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Ann Arbor City Council Session: June 21, 2010 Email Redactions List Pursuant to Council Resolution R-09-386

From:

Smith. Colin

Sent:

Monday, June 21, 2010 7:13 PM

To:

Anglin, Mike

Subject:

RE: Re: Pool passes for lower income families?

Hi Mike -

Parks has a wonderful Scholarship program for Ann Arbor residents on reduced income that is heavily used. Staff at Cobblestone Customer Service can assist (their number is 794-6230). I'm also copying a link that has the application form:

http://www.a2gov.org/government/communityservices/ParksandRecreation/Documents/scholarship_application.pdf
For families or individuals that qualify, pool passes are either free or 50% off. Day camps and programs are available also, either at reduced rates or for free.

I've also copied a link for your information that speaks about our scholarship fund, which is new this year. Money raised goes to offset the value of the scholarships awarded and raises awareness.

http://www.a2gov.org/government/communityservices/ParksandRecreation/Pages/scholarship.aspx

Let me know if you need further information.

Take care, Colin

From: Anglin, Mike

Sent: Mon 6/21/2010 1:18 PM

To: Smith, Colin

Subject: Re: Pool passes for lower income families?

Hello Colin,

I have some friends who have asked about the possibility of how to ge family pool passes if they have reduced income?

Thanks Mike

Thank you Mike Anglin 549 South First Street Ann Arbor, Mi 48103 e-mail;

From: Sent:

Nancy T. L. Stoll Monday, June 21, 2010 7:15 PM broadwayhood@umich.edu

To:

Subject:

Looks great, Norm

Hi Norm,

I have to compliment you on your flower gardens. They look fabulous! Thanks for beautifying our street.

Thanks to the many other gardeners too! Everything is so green this year, and without all that watering!

:) Nancy

From:

Larry Krieg

Sent:

Monday, June 21, 2010 7:15 PM

To:

'Terri Blackmore'; 'Anya Dale'; 'Barb Fuller'; 'Bill Nickels'; 'Bonnie Wessler'; 'Brenda Stumbo': 'Cheryl Zuellig'; 'Chris White'; 'Dick Carlisle'; 'Eric Mahler'; 'Eric Mahler'; Kahan, Jeffrey; 'Joe Lawson'; 'Karen Lovejoy Roe'; 'Leigh Greden'; 'Mark Geib'; 'Paul Lott'; 'Paul Montagno'; 'Paul

Schreiber'; 'pittsupervisor'; 'Richard Murphy'; 'Roy Townsend'; 'Teresa Gillotti'; Derezinski,

Subject:

RE: Washtenaw Public Engagement Invitation

Not quite enough contrast between text and background in the location fields. White would do the trick, or you might try mustard-on-green. (Who said "slurp"?!?)

- Larry Krieg 8-)>

From: Terri Blackmore [mailto:blackmoret@miwats.org]

Sent: Monday, June 21, 2010 16:31

To: Anya Dale; Barb Fuller; 'Bill Nickels'; Bonnie Wessler; 'Brenda Stumbo'; 'Cheryl Zuellig'; 'Chris White'; 'Dick Carlisle'; 'Eric Mahler'; 'Eric Mahler'; Jeff Kahan Forward; 'Joe Lawson'; 'Karen Lovejoy Roe'; 'Larry Krieg'; Leigh Greden; 'Mark Geib'; 'Paul Lott'; Paul Montagno; Paul Schreiber; pittsupervisor; 'Richard Murphy'; Roy Townsend; Teresa Gillotti; 'Tony Derezinski'

Subject: RE: Washtenaw Public Engagement Invitation

Here are the postcards with the green as discussed instead of the mustard.

Terri Blackmore, Executive Director Washtenaw Area Transportation Study 705 N. Zeeb Ann Arbor, MI 48103 734-994-3127 734-994-3129 fax blackmoret@miwats.org

Subscribe to the WATS Blog

From: Anya Dale

Sent: Friday, June 18, 2010 5:42 PM

To: Barb Fuller; 'Bill Nickels'; Bonnie Wessler; 'Brenda Stumbo'; 'Cheryl Zuellig'; 'Chris White'; 'Dick Carlisle': 'Eric Mahler'; 'Eric Mahler'; Jeff Kahan Forward; 'Joe Lawson'; 'Karen Lovejoy Roe'; 'Larry Krieg'; Leigh Greden; 'Mark Geib'; 'Paul Lott'; Paul Montagno; Paul Schreiber; pittsupervisor; 'Richard Murphy'; Roy Townsend; Teresa Gillotti; Terri Blackmore; 'Tony

Subject: Washtenaw Public Engagement Invitation

Good Afternoon!

At Wednesday's Joint Technical Committee meeting we reviewed the public engagement event process, invitations, and station area ideas for feedback, and educational material. I have made many of the changes suggested, and believe we are coming close to being ready to go public!

A few things:

- 1. Please find attached two different versions of the public engagement invites, both are ready to be used. Please send out/post whichever you prefer.
- 2. We are working on putting together a flyer which can be posted along the corridor in both some public places as well as key businesses and residential complexes. I will send out this flyer in a week or so for you to distribute.
- 3. Our office is working on a press release, which we will send out to local media to publicize the event.
- 4. While I have a few people signed up to help with each event, please review the event dates (on attached invite) and let me know if I can count on you to be there to help set up, staff a station, or just be there to talk with the public.

I will be out of town next week, but will send out a more complete update and next steps upon my return. In the mean time, please just do what you can to help get the word out.

Have a great weekend!

Anya B. Dale Project Manager Washtenaw County Economic Development & Energy 734.222.6848

From:

Robert Savit

Sent:

Monday, June 21, 2010 7:19 PM

To:

david glogower rdobrusin

reblevy

akahan bergerz witkowskim

larry.baitch

dannyelbaum1

Hieftje, John; ksaviti

margitel

Joan Lowenstein

Subject:

Lechi raising and photo-op time and place

Dear Friends,

It has been difficult to find a time for the photo-op and lechi raising that can accommodate everyone's schedule. The best we have been able to come up with is 11:00 am this Thursday, June 24. The venue will be the telephone pole on the corner of Norway and Fair Oaks, which is just a block or so from Beth Israel.

I realize that a number of you may not be able to make it, but if it's at all possible, I hope you will try to attend. The whole event should last only 20 minutes or so.

I Hope to see you there. Please let me know if you have any questions.

All the best, Bob Savit

From:

McCormick, Sue

Sent:

Monday, June 21, 2010 7:21 PM

To: Subject:

Higgins, Marcia FW: Change Orders

Importance:

High

Hi Marcia,

Not to out Bill, but to let you know that we haven't forgotten your request. Perhaps almost, but not quite! Anyway, coming shortly. Thanks for your patience!

Sue

Sue F. McCormick Public Service Administrator 100 N Fifth Av Ann Arbor, MI 48107 Phone: (734) 994-2897

mailto: smccormick@a2gov.org

P Think Green! Don't print this email unless you need to.

----Original Message----From: Wheeler, William

Sent: Monday, June 21, 2010 4:45 PM

To: McCormick, Sue Subject: Change Orders

Importance: High

I'm sorry to say I suddenly remembered that I owe you a change order analysis based on Marcia's comments several Council meetings ago. I don't know how it leaked out of my mind? I have the info to do it, and I'll get right on it tomorrow. I apologize for the brain fade!

From:

City of Ann Arbor, MI [annarbor@service.govdelivery.com]

Sent:

Monday, June 21, 2010 7:27 PM Taylor, Christopher (Council)

To: Subject:

City of Ann Arbor News Web Page Updates



Your interest in news updates from the City of Ann Arbor is appreciated. The <u>"news" Web page</u> now features: notice that the curbside collection of household batteries, motor oil and filters ends on Friday, June 30.

Thank you,
The City of Ann Arbor Communications Unit feedback@a2gov.org

Update your subscriptions, modify your password or e-mail address, or stop subscriptions at any time on your <u>Subscriber Preferences Page</u>. You will need to use your e-mail address to log in. If you have questions or problems with the subscription service, please contact <u>support@govdelivery.com</u>.

This service is provided to you at no charge by City of Ann Arbor, MI.

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From:

Performance Network Theatre [chelsea@performancenetwork.org]

Sent:

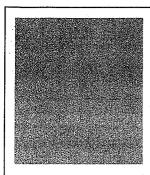
Monday, June 21, 2010 7:32 PM

To: Subject: Hieftje, John E-blast: Critics love THE SEAFARER!

