have to shut down, I have more energy. This extra energy actually allows me to have more time in my life. And we all know that "time means money." So I can be richer for shopping locally too.

I believe all of that and still I have to find ways to make practical application of shopping locally. First let me say that I don't always do this myself. I buy at the discount stores, including Cub Foods and Sav-a-Lot, in four states. The discount stores, I think, are a privately held corporation with more than 100 stores primarily in Wisconsin. While not local (their corporate offices are in Appleton, Wisconsin) – at least it is helping the tax base of Urbana, which is near my work. I keep a couple of the larger chains in the back of my mind in case there are times when it feels like my busy lifestyle dictates that I buy my groceries in a one-stop-shopping mode.

I believe that the discount stores are a good strategy for saving money, but for me it just makes me hate grocery shopping and in the end, when I have forgotten my coupons for the fourth time, after I spent six hours organizing them by expiration dates, it just makes me feel incompetent. I find that a HUGE part of my food bill goes out eating at restaurants. If I have good foods on hand at home - no matter what price I paid for them in the store - it keeps me from eating out as much, and that more than justifies the extra money spent at the store.

I avoid "convenience" foods. Instead I suggest you develop several meals that are convenience foods at your house. The qualifications: the meals are easy to prepare and everybody in your house likes them. Develop this list of convenience meals and make sure that you always have the ingredients for these meals on hand.

SAVE MONEY, MAKE IT CONVENIENT AND HAVE FUN

I find it interesting and fun to shop at local stores. I try not to make it a big deal and keep it as simple as possible. It takes me about 20 to 30 minutes to shop so I look for these periods of time, between appointments, before meetings, at the end of my work day. I find that the more I shop at the locally owned the easier it becomes to shop there. I get to know the layout of the store, the inventory and the shopkeepers. I ask for help if I need something and this saves time. Once you have a few go-tos, I think it would be fun to find things you love to make several lists. You can keep a grocery list. This helps in several ways, but mostly it provides an incentive.

EXPENSIVE VERSUS SANITY

I do not recommend clipping coupons, mail-in rebates or buying over-useable or shabby items at the grocery store. I believe that the discount stores have the "buying power" of the chains. It may be better for the community's economics. But is it more economical on my bottom line? I often find that I have a lot of time this may be a good strategy for saving money, but for me it just makes me hate grocery shopping.

• I try to never buy personal care or houseware items at a chain grocery store. This really drives the cost up. I buy what I can in the way of hardware, paint, and garden supplies at True Value Hardware. Both the store in Urbana and Champaign are owned by local Bob Cooper. I buy all housewares at Farm and Fleet on North Cunningham in Urbana. The price is right and while not local (their corporate offices are in Appleton, Wisconsin) – at least it is helping the tax base of Urbana, which needs all the help it can get.

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Where in the World Did You Get That Jacket?

by Sandra Ahten

I saved up an impulse buy last week and bought a new jacket for $29. When I got home I checked the tag and found that it was made in Vietnam, Yikes, pants of guilt. I know that it was made with sweat shop labor. Save labor really. I find no way to buy new clothing without these feelings. So normally I just avoid buying new clothing. When the urge to buy hits me I try and show a little restraint until I can get my fix in the second or third week of the month. I love the Goodwill store. It is a good place to shop for work clothes. There is a teenage version of this store called Plato's Closet. Both stores take consignments by appointment and are adamant about the quality, condition, and that it being the appropriate season.

If you are a little more retro, a little funky, or downright outrageous there are a number of shops in downtown Champaign that might be the ticket including Carries, Dandelion, and Le Shoppe. I love going to what in these parts are called garage sales whether there is a garage involved or not. I don't waste my time trying to map out which sales are good, but instead let luck be my guide and just follow the signs. Two good tips if you are a serious shopper:

1. Wear body hugging slinky clothes with some easy-to-pull-off loose clothing over them. This is best for fitting without a dressing room.
2. Take time to peruse the merchandise; it sometimes takes some digging to find the gems.

Carries, 204 N. Neil, Champaign 352-3235
Dandelion, 9 Taylor, Champaign 355-9335
Goodwill, 119 E. University Ave., Champaign 351-0019
Karen's Closet, 233 N. Matthews Ave, Champaign 353-9995
Le Shoppe, 110 E. University Ave., Champaign 365-6021
Plato's Closet, 29 E. Marketview Drive, Champaign 366-8200
Salvation Army Thrift Store, 119 E. University Avenue, Champaign 373-7825
Favorite Local Businesses

Several people responded to our request for tips about good places to shop locally. This is far from an exhaustive list of the many excellent, locally owned and operated businesses but it does indicate places that people felt strongly enough to write about.

Contributors: Linda Evans, Belden Fields, Phyllis Brussel, Gabriele Cooper, Sandra Ahten, Paul Muth, Lisa Chason.

ART MART
127 Lincoln Square Mall, Urbana, 344-7979
Mon-Fri 10am-8pm, Sat 10am-6pm, Sun noon-5pm.
I love shopping for toys and kitchen tools at Art Mart at Lincoln Square mall. I like the feel of Art Mart and we like wooden toys. My son loves to play with the trains while I shop. Art Mart has a great selection, a friendly staff, and reasonable prices. – LE

INTERNATIONAL GALLERIES
134 Lincoln Square Mall, Urbana, 328-2254
Mon-Fri 10am-8pm, Sat 10am-6pm, Sun noon-5pm.
An eclectic collection of jewelry, pottery, prints and posters, candles, wind chimes, incense, and more. They feature artist’s works. Also custom framing. Great place to look for gifts and art. – LC

SKANDINAVIAN LINK
1707 W. Kirby Ave, Champaign, 356-4466
Mon-Fri 10am-6pm, Sat 10am-3pm.
I really like to shop at Skandinavian Link at Old Farm shopping center. The staff and owner are very helpful. They keep track of certain toy brands so others can come in and buy toys for your child and you don’t end up with duplicates. They have great sales and a fun area for children to play while you shop. – LE

ANDY’S SHOES
115 W. Kirby, Champaign, 356-7500
Mon-Fri 9:30am-6pm, Sat 9:30am-5pm, Sun 12:30pm-5pm.
I buy all my kids’ shoes at Andy’s. If I bring them in and they haven’t outgrown the old pair of shoes, Andy won’t sell me a new pair. He just tells me to come back in a couple of months. Do you think one of the big chains would do that? – GC

The owner Andy Pomoiko says “it’s important to be honest and good at what you do” when you are fitting children’s shoes. It is responsibility that he takes seriously. The store sells all types of shoes, but only for children up to about 7 or 8 years old. Andy has been in business since 1984 in the same location. – SA

ILLINI EYECARE
518 E. Green, Champaign, 351-6310
Mon & Thurs 9-6, Wed & Fri 9-5:30, Sat 9-1.
I lost my glasses last week and was badly in need of a pair of new lenses. I could have put in some old frames very quickly because I had to grade a lot of papers. So, at the urging of my wife, I called the large chains in Market Place Mall to see how much it would cost and how soon I could get them. I was promised one-hour service in one and one day service in the other. In one place, the minimum cost for plastic lenses was $99 for the scratch-resistant coated lenses. In the other, the range was from $65 to $119.

Then I called Dr. Curtis Johnson’s Illini EyeCare on Green Street in Campus Town to see if the expected higher cost would be worth the convenience of the location. Low and behold, they offered me scratch resistant lenses for $65. And they could do it in an hour! Two lessons: (1) Small business is not always more expensive than the large corporate chains despite the advertising propaganda of the latter to the contrary, and (2) Campus Town businesses are not always trying to rip off students and other university people as is sometimes assumed. – BF

JANE ADAMS BOOK SHOP
208 N. Neil, Champaign, 356-2555
Mon-Sat 10am-5pm, Sun 1-5pm.
Jane Adams book store is a rare find in many communities, but they are located conveniently in downtown Champaign. We love to peruse the shelves and we invariably find a book that we have no idea how we lived without. – LE

PAGES FOR ALL AGES
1201 Savoy Plaza Ln, Savoy, 351-7243
Mon-Sat 9am-11pm, Sun 10am-9pm.
My family buys way too many books at Pages for All Ages. Some days we go more than once to this wonderful locally owned bookstore in Savoy. We walk or ride our bikes to Pages several times a week and find it hard to leave without an armful of books. We love the live music and tea too. If Pages does not have a book in stock, the extremely knowledgeable and helpful staff is eager to special order books. I heard about a book on public radio one day and couldn’t remember the author or the title. I felt foolish and asked a staff member and they quickly took me to A Bondwoman’s Narrative...just the book I was stumbling to find. I was very impressed and have never hesitated to ask for a book by subject alone again. – LE

LINCOLN BOOKBINDERY
1601 N. Coler, Urbana, 328-2613
Tues-Fri 10am-4pm; also by appointment.
When looking for something to do with our three-year-old during inclement weather (we are all thin in winter), we have been saved more than once by The Orpheum Children’s Science Museum. In fact, when the skies clear up it is hard to convince my son to leave. – LE

ORPHEUM CHILDREN’S SCIENCE MUSEUM
346 N. Neil, Champaign, 352-5895
Tues 9am-6pm, Wed-Sun 1pm-6pm.
This warehouse store is operated by a “club” of folks who promote preservation and re-use of buildings or areas of historic or architectural significance in Champaign County.” They saved the famous Ricker House owner working or eating his own food. The staff is incredibly friendly and helpful. – LE