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120 East Huron Downtown Ann Arbor Michigan 734-663-0681

Mististii. Onesti The Seafarer is a hit with the critics! Buy tickets × online! Reviews for our highly anticipated production of Conor McPherson's The Seafarer have started to roll in and we couldn't be happier! See what the critics have to say: "Director Malcolm Tulip and his terrific ensemble manage to make the most of both the play's comic opportunities and its more haunting moments...if you set your sails toward The Seafarer, my guess is that you'll be more than satisfied with your voyage." - Jenn McKee, AnnArbor.com "Performance Network's best ensemble cast (male division) since its 2005 production of Take Me Out." -Martin F. Kohn, Encore Michigan "Performance Network proves yet again that it can do incredible things with just a small space...[The Seafarer] is definitely what good theater is about." - Heritage Newspapers



Call 734-663-0681 to reserve your seats!

P.S. Read the <u>Guardian's 2006 interview</u> with playwright Conor McPherson, in which he discusses *The Seafarer* and from where he gets inspiration for his stories.

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From:

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Sent:

Monday, June 21, 2010 7:32 PM

To:

Higgins, Marcia

Subject:

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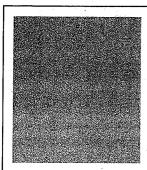
Michigan

734-663-0681

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From:

Performance Network Theatre [chelsea@performancenetwork.org]

Sent:

Monday, June 21, 2010 7:33 PM

To: Subject: Teall, Margie

E-blast: Critics love THE SEAFARER!

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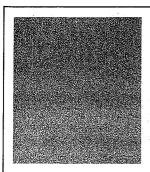
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Sent:

Monday, June 21, 2010 7:33 PM

To:

Rapundalo, Stephen

Subject:

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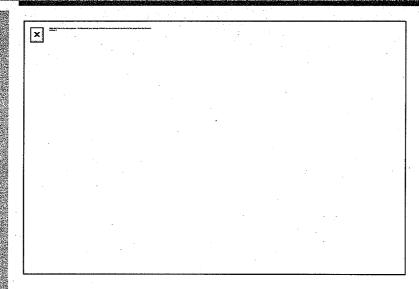
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Buy tickets online!



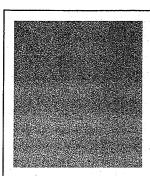
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To: Subject:

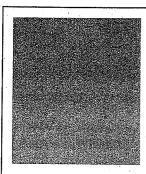
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Sent:

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To:

Anglin, Mike

Subject:

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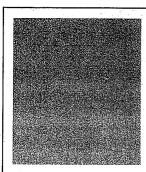
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Sent:

Monday, June 21, 2010 7:34 PM Higgins, Marcia

To: Subject:

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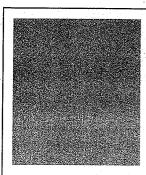
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Monday, June 21, 2010 7:34 PM

To:

Teall, Margie

Subject:

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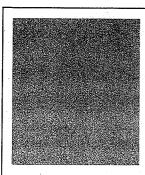
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To:

Smith. Sandi

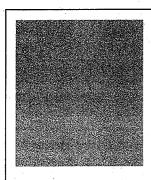
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From:	
Sent:	

Congress.org [congressorg@capwiz.com]

Monday, June 21, 2010 7:50 PM

To: Subject: Hieftje, John

Congress Not Skipping Town Halls

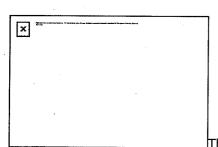


June 21, 2010

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Congress Not Skipping Town Halls



The video of a white-bearded, bespectacled man in a T-shirt

yelling and thrusting his finger in Sen. Arlen Specter's face during a town hall meeting last August has become an iconic personification of voter rage.

The outrage that the Pennsylvania Republican-turned-Democrat faced boiled across the country during the debate over health care reform and still simmers heading into the midterm elections.

As the August recess approaches, some have speculated that Democrats are leery of becoming, like Specter, the baffled face at the end of the angry finger.

But a study of hall meetings show slightly more have been held this year than at the same point last year.

What's New



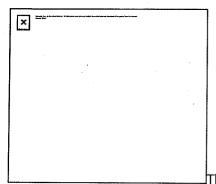
Get on Your Soapbox

Want to make your voice heard concerning issues important to you? Get on your soapbox and make it happen! Our Soapbox feature allows you to give exposure to your issue and lets other Congress.org users take action on the alerts you create. Registered users are now allowed four free soapbox alerts per month!

Track Your Lawmakers

Want to track votes cast by your Members of Congress? Sign up for our regular MegaVote newsletter.

How Presidents Influence the Supreme Court



The careers of Supreme Court justices often far outlast those

of the presidents who appoint them.

While a president can typically influence the course of government for four or eight years, it's not unusual for a justice to work for decades.

Even Franklin D. Roosevelt, who served a record-setting 12 years as president, pales in comparison to the eight Supreme Court justices he successfully nominated.

They ended up serving a total of 143 years, the most of any single president's judges.

A study of Supreme Court service by Congress.org found two other presidents whose appointees shaped the court for more than a century: Andrew Jackson and Abraham Lincoln.

Read more about how presidents influence the Supreme Court.

Check out an interactive graphic on presidential appointments to the court.

A Virtual 'Bumper Sticker' for Facebook

Signed, Sealed, Hand-Delivered!

Did you know that you can have your message hand-delivered to the door of your Members of Congress? For a small fee, we can give your letter "Extra Impact" to help make your voice heard. Select that option when filling out your message on any topic.

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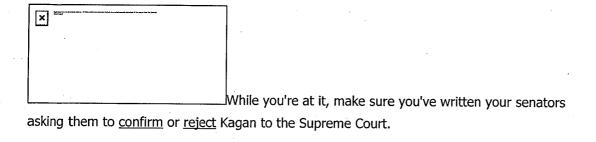
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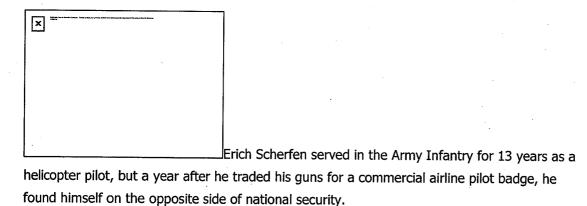
Simply choose <u>confirm</u> or <u>reject</u>, log in to Facebook and click "Share" to let your friends see how you feel about Elena Kagan's nomination.



So far, Congress.org users have sent 2,095 letters about Kagan's nomination, with 83 percent opposed and 17 percent in favor.

Who Watches the Watch List?

to the terror watch listed in April of 2008.



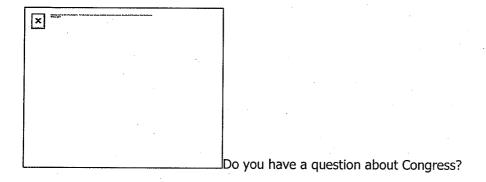
For reasons that are still unclear to him, Scherfen, a Gulf War veteran and a Muslim, was added

"It was a shock," he told Congress.org. "To think I had flown helicopters loaded with rockets at one time for the U.S., and then was listed."

The terror watch list was designed to prevent attacks by keeping a close watch on suspected terrorists. But some critics question how well it is being managed by intelligence officials, arguing it has too many "false positives" like Scherfen.

Read more about the terrorism watch list.

Congress Q&A: Terrorism Watch List

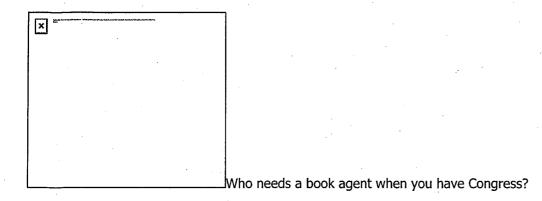


Every week, our research staff answers your questions about how Congress works, what's really in legislation being considered and where you can learn more on your own.

How does the terrorism watch list work?

If you have a question you'd like answered, e-mail editor@congress.org. You can also post it on <u>our Facebook wall</u> or write <u>@congressorg</u> on Twitter. Please include your name and hometown.

Congress' Unofficial Book Club



In recent weeks, Members of Congress have cited Michael Lewis' book, "The Big Short," at least 15 times in hearings, debates and interviews about the economic crisis.

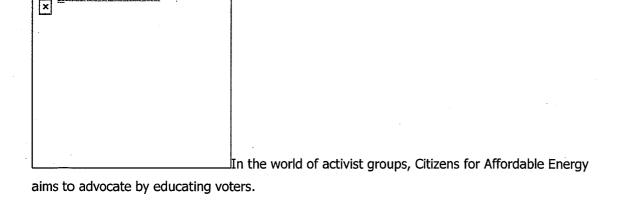
In words that would melt a literary agent's heart, Sen. Richard Durbin (D-III.) even called the book, which focuses on the run-up to the 2008 financial crisis, "an eye-opener."

"The Big Short" joints a long list of books that have been cited by lawmakers.

In recent years, the unofficial Congressional book club has also included Steve Coll's "Ghost Wars," an account of the CIA's involvement in Afghanistan before Sept. 11, and Thomas Friedman's "Hot, Flat and Crowded," which calls for an environmental revolution.

Read about the most influential books in Congressional history.

Environment: An Oil Executive's Solution



So it should come as no surprise that founder John Hofmeister chose to write a provocative book that sparked a debate on how America should solve its energy problems.

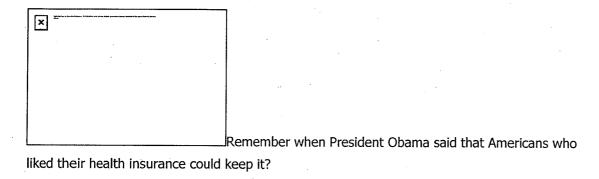
In "Why We Hate the Oil Companies," Hofmeister, who used to be Shell's president, argues that

Americans are hooked on energy and will only need more in years to come, leaving no room for debating ideology.

"Put in charge of energy, the right wing will destroy the earth; the left wing will destroy our society," he writes.

Read an interview with Hofmeister.

Health: Insurance Plans May Change



That may not be completely true after all. Most employees have health plans that will have to comply with new federal guidelines set by the overhaul — which could mean change.

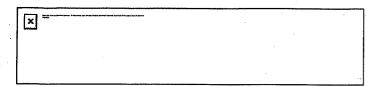
The revelation is the latest hiccup in the Obama administration's efforts to sell the overhaul to the American public.

It came during a week when small businesses also slammed the new law, advocacy groups collected thousands of signatures calling for a repeal, and conservatives tried to apply the legal arguments of Roe v. Wade to health care.

Read more about the state of the health care plan.

The Hopper: Honoring the Gipper

Lawmakers are looking for ways to honor former President Reagan.



Motion to Invoke Cloture on Baucus Substitute Amendment

The Senate rejected the motion to end debate and vote on this \$118 billion version of the bill to extend tax cuts and unemployment benefits due to concerns about the federal deficit. The Senate is likely to continue its work on the bill this week.

Vote: 56-40, 4 Not Voting

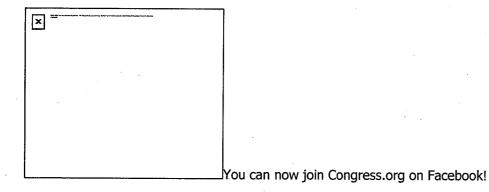
Small Business Lending Fund Act of 2010

The House passed this bill that would establish a \$30 billion lending fund administered by the Treasury Department to invest in financial institutions, like community banks, with the intention of expanding the availability of credit to small businesses. The bill now goes to the Senate.

Vote: 241-182, 9 Not Voting

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From:

Heather and Steve

Sent:

Monday, June 21, 2010 8:27 PM

To:

Anglin, Mike

Subject:

RE: assessment question

Thanks Mike - I will keep you posted.

Heather

From: Anglin, Mike [mailto:MAnglin@a2gov.org]

Sent: Monday, June 21, 2010 5:08 PM **To:** Fraser, Roger; Briere, Sabra

Cc: Crawford, Tom; Horning, Matthew; Dempkowski, Angela A; Hohnke, Carsten; phillipsandadams

Subject: RE: assessment question

Thanks for the update.

Mike

Thank you Mike Anglin 549 South First Street Ann Arbor, Mi 48103 e-mail;

From: Fraser, Roger

Sent: Monday, June 21, 2010 3:05 PM

To: Anglin, Mike; Briere, Sabra

Cc: Crawford, Tom; Horning, Matthew; Dempkowski, Angela A; Hohnke, Carsten; 'phillipsandadams

Subject: RE: assessment question

Mike, it appears there is an appointment to inspect the property scheduled for this Wednesday.

Roger

734-794-6110

rfraser@a2gov.org

From: Anglin, Mike

Sent: Monday, June 21, 2010 1:19 PM **To:** Briere, Sabra; Fraser, Roger

Cc: Crawford, Tom; Horning, Matthew; Dempkowski, Angela A; Hohnke, Carsten; phillipsandadams

Subject: RE: assessment question

Hello Roger and others.

This appears to be a situation in which a deliberately quick response is in order. Please keep us informed as to progress and I would suggest that City initiate the contact needed so that the home owners tasks of dealing with the "corridors of government" are reduced..Thanks and I will look forward to a response.

Mike

Thank you Mike Anglin 549 South First Street Ann Arbor, Mi 48103 e-mail:

From: Briere, Sabra

Sent: Friday, June 18, 2010 10:14 AM

To: Fraser, Roger

Cc: Crawford, Tom: Horning, Matthew; Dempkowski, Angela A; Anglin, Mike; Hohnke, Carsten;

phillipsandadams

Subject: assessment question

Dear Mr. Fraser,

I received the email (below) from friends of mine who live in the Fifth Ward. Mike Anglin received the same message.

So far, they have not received an inspection, and the issue of their tax assessment is clearly in limbo. Can we get this situation resolved quickly? I know they have been living in this house for more than 4 years, and that they used to live in the First Ward (although not while I have been on Council).

Thank you,

Hello Mike and Sabra.

We have a strange problem involving our property tax assessment. In Feb. we received a letter (attached) telling us our Homestead Exemption was in question as our house is a multi-unit building (!?!?!?). There was an affidavit attached to fill out and change the percentage we occupy. We spoke to the Assessors office, and the person said that there were voters registered at this address that we don't know, and when I told her there was no one else living here she said to wait on filling out the affidavit and they would make an inspection to ascertain the status of our dwelling. Our home used to be a duplex, but we are occupying it as a single family, and we tore out one of the kitchens when we remodeled the basement. I also told the person that the previous tenant at our home before we bought it was an Building Dept. employee and they could ask him about it too. We pulled permits for all of that work and I can provide copies of those as well. We also have photos from our occupancy and that of previous owners. The Assessors office never got back to us, and never sent an inspector/appraiser.

Truthfully, we had forgotten about it until:

Yesterday, when we received a letter from the State (also attached), notifying us that our Principal Residence Exemption was being denied and that we must file an appeal within 35 days. I called the City to ask what happened and they said they could not find permits for the work we did, and I should talk to the state. I called the Tax Tribunal office and they gave me the website for the appeal form (www.michigan.gov/taxtrib and why that information isn't on the Notice of Denial letter, I can't imagine), saying their hands were tied and that I should talk to the city. So I called the City assessors office back, talked to Chris Kallas who I was told handles all these things. She told me that they couldn't find any permits for the work we did and burden of proof was on us to show that there is only the one residence here and that we should fill out the appeal form. The state would then set up a case and things would take their course. She also said she wasn't the person who handled appeals, and when I asked if there was anyone who did, she asked me to hold for moment. When she came back on the line, she said to wait before filling out the appeal and that the Tax Appraiser/Inspector would call to set up an Inspection here at the house. When I reminded her that someone had said that back in February, she had no explanation for it not happening.

So now we don't know what we should do. Wait for this Appraiser's Inspection, fill out and file forms we were told to wait on, call someone else about it, what?

Since both of you have personally visited our home, and perhaps have some influence with the maze of government, please let us know your thoughts,

Steve Adams and Heather Phillips

Ann Arbor, MI 48103

Sabra Briere First Ward Councilmember (734)995-3518 (home) (734)277-6578 (cell)

From:

Bryant Community Center [bryantdirector@gmail.com]

Sent:

Monday, June 21, 2010 9:03 PM

Subject:

Update on Water Main and Street Resurfacing Project in Bryant Community

UPDATE ON BRYANT NEIGHBORHOOD'S WATER MAIN REPLACEMENT & STREET RESURFACING PROJECTS

Community Action Network recently asked for an update on the water main replacement and street resurfacing projects. We received the following response from **Anne Warrow**, **P.E.**, **Project Manager**, **Public Services Area** - **Project Management**, **City of Ann Arbor**:

"The water main/road resurfacing project has been delayed until next Spring. There are several reasons for the delay that include:

- 1. The design of the new water main and the road resurfacing plans have taken longer than was originally estimated. We spent a lot of time this past winter and early spring collecting a bunch of data, with the assistance from some of the residents. We performed over 40 soil borings. We cleaned and televised all of the sanitary and storm sewers within the neighborhood.
- 2. The Construction would not have started before July 1st of this year and we would have only been able to complete 1/3 of the work.
- 3. The neighborhood will only have to endure one summer of construction.
- 4. The water main will be funded with Drinking Water Revolving Fund from the State of Michigan. The closing on the bond sale worked better if the project was delayed until the December of 2010.