MIRABELLE FINE PASTRY
124 W. Main, Urbana, 384-6460
Tue-Sun 8:30am-6pm, Sat 8am-3pm.
Going into Mirabelle is like going into a real French bakery and the bread and pastries are every bit as good. Pastries can be made to order. This bakery has totally spoiled me. – PB

STRAWBERRYFIELDS NATURAL FOOD STORE & CAFE
306 W. Springfield Ave, Urbana, 328-1655
Mon-Sat 7am-8pm, Sun 10am-6pm.
Coming from the DC area, I thought local “organic ‘health food’ stores” were a thing of the past, but we are so happy to have Strawberry Fields in the community. We love their “deli” food and the fact that vegan food is labeled. (Thank you!) It is great to walk into a store and see the owner working or eating his own food. – PB

MIRABELLE FINE PASTRY
124 W. Main, Urbana, 384-6460
Mon-Sat 9am-6pm, Sun 10am-5pm.
Since we live in Savoy, we are overjoyed to have Natural Gourmet close by. They have a great selection of supplements and other grocery items. The owners and staff are always helpful and happy to point out something new a customer might want to try. – LE

COMMON GROUND FOOD CO-OP
403 S. Wright, 352-3347
Mon-Fri 3pm-8pm, Sat 11am-4pm, Sun 11am-7pm.
Common Ground Coop at the IDF is one of our favorite places to shop for groceries like the coop system and all the workers we’ve meet have been wonderful. Many days they have member baked goods and they specialize in locally grown organic produce. We are so lucky to have the coop in CU. – LE

SUNSHINE GROCERY
117 W. Washington, Urbana, 384-6668
Everyday 7:30am to 7pm (hours can vary)
Owner operated, dedicated to serving the neighborhood. Knows customers by name. The best fresh eggs you can buy. Owner makes egg rolls that high school students love to eat for lunch! – PB

M any wonderful displays of local art and crafts – all for sale, or you can simply walk about and admire the beautiful things. (There are rooms beyond the main entrance) – PB

ENGLISH HEDGEROW
406 N. Lincoln, Urbana, 365-0055
M-Sat 9am-5:30pm.
In addition to being a full service florist, this store sells many items to catch a gardener’s fancy. Many items from England, reflecting the English background of the owners. They also specialize in hardy metal signs. – PB

JACK’S GREENERY
1017 W. Bloomington Rd, Champaign, 359-9009
Mon-Fri 9am-7pm, Sat 9am-6pm, Sun 10am-5pm.
I really like Jack’s Greenery. Their plants are of excellent quality and Jack and his wife know a lot about plants. They even help me load the plants into my car. They will also order any special plants or heirloom vegetables. – GC

FOODS AND BAKERIES

NATURAL GOURMET
2225 S. Neil, Champaign, 355-6365
Mon-Sat 9am-6pm.
PB

COMMON GROUND FOOD CO-OP
403 S. Wright, 352-3347
Mon-Fri 3pm-8pm, Sat 11am-4pm, Sun 11am-7pm.
Common Ground Coop at the IDF is one of our favorite places to shop for groceries like the coop system and all the workers we’ve meet have been wonderful. Many days they have member baked goods and they specialize in locally grown organic produce. We are so lucky to have the coop in CU. – LE

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VERDE GALLERY

CAFE KOPI

Food tasting: every Saturday 11am-5pm
Mon-Sat 10am-9pm, Sun 11am-6pm

WALNUT STREET TEA CO.
115 S. Walnut, Champaign, 351-6795
M on-Fri 10am-6pm, Sat 10am-5pm.
A great assortment of teas and coffees, pots and cups, biscuit
and jams, etc., and if you can walk out the door without
buying a melt-in-your-mouth caramel you've got real will
power. - PB

JARLINGS CUSTARD CUP
309 W. Kirby, Champaign, 352-2273
M on-Sat noon-10pm, Sun 1pm-10pm
This is really good, creamy-smooth frozen custard. I know
people who mark the opening
day of the store in the Spring on
their calendar, and who have a
farewell cone at the close in Fall.
Then it's a long, dull winter. - PB

STRAWBERRY FIELDS NATURAL FOOD STORE & CAFE
306 W. Springfield Ave, Urbana, 328-1655
M on-Sat 7am-8pm, Sun 10am-6pm – the café...