The project (Arbor Oaks Subdivision Water Main Replacement Project) is now scheduled to go out to bid this fall with a proposed construction start date of March of 2010."

Derrick Miller Center Director Bryant Community Center (734)477-0292 Community Action Network www.canannarbor.org

From:

suzanne morisse

Sent:

Monday, June 21, 2010 9:24 PM

To:

Hieftje, John

Subject:

FW: a picture is worth a thousand words

Attachments:

ATT00054.jpg

Date: Mon, 21 Jun 2010 15:57:40 -0700

From: peaches2259

Subject: Fw: a picture is worth a thousand words

To: joanneboland

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brmyers

ryanbontrager eaglehorse1

sprindle0928(max 333333

---- Forwarded Message ----

From: Jerry Eisemann <geraldeis
To: Undisclosed-Recipient@yahoo.com

Sent: Mon, June 21, 2010 2:19:34 PM

Subject: Fw: a picture is worth a thousand words

Ok all you fighters for immigrants rights. Here is one of the reasons we, as the ones who have to pay for welfare for these immigrants, depriving the natural citizens, have a problem with doing so. One of the several reasons the U.S.A. is falling apart, too.

"Getter Done Arizona"!



Enough said.

Boy-oh-Boy, this needs to travel around the U.S.A. Don't let it die folks.

No virus found in this incoming message.

Checked by AVG - <u>www.avg.com</u>
Version: 9.0.829 / Virus Database: 271.1.1/2952 - Release Date: 06/20/10 14:36:00

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From:

Virg Bernero [bounce@bounce.myngp.com] on behalf of Virg Bernero [virg@votevirg.com]

Sent:

Monday, June 21, 2010 9:36 PM

To: Subject: Rapundalo, Stephen Challenging My Opponent

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Dear Stephen,

Tonight, I exposed my opponent House Speaker Andy Dillon's proven record as a **job-killing corporate raider** during our first one-on-one debate.

Speaker Dillon can run but he can't hide from the fact that he is directly responsible for putting hard-working Americans out of their jobs. The facts are clear and inescapable – as a corporate CEO Andy Dillon led the acquisition of companies that were then dismantled piece by piece, busting union contracts, slashing salaries and benefits, and throwing people out of their jobs.

For a full recap and point-by-point account of Dillon's dismal job-killing record visit my website.

During the debate, I prevailed by presenting my strong record as Mayor of the City of Lansing where I have balanced five straight city budgets, on time, without raising taxes, and without laying off a single employee. While in contrast, Speaker Dillon has presided over two government shutdowns due to his inability to balance state budgets, and has adopted an all-cuts Republican budget with countless unfunded mandates – forcing local communities to cut critical services including police and fire.

The people of Michigan deserve to hear the truth about Andy Dillon's dismal job-killing record. So I have challenged Dillon to go toe-to-toe with me in more debates just like tonight's debate across the state. The people of Michigan deserve to hear and see the differences between my opponent and I on the issues most relevant to voters across this state.

Tonight, I stood strong for the hard working men and women of this state. I showed why I am the best candidate to lead Michigan as our next Governor.

Please contribute \$25, \$50, or \$100 right now to help my campaign

	continue spreading our message to voters around the state.	
	With your support, I know we can Make Michigan Work Again!	
	Sincerely,	
	X X	
	Virg Bernero	
	Mayor of Lansing	
	Candidate for Governor	
E		

Paid for by Virg Bernero for Michigan, P.O. Box 10067, Lansing, MI 48901.

PO Box 10067 Lansing, MI 48901

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From: Sent: Virg Bernero [bounce@bounce.myngp.com] on behalf of Virg Bernero [virg@votevirg.com]

Monday, June 21, 2010 9:40 PM

To:

Higgins, Marcia

Subject: Challenging My Opponent

To the state of th		
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Dear Marcia,

Tonight, I exposed my opponent House Speaker Andy Dillon's proven record as a **job-killing corporate raider** during our first one-on-one debate.

Speaker Dillon can run but he can't hide from the fact that he is directly responsible for putting hard-working Americans out of their jobs. The facts are clear and inescapable – as a corporate CEO Andy Dillon led the acquisition of companies that were then dismantled piece by piece, busting union contracts, slashing salaries and benefits, and throwing people out of their jobs.

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continue spreading our messag	ge to voters arou	nd the state.			
With your support, I know we can Make Michigan Work Again!					
Sincerely,					
x					
Virg Bernero					
Mayor of Lansing					
Candidate for Governor					
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To:

gotv5@politicalcallsnow.com Monday, June 21, 2010 9:43 PM gotv@politicalcallsnow.com

Subject:

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To:

moderator@PORTSIDE.ORG Monday, June 21, 2010 9:45 PM PORTSIDE@LISTS.PORTSIDE.ORG

Subject:

Mismanaging Contraction

Mismanaging Contraction

Monday 21 June 2010

by: James Howard Kunstler, t r u t h o u t | Op-Ed

http://www.truth-out.org/mismanaging-contraction60608

photo (Image: Jared Rodriguez / t r u t h o u t;

Adapted: akseez, I Love Milwaukee)

Lesson of the Macondo: Blowout preventers don't prevent blowouts. This comes as a shock to people attuned to the on-schedule arrival of techno-miracles. Now, all the acronym-studded invocations of techno-mastery by men wearing interesting hats will not avail to put the schnitz on an epic horror show in the Gulf of Mexico.

President Obama's speech to the nation a week ago was designed as a kind of blowout preventer for the legitimacy of the federal government. It did little to stop the hemorrhaging of confidence in political leadership. A nation foundering in a crippled vessel in the horse latitudes of collective purpose on a sea of red ink looks to its captain - who puffs a few platitudes into the tattered sails and retreats belowdecks to pace and stew. This is a society truly lost at sea, where even the friendly dolphins are turning belly-up and the dying seabirds stare accusingly under their cloaks of crude oil. The feeling grows that we can't do anything right. Will someone please turn off the TV?

In 2008, the voters turned to a lanky newcomer from Illinois to rescue itself from just the sort of technocrat jerkoffs who had run the nation into a ditch with their invocations of "mission accomplished" and "Good job, Brownie." Change was in the air. Alas, consistent with the apparent fact that history rhymes but doesn't repeat, Barack Obama proved to be the reincarnation of Millard Fillmore, not Abe Lincoln.

Sometimes history works in free verse and this stanza was off by a few syllables. It turns out that change was exactly the one thing not really in the air.

America does not want change, except from the cash register at WalMart.

The last time America faced a convulsion as profound as the present one was the late 1850s. The internal contradiction of slavery was driving the nation crazy.

The Whig party had been running things for a couple of decades. The Whigs were the party of Daniel Webster and Henry Clay. They tried everything possible to finesse the expansion of US territory around the inflammatory issue of slavery. Fillmore came along just in time for the Compromise of 1850, which was intended to settle things and did absolutely nothing to settle things. By the time the election of 1852 happened, Both Webster and Clay were old men preparing to meet their maker and the Whig party absolutely fell apart. Scroll forward a few years and we're in the slaughterhouse of The Civil War.

A hundred and sixty years later now, and the USA faces a new and very different set of internal contradictions. We've ramped up a living arrangement that has no future, just as slavery had no future.

We're uncomfortable with the mandates of reality, which is trying to tell us we have to live differently. The American people don't want to hear this. The president doesn't want to tell

them. It's possible that he is not tuned into the reality radio station that is broadcasting its mandates. You'd think the Macondo Blowout horror show was coming across loud and clear.

Right after President Obama gave his vapid speech last week, he traveled to Ohio to brag about how much federal stimulus money was going into "shovel-ready" highway projects there. I sincerely believe that the last thing we need right now in this country is more and better highways. Every president since Jimmy Carter has acknowledged that there's a problem with our extreme oil dependency, but none of them have made the short leap to understand that we have a more fundamental problem with car dependency. Someone paying attention to the mandates of reality would get the choo-choo trains running from Dayton to Columbus to Cincinnati to Cleveland - and he would tell General Motors to get into the business of making railroad cars so we don't have to import them from Canada.

Reality is telling us to downscale and get different fast. Quit doing everything possible to prop up the drive-in false utopia and all its accessories. Get local. Tighten up. We have no intention of doing that.

The idiocy that passes as informed opinion wants the US money managers to kick out the jambs handing out more money created out of thin air to promote a fantasy called "recovery." To what purpose? To keep the tailgate parties going down at the Nascar ovals? Over at The New York Times Monday morning, the fatuous Paul Krugman says that "stinting on spending now threatens the economic recovery." Earth to Krugman: we're mismanaging contraction. Further expansion is just not in the cards right now for the human race. We don't need more people on the planet and we don't have the means to accommodate them. There will be no 'recovery" to "growth" - especially by means of pumping more oil into the system. There is no technomiracle alt-fuel panoply waiting in the wings to take over from oil. And there is no research-and-development program that will make it happen, no matter how many acronym-studded incantations we drone out.

I admit that contraction is a hard reality - but so is the recognition that we don't get to live forever, something every child begins to grapple with around age seven. The inability to face comprehensive contraction will only insure that its side effects are more debilitating.

This article was also published on James Howard Kunstler's blog.

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From:

moderator@PORTSIDE.ORG

Sent:

Monday, June 21, 2010 9:46 PM PORTSIDE@LISTS.PORTSIDE.ORG

To: Subject:

Jose Saramago, Nobel Prize-Winning Portuguese Writer, Dies at 87

Jose Saramago, Nobel Prize-Winning Portuguese Writer, Dies at 87

June 18, 2010

By FERNANDA EBERSTADT

http://www.nytimes.com/2010/06/19/books/19saramago.html

Jose Saramago, the Portuguese writer who won the Nobel Prize in Literature in 1998 with novels that combine surrealist experimentation with a kind of sardonic peasant pragmatism, died on Friday at his home in Lanzarote in the Canary Islands. He was 87.

The cause was multiple organ failure after a long illness, the Jose Saramago Foundation said in an announcement on its Web site, josesaramago.org.

A tall, commandingly austere man with a dry, schoolmasterly manner, Mr. Saramago gained international acclaim for novels like "Baltasar and Blimunda" and "Blindness." (A film adaptation of "Blindness" by the Brazilian director Fernando Meirelles was released in 2008.)

He was the first Portuguese-language writer to win the Nobel Prize, and more than two million copies of his books have been sold, his longtime friend and editor, Zeferino Coelho, said.

A novel by Mr. Saramago, "The Elephant's Journey," is to be published posthumously in English on Sept. 8 by Houghton Mifflin Harcourt.

Mr. Saramago was known almost as much for his unfaltering Communism as for his fiction. In later years he used his stature as a Nobel laureate to deliver lectures at international congresses around the world, accompanied by his wife, the Spanish journalist Pilar del Rio. He described globalization as the new totalitarianism and lamented contemporary democracy's failure to stem the increasing powers of multinational corporations.

To many Americans, Mr. Saramago's name is associated with a statement he made while touring the West Bank in 2002, when he compared Israel's treatment of Palestinians to the Holocaust.

As a professional novelist, Mr. Saramago was a late bloomer. A first novel, published when he was 23, was followed by 30 years of silence. He became a full-time writer only in his late 50s, after working variously as a garage mechanic, a welfare agency bureaucrat, a printing production manager, a proofreader, a translator and a newspaper columnist.

In 1975, a countercoup overthrew Portugal's Communist-led revolution of the previous year, and Mr.

Saramago was fired as deputy editor of the Lisbon newspaper Diario de Noticias. Overnight, along with other prominent leftists, he became virtually unemployable.

"Being fired was the best luck of my life," he said in an interview in The New York Times Magazine in 2007.

"It made me stop and reflect. It was the birth of my life as a writer."

His first major success was the rollicking love story "Baltasar and Blimunda." Set in 18th-century Portugal, it portrays the misadventures of three eccentrics threatened by the Inquisition: a heretic priest who constructs a flying machine and the two lovers who help him -- Baltasar, a one-handed ex-soldier, and Blimunda, a sorceress's daughter who has X-ray vision.

At one point the couple decides to take refuge for the night in a hayloft. "There is no more satisfying smell than that of turned hay," Mr. Saramago writes, "of bodies under a blanket, of oxen feeding at the trough, the scent of cold air filtering through the chinks in the hayloft, and perhaps the scent of the moon, for everyone knows that the night assumes a different smell when there is moonlight, and even a blind man, who is incapable of distinguishing night from day, will say, The moon is shining, St. Lucy is believed to have worked this miracle, so it is really only a question of inhaling, Yes, my friends, what a splendid moon this evening."

The novel, published in an English translation in 1987, won Mr. Saramago a passionate international following.

The critic Irving Howe, praising its union of "harsh realism" and "lyric fantasy," described Mr. Saramago as "a voice of European skepticism, a connoisseur of ironies."

"I think I hear in his prose echoes of Enlightenment sensibility, caustic and shrewd," Mr. Howe wrote.

Asked by The New York Times in 2008 to assess Mr.

Saramago's achievement, the critic James Wood wrote:

"Jose Saramago was both an avant-gardist and a traditionalist. His long blocks of unbroken prose, lacking conventional markers like paragraph breaks and quotation marks, could look forbidding and modernist; but his frequent habit of handing over the narration in his novels to a kind of 'village chorus' and what seem like peasant simplicities allowed Saramago great flexibility."

On the one hand, Mr. Wood wrote, it allowed the writer to "revel in sheer storytelling," and on the other to "undermine, ironically, the very 'truths' and simplicities his apparently unsophisticated narrators traded in."

Paradox was Mr. Saramago's stock in trade. A militant atheist who maintained that human history would have been a lot more peaceful if it weren't for religion, his novels are still preoccupied with the question of God.

His novel "The Gospel According to Jesus Christ," in which Jesus on the cross apologizes to mankind for God's sins, was deemed blasphemous by some believers and deeply religious by others. When the Portuguese government, under pressure from the Roman Catholic Church, blocked its entry for a European Literary Prize in 1992, Mr. Saramago chose to go into exile in the Canary Islands, a Spanish possession.

Mr. Saramago's hardscrabble origins did not seem to predestine him for a life of letters. Born in 1922 in the village of Azinhaga, 60 miles northeast of Lisbon, he was largely raised by his maternal grandparents while his parents sought work in the big city.

In his Nobel acceptance speech, Mr. Saramago spoke admiringly of these grandparents, illiterate peasants who, in the winter, slept in the same bed as their piglets yet who imparted to him a taste for fantasy and folklore as well as a respect for nature.

One of Mr. Saramago's last books, and one of his most touching, was a childhood memoir titled "Small Memories." In it, he recounts the trauma of being transplanted from his grandparents' rural shack to Lisbon, where his father had joined the police force.

Several months later, Francisco, his older brother and only sibling, died of pneumonia.

Mr. Saramago loved to tell a story of how he came by his surname. His real family name was de Sousa. But when, as a 7-year-old boy, he showed up for his first day of school and presented his birth certificate, it was discovered that the clerk in his home village had registered him as Jose Saramago. "Saramago," which means "wild radish," a green that country people were obliged to eat in hard times, was the insulting nickname by which the novelist's father was known.

"My father wasn't very happy, but if that was his son's official name, well, then he too had to take it," he recounted in the 2007 interview. The family remained so poor, Mr. Saramago recalled in his memoir, that every spring his mother pawned their blankets, hoping that she might be able to redeem them by the following winter.

Though he was a good student, his family's financial straits compelled Mr. Saramago to drop out of grammar school at 12 and switch to a vocational school, where he was trained as a car mechanic.

The most oppressive influence on him, however, was one he rarely wrote about: the fascist regime that ruled Portugal from 1926 to 1974. "The Year of the Death of Ricardo Reis," regarded as his masterpiece, is his only novel to deal directly with the dictatorship of Antonio de Oliveira Salazar.

Set in 1936 in a Europe darkened by the ascendancy of Hitler, Mussolini, Franco and Salazar, the book tells the story of the title character, a doctor and poet living in Brazil who returns to fascist Lisbon when he hears of the death of his friend Fernando Pessoa, Portugal's great modernist poet.

What gives the book its dreamlike blend of historical reality and illusion is the fact that Ricardo Reis was actually one of the aliases Fernando Pessoa used to publish much of his verse. The novel, consisting of increasingly macabre encounters between the ghost of Pessoa and his fictional alter ego is a delicate meditation on identity and nothingness, poetry and power.

In his later years, Mr. Saramago's fiction became more starkly allegorical. In novels like "Blindness," in which an entire city is struck by a plague of sightlessness that reduces most of its citizens to barbarism, readers have found a powerful parable about the fragility of human civilization.