TIPPMONE'S
710 S. Goodwin, Urbana, 344-7619.
M on-Thurs 11am-3pm, Fri 11:30am-11pm, Sat 5pm-11pm
Just the best Italian food anywhere. – PB

RED HERRING COFFEE HOUSE
1209 W. Oregon, Urbana, 367-2340.
Only open during the U of I school year for lunch 11am-2pm and
sometimes for Friday night paza night (recommend calling ahead
I am always happy to eat at The Red Herring restaurant in
the basement of the Channing-Murray Foundation. As a vegan,
I am happy to have lunch or Friday night pasta with my family
nearby. It has been a great treat. – LE

KENNEDY'S
2500 South Stone Creek Blvd, Urbana, 384-9111.
M on-Sat 10am-10pm, Sun 10am-8pm
Good food and a really nice view over the golf course.
Large parties can be accommodated. – PB

SLIVER CREEK
402 N. Race, Urbana, 328-3402
M on-Thurs 11am-10pm, Fri 11am-11pm, Sun 10:30am-3pm
4:30pm-10pm
Good food at a reasonable price. Very pleasant surroundings.
Good Sunday brunch. – PB

THE COURIER CAFE
111 N. Race, Urbana, 328-1811.
Mon-Sat 7am-11pm, Sat 7am-midnt.
Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner everyday.
A popular, fun, good place to eat. Real wood booths. Good
coffee. – PB

MILO'S RESTAURANT
156-D Lincoln Square, Urbana, 344-8946
Tue-Sun 11am-2pm, 5pm-9pm, Fri-Sat 5pm-10pm
Some of the best food in town. Outdoor tables in summer;
entrance is from the east side of Lincoln Square. – PB

SWEET BETSY'S
159 S. Philo Road, Urbana, 344-0414
M on-Sat 7pm-3pm, Wed 7pm-7am
Unbeatable sandwiches and hearty soups. In the summer
there's nothing like a Lemon Shake-up to quench the thirst. – PB

It’s Not Your Mother’s Co-op

by Rubina Kahn

Rubina is from Villa Park, IL and has lived in
Urbana for four years. She studied political
Science at the U of I. Along with her job at
the Market Development Department for
the CU-Mass Transit District she is currently
the Board Vice President and Fundraising
Chair for the Illinois Stout Environmental
Network. Of her past she says: “I was home-
schooled after my mother passed away and
took care of my family for almost three
years. As the eldest daughter in an Indian
household I had to take on the motherly
duties. I was twelve years of age, cooked,
cleaned and did the laundry...even gave
to my mother’s advice! And when asked about
the future: “I’m a person of many inter-
habits. Members pay a one-time fee of $30
for students or $60 for a household (3+ adults and
dependents). Curious souls can in come for a
peek, a tour, and a shopping expedition with-
out becoming members.

The democratic style that emanates from
this cooperative is ideal in a world where cor-
porations tell us what we need and should
want. The cooperative is responsible solely
to its members and the members determine
all aspects of the cooperative’s operations.
Molly Stantitz, one of the managers and paid
staff at the coop, says that members trust the
coop because “They know that we put time
in screening our products” that time and
effort is definitely visible in the store.
The inventory includes all sorts of foods
and household items. There is a large assort-
ment of dried fruits, grains, flours, pastas,
and rice, soy and tofu products, organic milk
and eggs. Household cleaning items such as
dye-free and chemical-free laundry and dish-
washing detergents are in stock. You can
purchase a variety of personal hygiene prod-
ucts that won't harm your body internally or
externally.

One of the CGFC’s largest local suppliers
of vegetables is Blue Moon Farms, located in
Urbana. Tomahousen Farms in Mahomet
supplies organic vegetables and herbs. Linden Farm in Buckley. Illinois pro-
duces popcorn and black beans. The farm-
ers provide the organic sustenance as the
Co-op, in turn, helps to sustain local farmers.
Their are large rooms for storage, includ-
ing a refrigerated walk-in storage for all
the items that need to be kept cool, and in that
room are two large freezers housing such
items as the soy-based ice creams, vegan burg-
ters, tofu dogs, etc. The dry storage room is
large and very well organized to help in the
process of inventory and make things conve-
nient when re-stocking shelves in the store.

THAT'S NICE. BUT LET'S TALK MONEY

One consideration of shopping at CGFC
is certainly cost. It might be that you will pay
more for the foods you buy there in compari-
on to a regular grocery store. This depends
on your own time investment in the Co-op
and what you purchase. While buying
prepacked juices, milk, and free range eggs
may be more expensive than buying items off
of the shelf at big-box stores, it is not really an
applies to apples comparison. A true compar-
ison of products that are nutritious, locally
produced and packaged in an environmental-
ly friendly manner and in a way that supports
workers show similar prices. You can actual-
ly save money on purchases of some bulk
items in comparison to overpackaged, over-
advertised items from the local big guys.

There are different workers status dis-
counts that members can also take advantage
of. As a shopper you may choose not to work
at all, to be a regular worker (one hour per
week), or be a core worker (3 hours) and
receive a 16% discount. There are a variety of
jobs available ranging from operating cash
registers, restocking shelves, or managing
business affairs. Working at the Co-op may
make bread, sweets and deli items to sell. Mem-
ers pick jobs that they enjoy.