Mr. Saramago's first marriage, to Ilda Reis, whom he wed in 1944, ended in divorce in 1970. Besides his wife, Ms. del Rio, whom he married in 1988, he is survived by a daughter from his first marriage, Violante Saramago Matos; and two grandchildren.

"Saramago for the last 25 years stood his own with any novelist of the Western world," the critic Harold Bloom said in an interview for this obituary in 2008. "He was the equal of Philip Roth, Gunther Grass, Thomas Pynchon and Don DeLillo. His genius was remarkably versatile -- he was at once a great comic and a writer of shocking earnestness and grim poignancy. It is hard to believe he will not survive."

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From:

moderator@PORTSIDE.ORG

Sent:

Monday, June 21, 2010 9:46 PM PORTSIDE@LISTS.PORTSIDE.ORG

To: Subject:

Massachusetts Legislators Back Free Speech for People (Not Corporate Persons)

Massachusetts Legislators Back Free Speech for People (Not Corporate Persons)

http://freespeechforpeople.org/node/146

http://dailykos.com/story/2010/6/21/13337/6862

The corporatocracy rolls on in a wave of black goo, drowning pelicans and our representative republic.

Steps that could limit CEO pay or require disclosure of corporate election funding are killed or stalled.

But good news exists as well and it comes from the states. Today it's Massachusetts. This is a model of how we will save this republic.

Today, a group of Massachusetts state legislators, led by Massachusetts State Senator Jamie Eldridge, will introduce the Free Speech For People resolution in the state legislature (PDF). The resolution calls on the US Congress "to pass and send to the states for ratification a constitutional amendment to restore the First Amendment and fair elections to the people."

This is a major step forward in building a broad-based movement to reclaim our Constitution and our democracy.

If you live in Massachusetts, contact your state legislators today and urge that they support this resolution. If you live outside the state but have friends or relatives in Massachusetts, contact them today and urge that they do the same.

The passage of this resolution in Massachusetts can serve as a model for other states.

If you are outside Massachusetts, we also urge you to contact your state legislators and ask that they introduce the Free Speech For People resolution in your state.

The nation is at a crossroads. Will we the people rule or will we face further corporate control? We have the power, through the constitutional amendment process, to ensure that it is we the people, not the corporations, who shall govern.

Join in at http://freespeechforpeople.org

And read this:

STATEMENT OF JEFF CLEMENTS GENERAL COUNSEL, FREE SPEECH FOR PEOPLE

Before A Press Conference and Legislative Briefing Announcing the Introduction of the Free Speech For People Resolution and the Massachusetts Corporate Political Accountability Act in the Massachusetts Legislature Monday, June 21, 2010, 12 Noon Massachusetts State House, Room 222 Hosted by Massachusetts State Senator Jamie Eldridge, Representative Cory Atkins and Representative William Straus

(Jeff Clements is the former Chief of the Public Protection and Advocacy Bureau of the Massachusetts Attorney General's Office. Mr. Clements filed an amicus brief with the US

Supreme Court in Citizens United v. FEC on behalf of five public interest groups arguing that the First Amendment did not shield corporations from campaign finance laws. He formed Clements Law Office, LLC (http://www.clementsllc.com) in 2009 after returning to private practice from the Massachusetts Attorney General's Office.)

My name is Jeff Clements. I serve as general counsel for Free Speech for People (www.freespeechforpeople.org).

Free Speech for People is a national campaign of public interest and business leaders, law professors, elected representatives, and thousands and thousands of people across the nation, who are working to overrule Citizens United v. FEC and the Supreme Court's fabrication of "corporate rights" in our Constitution. We will do that by amending the Constitution to protect our democracy and to restore free speech, fair elections, and self-government.

Citizens United and related cases that have created unprecedented corporate speech rights under the First Amendment are wrong as a matter of Constitutional law, American history, and basic principles of liberty and self-government.

The 5-4 decision by the right wing of the Supreme Court in Citizens United decreed that the American people are powerless to stop corporations from using billions and billions of corporate general treasury funds to determine the outcome of our elections at every level.

Think of that: The largest 100 corporations alone have annual profits exceeding \$600 billion. And the Court now has declared that we cannot stop corporations from using these billions of dollars to elect, defeat or pressure candidates and elected representatives of the people, and that they can do so not only in federal elections, not only in state elections, but even in local elections, town meetings, zoning board hearings, you name it. As Justice Stevens and the dissenters state, this is a "radical departure from what has been settled First Amendment law"

Let's be clear. Corporations are not people; they do not speak; they do not vote; they do not serve.

Corporations exist because we the people decide through our laws to permit the creation of corporations with limited liability and many other advantages. We do this for economic and policy reasons, and we have always reserved the right to regulate corporate conduct as the people see fit.

Now, the Court has taken from the American people the fundamental decision about the proper role of corporations in our democracy, and instructed that Americans must live with political dominance by corporations.

We disagree. We do not accept that we must live with political dominance by powerful corporations. We do not accept that corporations have the same rights as people.

We are proud to stand with Senator Eldridge, Representative Atkins, Representative Straus, and millions of Americans across the country who are standing up for democracy, and standing up for free speech and self-government for people.

The Massachusetts Corporate Political Accountability Act would enhance transparency and accountability by requiring reporting, disclosure and shareholder and board approval for corporate political expenditures.

This legislation is very much needed, and we urge that the General Court enact it as soon as possible.

But as good as that legislation is, it will not be enough so long as the radical doctrine of Citizens United remains. That is why it is so important that we also enact the Free Speech

for People resolution calling on the United States Congress to send the 28th Amendment to the states for ratification.

The fabrication of corporate political and speech rights by self-described "conservatives" on the Court presents us with the fundamental question: Who is a citizen who participates in our democracy and serves the people? We face again the fundamental question that Americans have confronted since the founding of our Republic more than two centuries ago: Are we, in fact, a government of the people, where every human being has an equal say and equal rights to participate in our democracy?

Make no mistake. The creation of corporate rights to dominate our politics means that most people will not have an equal say, and we will not have a government reflecting the will of the people.

What can we do? We can do what Americans have always done to make our democracy and republic work. We can do what the nation's founders intended and our Constitution provides: Adopt and ratify the 28th Amendment to the Constitution to overrule Citizens United, to reject the alien concept of corporate rather than human rights, and to return to the people the power of deciding what place corporations play in our democracy.

Americans have used the Constitutional amendment process repeatedly to correct egregiously wrong decisions of the Supreme Court, from deciding that African Americans, "whether emancipated or not," are not citizens and "had no rights which the white man is bound to respect" (Dred Scott v. Sandford, 60 U.S. 393

(1856)) to deciding that even if women were citizens under the 14th Amendment, they had no right to vote because the Constitution, according to the Court, did not guarantee the right to vote as among the fundamental rights, privileges or immunities of citizenship (Minor v. Happersett, 88 U.S. 162 (1874)).

Indeed, following the adoption of our Constitution and Bill of Rights, the very first use of the Amendment process was to overrule the Supreme Court by adopting the 11th Amendment concerning lawsuits against states.

We have amended the Constitution 27 times, and 17 times since the ratification of the Bill of Rights. These Amendments corrected what the American people understood were improper restrictions on the right of all people to participate in self- government on equal terms. The 13th Amendment ended slavery, the 14th guaranteed liberty, due process and equal protection of all, and the 15th guaranteed that the right to vote could not be abridged on account of race. Adopting the 16th Amendment, the people overruled the Supreme Court's decision holding that Congress lacked the power to enact a progressive income tax. With the 17th Amendment (1913), the people insisted upon the right to elect Senators, who previously were elected by the state legislatures. With the 19th Amendment, the people guaranteed the right of women to vote. The 24th Amendment was adopted in 1964 to eliminate the poll tax, which was used to block poor people, often African Americans, from voting. The 26th Amendment in 1971, again overruling a Supreme Court holding, ensured that the right to vote included men and women age 18 and older.

Now we must do so again. In a matter of weeks after Citizens United, more than 50,000 Americans endorsed the Free Speech for People amendment resolution. Congress began to act, and there are now at least four amendment bills pending in Congress. Resolutions calling for a Constitutional amendment have been introduced in at least eight states, as well as in towns and party conventions as the widespread rejection of the Court's ruling continues to build.

And this response is not a partisan one; it is an American one. Poll after poll shows virtually all Americans opposed to the result in Citizens United, and this is the same whether it is Independents, Republicans or Democrats who are polled.

The Massachusetts Corporate Political Accountability Act is a critical immediate step. But Americans must also re-assert control of our political destiny. We must reject the twisting of the First Amendment to confuse artificial economic creations of state law with people who have inalienable rights and duties of self-government, and we must reject the misuse of the First Amendment that gives corporations immunity from the people's laws regulating corporate conduct. We can do that with the 28th Amendment, and the Free Speech for People Amendment resolution is a very important step forward to make that a reality.