The satisfaction of knowing that you are
contributing less to a corporate-run society
seems to be benefit enough, but there is a lot
more one contributes when becoming a
member. You are aiding local farmers and
helping them live and grow so that they can
continue to provide wonderful organically
farmed produce. Feeding on organic foods
helps you to have lunch or Friday night pasta
with my family.

The Co-op offers non-intimidating ways
of healthier eating. The exchange of recipes,
advice, knowledge, and opinion enriches
your experiences as an informed consumer.
They offer cooking classes, special events,
and potlucks.

The Common Ground Food Co-op is
located at 610 E. Springfield Ave. There is
usually plenty of parking in the Illinois Dis-
iple's Foundation parking lot. Store hours
are M-F, 9-3pm, Saturday 11am-4pm and
Sunday from 11am-7pm. 352-3347.

www.commongroundcoop.org
George Bush's Father Trained the Man Who Killed My Father
An Interview with Jeremy Glick of September 11 Families for Peaceful Tomorrows

By Ricky Baldwin

Jeremy Glick, whose father was killed in the World Trade Center, has traveled around the US speaking about peace as relates to 9/11 and Iraq on behalf of "September 11th Families for Peaceful Tomorrows," a group of family members of those killed in the Sept. 11 ter-
rorist attacks. I spoke to him on April 10, 2003, when he was in Champaign-Urbana for a speaking engagement sponsored by the War-Anti-Racist Effort (WARE) and other local groups.

Baldwin: Anti-war activists get asked a lot about their motivations, but I wonder if you think it's different for you, or how that might have changed after Sept. 11.

Glick: Nothing has really changed. I mean, obviously everything has changed for me perso-

nally since 9-11. My family has been devastated. I'm without a father. So of course that's changed. But really 9-11 has only just made me more disciplined, because I felt a greater sense of personal or immediate urgency. I've always been opposed to US and any other form of imperialism.

But it also just reminded me of my limited, my mortality, the fact that my life isn't necessarily guaranteed for any period of time. So it makes me a lot more disciplined and a lot more sparing with my time in the sense of sacrifice. I've always been involved in politics, but this puts the social justice issue has an exceptionally personal component.

Baldwin: What about the group, Septem-

ber 11th Families for Peaceful Tomorrows?

Glick: They came along with their own momentum. I've been involved in political prisoner and anti-imperialist and local issues in various urban centers in the New York and New Jersey area. The Peaceful Tomorrows organization is an anti-violent organization of 9-11 family members that opposes aggression against Afghanistan and Iraq. And I have an immense amount of respect for them, obvi-

ously with their personal pain and also the way they're converging their subjective experience into a broader call for social justice. I think that it's very meaningful for 9-11 family members to listen to how 9-11, and not only the lost loved one but the pain of the living family member, gets evoked over the top from the mouth of bourgeois politicians and the Right in the media. So I think it's really important that there are people who are directly impacted that are so principled and so thoughtful.

Baldwin: Do you think that there's a spe-

cial role or a special place for that in the anti-

war movement?

Glick: Yeah, they're speaking from a very powerful moral high ground. But I think they also have to be careful about talking from experience. It seems to me that the system could produce, you know, 10-11 family members who don't have a very thought-out analysis, and just are warmongers. So I'm suspicious about speaking only from my personal subjective perspective. But I think that their analysis is more cor-

rect in many instances than the pro-war analysis.

Also, in terms of the 9-11 subject, family members are like the cross in a vampire movie. It defies a lot of criticism, you know, that you're being insensitive to the families of the victims who lost their loved ones. I mean, people say that to me anyway. But actually I don't think that the leadership should be that. My whole thing is that there's no middle ground, no that instability, of murder, or terror, domesti-

ically, on a quotidien, day-to-day level, is shared by, for example, the Black and Latino working community in New York City. They know exactly how it feels to be under the gun like that, and have that much instability and emotional insecurity that's because of struc-

tural terror, or extrajudicial terror, whether it's at the hands of the economic system or the hands of the NYPD.

So, the 9-11 family members are strategi-

cally important. They certainly need to be heard and they certainly need to be franchised so much more than they have, because the media has completely shut them out. And a lot of 9-11 family members are not concerned about going to war, or bombing, or retribu-

tion. I'm not being clever - I'm sure that there is a lot of 9-11 family members, regardless of their political orientation, are tired of feeling exploited. Because if you lose one loved one, whether it's your husband or your wife, or your child, or on, or grandparents or your uncle, or your dad in my case, or your brother or sister, it's a private loss. And it's a private loss that's been co-opted by a public sphere, both a media sphere and a government, like a civic sphere. You're just like, ease up, buddy, can I have a little, little space, to, like, mourn?

I understand the bumper sticker of people that lost a loved one in 9-11 aren't going to ever forget that. That bumper sticker is not doing anything for me. Let me, in my personal, small way, be a source of information - everybody isn't radical, but even the non-radicals were, I don't want American flags brought to the funeral or memo-

rorial service - not because the family has a problem with the American flag, but my mom felt like it was a co-optation. You know, "This isn't an political event - I'm trying to mourn my husband." But my real spiritual torture is: you can't privi-

ge my father's life over an Iraqi's some-

body in Palestine. And you can't privilege my pain, because lost a North American U.S.-cit-

izen father in the Trade Center, over someone in Chile on September 11, 1973, who lost his father in the U.S-sponsored Allende coup.

I'm not a pacifist. If the people of Iraq wanted to take up armed struggle to democa-

rize their society, I wholeheartedly support that. But it's not what we're witnessing. I don't love Saddam Hussein. I don't consider Osama bin Ladun my friend. I consider an armed extortion of this power. So, you're going to hire thugs to kill people, you're as culpable as the thugs that kill people.

Baldwin: Rita Lasar and some others from the Peaceful Tomorrows group went to Afghanistan after the bombing, and when they came back they were called a group called "Ground Zero Two," with the World Trade Center being "Ground Zero One." Do you see a connection?

Glick: Yes, George Bush's father trained the man who killed my father - when George Bush, Sr. was head of the C.I.A. It doesn't get any more basic than that. But I'll tell you a funny thing. The summer before 9-11, went to the Bruderhof, which is a Christian, commu-

nalistic society. They were sponsoring a magazine I write for, and a bunch of us were on that.

The Sunday when I got back - I remember it was in July, right before July 4th, and right behind where my apartment was there was a housing project - Memorial Homes, New Brunswick, New Jersey - and that Sunday it was firebombed, because the city is becoming immensely gentrified. Nobody died in that, per se, but I went to Ground Zero with a federal agent in October, and it was horrific. Even though this was public housing and it really wasn't ideal circumstances, they were still people's homes, and those people were not given what they were promised in terms of reloca-

tion. But it was public housing for poor, low-income people that didn't have access to cars, and they weren't sensitive to where they relocated them and how this would tie into public transportation so they could continue their jobs.

So it was just a blight, it was a devastation upon a community that was already devastat-

ed. And, to be frankly honest - and maybe this has to do with repression - I didn't feel what I anticipated, which was this scary moment, like, "Oh my god, this is where my father died," because it's so big and you can't really look. But the firebombing of public housing, that really looks exactly like the imploding of the projects. It's just on a bigger scale. That's exactly what it looked like. And I dasn't that the two were related politically.
The US Response to WMDs (other than in Iraq)

by Margaret E. Kosal

While wishing she were back climbing in the region of Nepal, M. Kangtang finds inspiration on the topographically-challenged plains of central Illinois in her mind's eye. Described by the director of the Sunshine Project as “not suffering fools gladly,” she firmly believes in the need to reclaim science from corporate control. “Science is not owned by the property of CEOs, shareholders or corporate executives.”

In the last year or so, the US has been involved in high-level discussions regarding the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction (WMDs). In one case, the tone presented by the US administration is very different than that employed earlier this year by the US to justify the recent military foray to Iraq. In the other, the rationale for more military actions like those taken in Afghanistan and Iraq is based on the premise that WMD proliferation is occurring on a global scale.

NUCLEAR NONPROLIFERATION

Late March saw the convergence of parties to the Treaty on the Nonproliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT) in Geneva. Two years from now will mark the Fifth Review conference of the treaty, scheduled to begin in late 2005. The current US administration is clearly interested in preventing a repeat of the 1995 conference. At that meeting, the US had found itself facing a united front of opposition from a broad spectrum of nations to a US proposal that would have allowed for complete inspection of all reprocessing facilities. The US was forced to retreat from that proposal under intense pressure from the nations concerned about nuclear weapons.

The US has enjoyed the luxury of looking out over a nuclear-free Pacific for the past 50 years. That luxury is now fast disappearing. The Treaty on the Nonproliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT) has galvanized a new international consensus in favor of non-proliferation. However, implementation of the treaty is still pending, and the full significance of the 1995 review conference is just beginning to be understood.

One problem highlighted at the review conference was the failure of nearly half of the states parties to implement any measures for non-proliferation, which was the main reason for the conference. The US has made a number of statements about the importance of the NPT as a mechanism for preventing proliferation of nuclear weapons. The US has met the treaty’s timetable for destruction of the US chemical weapons stockpile. The security of the remaining chemical weapons in the United States is a significant issue for the US and its allies.