We appreciate the leadership of Sen. Eldridge, Rep. Atkins, and Rep. Straus in this effort, and we are proud that Massachusetts once again is taking a leading role to ensure that government of, for, and by the people will thrive and will not perish.

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From: Sent: moderator@PORTSIDE.ORG Monday, June 21, 2010 9:45 PM

To:

PORTSIDE@LISTS.PORTSIDE.ORG

Subject:

Finding Lessons of Solidarity in Auto Industry Shake-Up

Finding Lessons of Solidarity in Auto Industry Shake-Up

By Bankole Thompson and Mitch Moxley Inter Press Service June 20, 2010

http://ipsnews.net/news.asp?idnews=51886

DETROIT/BEIJING

As thousands of people from around the world prepare to converge in Detroit, where expectations are high for the Jun. 22-26 U.S. Social Forum, activists and auto workers hope the meet will be an opportunity to chart a sustainable future for an industry that provides 1.7 million U.S. jobs.

Detroit has been hit harder than nearly any other U.S. city by growing competition from Asia, rising oil prices, and the economic recession that took a heavy toll on the "Big Three" U.S. carmakers - Chrysler, Ford and General Motors.

According to the Centre for Automotive Research (CAR), in 2007, for the first time in history, international firms like Toyota, Honda and Hyundai sold about half of the cars bought in the U.S. By the end of 2009, the U.S. carmakers' share had fallen further, to an estimated 42 percent.

Many critics of the Big Three say their own design failures and disinterest in fuel efficiency are at least partly to blame - in 2006, for example, Consumer Reports declared that all 10 of the cars that it considered to be the 10 best were built by Japanese companies.

One result has been a hemorrhaging of U.S. auto industry jobs - between 1993 and 2008, the state of Michigan (home to the city of Detroit) lost 83,000 auto manufacturing jobs. By 2008, the entire U.S. car industry was operating at less than 50 percent capacity, according to CAR figures.

"Worldwide, new markets are emerging and the U.S. will remain stagnant, unstable because wealth and income continues to shift from working people to the rich. Oil supplies and prices will remain a wild card too," Frank Joyce, who served as spokesperson for the United Auto Workers (UAW) union, told IPS.

"The benchmarks on quality, production systems, design and marketing are now quite comparable across the globe," Joyce said. "Even the gap in labour costs is narrowing as U.S. auto wages are driven down and wages in China and elsewhere are moving up."

Labour activists say they are looking at the big picture and considering the kinds of policies that fit with the current highly globalised economy, which is vastly different from the industrial economy that once improved living standards for U.S. workers and helped to stabilise families.

Richard Feldman, a UAW member and participant in the upcoming U.S. Social Forum, said the struggles faced by automotive workers in the U.S. are similar to what workers in Asia are going through despite the seeming growth of the Asian automotive market.

"Toyota closed their only union represented facility in the U.S. and we now need to deepen our commitment to organise the Asian and European multinational corporations in the South," Feldman said. "I don't think it is about losing to Asia but recognising we need to create new concepts of transportation that respect the limits of planetary resources and where workers and communities are respected and given a voice at the table."

Indeed, a wave of unrest at foreign-owned factories in China is now showing signs of spreading into the poorer interior regions.

The disputes are a black eye for China's Communist Party, which has long sought to discourage worker activism and has dealt out harsh punishments to protestors. The unrest has not been reported widely in local media.

Honda Motor Company, for instance, has struggled with several labour disputes at four China factories. A spate of worker suicides has hounded other firms.

There have been 12 suicide attempts since January at two sprawling Foxconn campuses in Shenzhen. The factories, which employ about 400,000, produce products for companies including Apple, Dell and Hewlett- Packard.

In response to the unrest, Beijing has promised higher wages for workers and farmers, even as local officials continue to attract investors with promises of cheap labour. Foxconn raised salaries by 66 percent and Honda by at least 20 percent.

Following the disputes at Honda and Foxconn, strikes were also reported at other foreign run factories far from the wealthier Pearl River Delta region, including the factory of a Taiwanese-owned sports goods supplier in Jiangxi province and at Brother Industries, a Japanese sewing machine maker in Xian. The disputes focus on low pay and high living costs, long hours with little to no rest, and employers trying to rein in costs.

Experts say the unrest is reflective of a new generation of workers who are unable or unwilling to handle the conditions their predecessors faced.

"The majority of migrant workers now are young people born in the late 1980s and early 1990s. They went to school but lacked enough schooling. They want a decent salary and life in cities. If they feel treated unfairly, they will stand up and fight against it," says Xiao Qingshan, a labour activist based in Guangdong.

Zhou Xiaozhen, a sociology professor at Renmin University in Beijing, says the recent unrest occurred in part because the factories belonged to foreign owned companies, adding that labour protests would have been halted quickly at state- owned enterprises. But he also attributed the disputes to poor working conditions and bad management. He adds that the ban on labour unions makes it difficult for workers to improve their work conditions.

"China's workers are at a disadvantaged position, and they can't unite together. Employers can do whatever they want, which makes suicides and labour unrest break out," Zhou says.

Building alliances among workers around the world is one of the goals of the second U.S. Social Forum, a spin-off of the World Social Forum movement.

Joyce said the week-long gathering in Detroit will help forge a strong democratic response to propel a new wave of social and economic justice and progress, because the automakers need to be "more green, far more oriented toward mass transit and more economically fair to workers".

Feldman added that while technology and outsourcing has been an issue for the U.S. auto industry - 16 percent of North American vehicle production is currently in Mexico and

expected to grow to 20 percent in coming years - the challenge now is to create a local sustainable economy with green transportation.

"Work is a human right," Feldman said. "A new American dream is being created. to increase our standard of living to create a new quality of life where we live more simply."

*Mitch Moxley reported from Beijing.

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From:

moderator@PORTSIDE.ORG

Sent: To: Monday, June 21, 2010 9:46 PM PORTSIDE@LISTS.PORTSIDE.ORG

Subject:

Protesters Prevent Unloading of Israeli Ship at Port of Oakland

Protesters Prevent Unloading of Israeli Ship at Port of Oakland

Longshore workers don't cross picket lines set up by Gaza activists

By Sean Maher Oakland Tribune June 21, 2010

http://www.insidebayarea.com/news/ci 15340393

OAKLAND

Hundreds of peace activists prevented the unloading of an Israeli ship at the Port of Oakland Sunday by forming a picket line that was considered a threat to longshoremen who could otherwise have worked.

Organizers said their goal was to delay the ship's unloading for 24 hours in protest of the Israeli military's May 31 open seas raid on a humanitarian aid flotilla that had been bringing goods to Gaza. The raid resulted in the deaths of nine Turkish citizens.

Several hundred people gathered around 5:30 a.m. at berths 57, 58 and 59, which is operated by SSA Terminals. An Israeli Zim Lines ship was expected to arrive in the morning, but though it didn't arrive until the afternoon, the crowd stayed, preventing workers from unloading a ship from China, according to SSA officials.

"Free, free Palestine! Don't cross the picket line!" the crowd's leaders and pickets shouted, blocking the berths' entrances and preventing about 100 longshoremen from walking past.

The longshoremen's union largely cooperated with the picket line. No workers tried to cross it and Clarence Thomas, an executive board member of the International Longshore and Warehouse Union Local 10 said, "We don't want our members getting into fist fights or anything.

We don't want police escorting us to work. That's unsafe."

Organizers had informed Oakland police of their plans for the picket, and OPD reported no arrests.

Richard Mead, president of Local 10 said Sunday evening that SSA decided against ordering night shift workers to unload the Israeli ship so employees didn't show up and didn't have to cross any picket lines.

"We can't make them order a crew," said Mead. "It is what is."

The shutdown was a success for protesters who wanted to halt the business of the ship for 24 hours, said organizer Richard Becker.

"We consider this to be a huge victory and a historic moment," he said. "This is the first time this has happened, that an Israeli ship was blocked from unloading in a U.S. port."

Even after protesters heard that the shutdown was successful, around 200 people continued to picket until

7 p.m., about an hour and a half after the ship docked.

The flotilla raid, protesters said, was only the latest injustice to come from Israel's actions toward what it considers hostile neighbors: marchers demanded Israel end its blockade of Gaza and its occupation of the West Bank in Palestine.

"My grandmother's Jewish. I'm not anti-Semitic," said Larkspur resident Frank McClain, who had joined the picket line.