Developing countries account for the majority of those failing to fully implement the treaty. A lack of resources, both financial and technical, and expertise are cited as reasons for non-compliance by most developing countries. This deficiency of resources for chemical weapons nonproliferation is not going to discourage the US. The US has pledged aid to developing nations—a real, pro-active means to limit proliferation of chemical weapons or a course for pre-emptive US military intervention?

LOCAL AND GLOBAL: BUILDING ALLIANCES

In July 1999, indigenous peoples organizations, non-governmental organizations, and networks in more than thirty countries came together and signed a statement against WMD agreements. Specifically the Trade Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS). The group clearly stated their opposition to the application of TRIPS to limit proliferation of chemical weapons or a course for pre-emptive US military intervention.

STOCKPILE DESTRUCTION AND INSECURITY

The US has the treaty's timetable for destruction of 22% of its chemical weapons stockpile, which once consisted of more than 36,600 tons of chemical warfare agents. The case in Russia is much different where just over 1% of its 40,000 ton stockpile has been destroyed. The security of the remaining chemical weapons to potential terrorist threats was also highlighted, although perhaps not as forcefully or with as much urgency as was considered the potential consequences of insecurity. Completely overlooked was the question of stockpile (in)security in the remaining 24,180 tons of US chemical weapons.

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REFERENCES

B. Peterson (Eds.), Rethinking Globalization: Teaching for justice in an unjust world (pp. 228-233). Milwaukee, WI: Rethinking Schools Press.


IMC Needs New Building, Now More Than Ever

by Meghan Krausch

As many readers may know, on Thursday, May 8, the City of Urbana shut down the Urbana-Champaign Independent Media Center performance space because of fire code violations. While the IMC membership respects the city's codes and understands the importance of safety in public buildings, there is widespread disappointment in the way the city carried out the closure. As it stands now, there is no clear way to bring the space up to the standards set for assembly spaces of fifty or more people.

The city has given assurances that the office space; library; radio, video, and print production room; and art gallery areas of the IMC (everything but the back room) will remain open. Meetings with fewer than 50 people will continue at the IMC. As a music venue, however, the IMC has now shut its doors.

A Sudden Decision

The IMC has constantly been transparent with the City of Urbana about the use of the room as a performance space, and has publicly advertised events for the past year and a half. The performance space, the focus of the recent citations, was inspected eight months ago and the minor issues raised at that time were promptly resolved. All of the major violations that have been cited by the city preexisted the IMC’s use of the space and the majority of the issues preexisted the annual inspection that occurred eight months ago.

After an inspection on May 5, the city gave the IMC twenty-four days to complete six repairs in order to comply with the Urbana Fire Code. The violations were not deemed serious enough by inspectors to warrant closing the performance space to public use. Within 48 hours, IMC members formed a plan of action and began fixing the problems. On Thursday, May 8, officials returned unexpectedly to the IMC and issued an official notice of closure. The IMC was not informed of why this sudden change in requirements had occurred.

Relocation

In the short term, the IMC will be forced to relocate its shows and to reduce the number of performances. The IMC Booking Group will not stop booking shows—the group is planning several outdoor festivals and other benefits. The IMC Booking Group will continue to do everything in its power to maintain a presence in the community and to follow through on its commitment to all-ages performances. The IMC Folk Music Series has been relocated to the Channing-Murray Foundation, and at least one show, Q and Not U on June 6, has been relocated to the Illinois Disciples Foundation.

Finding a Permanent Home for the IMC

The only long-term solution to the current situation is to acquire a new space. The IMC is rebuilding its Capital Campaign efforts towards raising funds to purchase a permanent home for the IMC. The IMC will not be able to reopen its previous performance space, but hopefully within the next 12 months it will be able to buy a building of its own that complies with all city requirements for public assembly. The goal is to raise $100,000 by December. The IMC has already raised over $30,000 in just a few short months.

If you would like to help with the Capital Campaign please contact the Independent Media Center at 344-4630 or info@ucimc.org. You can also donate at http://capital.ucimc.org.

LIVING MORE SIMPLY

A class that will examine the idea of living in a way “outwardly simple, inwardly rich.” We will discuss the trend to question consumerism and the high-consumption lifestyle as unsatisfying, but without going to extremes of self-denial or asceticism. Some topics considered: The pros and cons of frugality in purchases and the use of disposable products and recyclable materials. Advertising’s effects on us. The need to acquire ever more “stuff.” Living better with less clutter and waste. The rise of recreational and addictive shopping. Motives for simplifying economic, ecological and moral/ethical/religious concerns.

TIME: 7-8 pm.
DAY: Tuesdays
DATES: June 24-July 22.

COURSE FEE: None, but there is a $5 registration fee for nonmembers of the University YMCA.

INSTRUCTORS: Jane Heaton, Bill Strutz & Ron Szoke.
LOCATION: University Place Christian Church, Wright at Springfield, Champaign. (Ample free parking is provided.) Call 337-1314 for more information.

Crossword: Corporations Making Money in Post-War Iraq

ACROSS
5. Behind pro-war media
6. Owns ABC, guilty of pro-war TV
7. Industries (tank maker)
9. Bog Oil supported sanctions
10. Services (anti-union company)
13. Co. it owns built bombers
14. Cheny was former CEO
15. Another construction company w/ties to DOD
18. Organizing local policing

DOWN
1. Triangle Institute
2. Got the largest contract
3. Ist Viceroy of Iraq
4. Reason for war business
6. Owns ABC, guilty of pro-war TV
8. Country supported invasion
9. Bog Oil supports sanctions
12. One of seven deadly sins
13. It owns built bombers
14. Cheney was former CEO
16. Dead mullok or oil co.
17. English Big Oil

IMC Shows - http://shows.ucimc.org

**Bitch and Animal**
Mon. June 2nd 8pm

"What Animal and I do best is improvisation," says 28-year-old Bitch, a self-identified "queer elegant queen who hails from Detroit but now, with 25-year-old partner-in-art Animal, calls Brooklyn, N.Y., her home. "I think of us more as performance artists than musicians, really."

Indeed, after one listen to the duo’s sophomore disc, Eternally Hard, with its torrid brew of sexually and politically charged spoken-sung lyrics, stripped-down instrumentation, and assorted tribal-edged percussion, you’ll understand what she means.

— The Advocate
Location: Channing-Murray

**Q and Not U**
6:30pm

**French Toast, The Dynamo Theorem**
Q and Not U (Dischord Records) will tour in support of their new record Different Damage. This date is a makeup for the April 14 date, which was cancelled due to their drummer breaking his foot. This show also features French Toast (w/James Canty of the Make-Up and The Nation of Ulysses) and locals The Dynamo Theorem.
Location: IDF

Ripley Caine, Doria Roberts, Eleni Moraites
Sat. June 14th 8pm

"When life knocks you down, [Ripley] is what you listen to just before you pick yourself up and get back in the fight." — rebecca - grrrifest 2002

"Just a girl and her guitar can sometimes blast above the rowdiest rock. That’s the case with Doria Roberts. Her lyrical wisdom and simple strums combine to make for one grooving gig. Roberts’ music is both political and emotionally savvy. " — Curve Magazine
Location: Channing-Murray

**Middle Room Gallery**
218 W. Main, Urbana
Sat. June 7th evening
Group art show opening.
http://gallery.ucimc.org

**Holly Figueroa Joni Laurence**
Tue. June 17th 8pm

"Holly Figueroa’s roots run deep into the murky waters of American music, touching on gospel, folk, jazz, avant-garde and Americana." — Minor7th

Location: Channing-Murray

**MJ Walker and Fictive Kin**
Sat. June 21st 8pm

Enjoy the honest bluesy porch music of these two amazing folk groups. Fictive Kin is an easy going musical family. They’re among the finest folkies on the Champaign scene. Buster’s Dream has a high and lonesome mountain folk sound with hints of Woody Guthrie.

Location: Channing-Murray

**Adam Brodsky**
Sat. June 28th 8pm

Anti-Folk! Outrageous, dorky, in your face songsmithing. If you like Dan Bern or Harnell on Trial, you’ll love Adam Brodsky. If you hate Adam Brodsky, you’ll love Adam Brodsky!

Location: Channing-Murray

**Skeleton Danse**
Champaign-Urbana’s Monthly All-Ages Gothic Dance Party
Fri. June 27th 8pm

Goth/Industrial DJ Dance Night
Skeleto Danse is dead. Undead, undead, undead.
Location: Channing-Murray

**New Locations**
Channing-Murray - 1209 W. Oregon, Urbana
IDF - 610 E. Springfield, Champaign
All shows are all ages, no alcohol, no smoking.
Advance tickets for select shows available at Record Service, Record Swap, and Dandelion.

**Events @ IMC**

- AWARE - Sun. 5pm
- Yoga - Wed. 5pm
- Prairiegrens - 1st and 3rd Wed. 7pm
- Music - Wednesdays 8pm
- Library - Monday 8pm
- Tech - Wednesday 7:30pm
- Finance - 1st and 3rd Wed. 7pm
- Print - Thursday 7:30pm
- Shows - Thursday 7pm

Mobius poem
(READ UPSIDE DOWN AND BACKWARDS SAME AS RIGHT-SIDE UP AND FORWARD)

**by Mark Enslin**

I wansuns: jamsu sees eiejw elsi ajay...
hotj ewe lempiresnew jeans sjued oউt shew
jellopho yoom debay debated(salioe)" asnotapew"
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