"But what Israel's doing is murdering people. They staged a raid in international waters. If Somalis had done that, they'd be called pirates and we'd have punished and stopped them immediately. Israel does

it and our president calls it 'an unfortunate incident.' Israel is the third rail of politics and no one will touch it because all their funding will get cut off."

With no recourse available from elected officials, McClain said, U.S. citizens concerned with Israel's actions are left with no way to change the situation besides hitting Israeli businesses where it hurts: their bottom line.

Organizers Forrest Schmidt called the event part of "a worldwide campaign to change Israel's behavior by way of boycotts, sanctions and divestment."

The demonstration was ostensibly held in the name of peace, but organizers said they hoped to avoid costing workers a day's pay by convincing an arbiter called to the scene that the line was "a threat to the health and safety" of any longshoreman who tried to cross the picket line.

Under the longshoremen's contract, that judgment could require SSA to pay the scheduled workers, vessel operations manager Randy Laugel said.

However, Laugel added, if the workers were not available for the employer to call on them to work, they might not be paid at all, and at best they can hope for a half-day's wages, a far cry from the full- day's overtime pay they'd have gotten for working a Sunday. Most scheduled longshoremen drove by the SSA berths, saw the picket line and drove away, he said.

"I just think it's sad that 100 or so workers who took the day away from Father's Day to work aren't going to make their money," Laugel said.

Michael Eisenscher, a national coordinator for U.S. Labor Against the War and an organizer of the picket, declined to expressly call the event a threat to workers, but the crowds cheered when the arbiter declared that it was.

"If you see a handful of people like this, and they're angry and making a lot of noise, you draw your own conclusion," Eisenscher said.

Israel has held Gaza under blockade since shortly after Hamas took power there in 2007.

While officials have sworn that Israel will not apologize for the raid, citing videos of one ship's passengers attacking the Israeli troops, in a statement issued Sunday Israel's prime minister outlined some steps the country plans to take to ease the blockade.

Staff writer Elizabeth Nardi contributed to this report

Contact Sean Maher at smaher@bayareanewsgroup.com.

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From:

Oxbridge Neighborhood Association [admin@oxbridgeneighborhood.org]

Sent:

Monday, June 21, 2010 10:15 PM

To: Subject: Rapundalo, Stephen ONA 4th of July Picnic

Oxbridge Neighborhood Association July 4, 2010

Annual 4th of July Parade and Picnic

Gather over the 4th of July holiday to chat with your neighbors and enjoy a barbeque lunch catered by Smokehouse Blues!

Date:

SUNDAY, July 4, 2010

Place: Dorset Between Berkshire and Onondaga

Time:

12:00 p.m. until 2:30 p.m.

12:00 p.m. - Gather for the parade at Berkshire/Dorset

12:15 p.m. - Parade starts promptly - Decorate your kids, bikes, and pets!

12:45 p.m. - Lunch begins

What to bring: The picnic is catered by Smokehouse Blues who will provide barbeque sandwiches (barbeque beef and pulled chicken), macaroni and cheese, baked beans, coleslaw, and cornbread. If you like, bring a dessert to share. ONA will provide tableware and drinks of all types. Also, bring folding chairs if you can.

Cost: The event is free for current dues-paid and life members of ONA and their family members so make sure you pay your 2010/11 annual dues. You will receive the annual dues request this week. If you have a houseguest or friend to add, that's fine, but we would appreciate a donation of \$5 per guest when you register.

Registration: Please sign-in and get a name badge. All attendees must have a name badge to participate in the picnic.

Volunteer: We need volunteers to help set up and pick up after the picnic. Please contact Nicki Sorter or Prue Heikkinen if you can help.

Additional details can be found at www.oxbridgeneighborhood.org

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Email Marketing by



From:

mcjjj

Sent:

Monday, June 21, 2010 11:44 PM

To:

Kunselman, Stephen

Subject:

Your question about the by right abomination-Heritage

Attachments:

jbm5-20-09.skb; jbm5-20-09.jpg

Follow Up Flag:

Follow up

Flag Status:

Flagged

Dear Councilmember Kunselman,

If by chance you've taken a break at your council meeting to look at your e-mail (I know e-mail and council meetings can be risky business:)), I'm sending you this jpeg of the by right proposal for city place. I hope it will help you. But could you clarify that if you turn down the heritage row-can the developer than build this by right abomination?

Thanks

Mike Forgacs

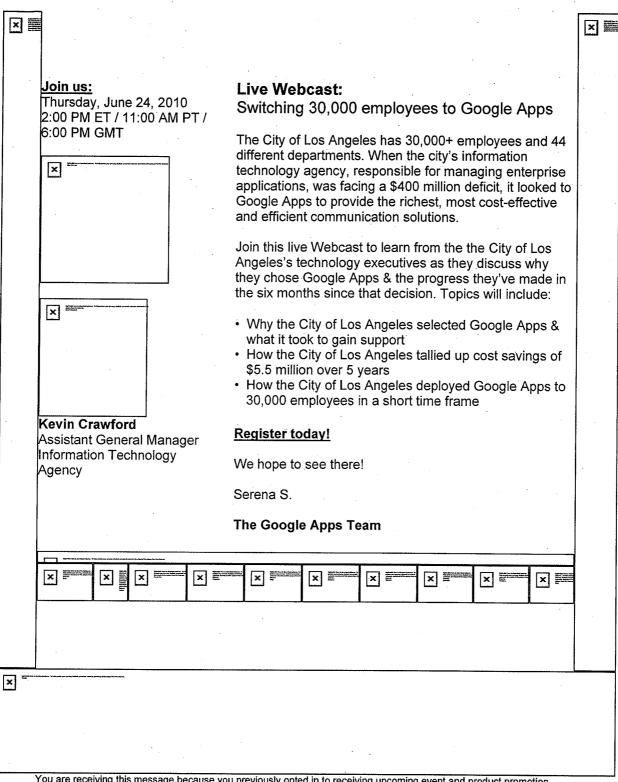
Architect / Urban Planner

From: Sent: To: Subject:

Google Enterprise [googleent@omnichbase.net] Tuesday, June 22, 2010 12:01 AM Teall, Margie

Google Enterprise webcast: Why the City of Los Angeles has Gone Google

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From:
                        Kyle V. Mazurek [kyle@a2ychamber.org]
Sent:
                        Tuesday, June 22, 2010 12:03 AM
                        Kyle V. Mazurek; Bob Dascola; Caroline Kaganov; Hohnke, Carsten; Doug Allen;
To:
                                         Ingrid Ault (ingrid
                                                                       Hieftje, John:
                        ikosteval
                                         ioneal
                                                                   Josie Parker; Karen Farmer: Kirk
                       Westphal; maggie ladd; Mary Kerr; mstasiak
                                                                       Teall, Margie; ptallen
                                        rene
                                                             Fraser, Roger; Roger Hewitt; State Street
                       Association (statestr@a2state.com); Pollay, Susan; Tamara Real; jsplitt
                                         Derezinski, Tony; clayton@theguild.org; karen
                       mriley@artfair.org; maura@mainstreetannarbor.org; newcombe.clark
                                                                                           Nancv
                       Shore
Cc:
                       Lyke, Joan
Subject:
                       CANCELLED - Downtown Marketing Taskforce
Importance:
                       High
Hi All,
"Today's" meeting is cancelled.
I think it's safe to say that a majority of folks (the Mayor included) are unavailable.
Please note that July and August are summer hiatus months. So we'll next meet that 4th
Tuesday in September - unless there's a pressing need to meet before then.
Thanks - and apologies for the overly-late notice!
Kyle
----Original Message----
From: Kyle V. Mazurek
Sent: Monday, June 21, 2010 10:53 AM
To: Kyle V. Mazurek; Bob Dascola; Caroline Kaganov; CHohnke@a2gov.org; Doug Allen;
                   Ingrid Ault (ingrid
                                                              JHieftje@a2gov.org;
                    , joneal@onealconstruction.com; Josie Parker; Karen Farmer; Kirk Westphal;
maggie ladd; Mary Kerr; mstasiak
                                                Teall, Margie; 'Nancy - getDowntown';
           rdetter@umich.edu; rene@arborbrewing.com; Roger Fraser
(rfraser@a2gov.org); Roger Hewitt; State Street Association (statestr@a2state.com); Susan
Pollay (spollay@a2dda.org); Tamara Real; jsplitt
                                                                 Relyead
TDerezinski@a2gov.org; clayton
                                               karen
                                                                    mriley@artfair.org;
maura@mainstreetannarbor.org; newcombe.clark
Subject: RE: Tuesday's Downtown Marketing Taskforce
Tuesday's agenda is attached for your review.
Kyle
----Original Message----
From: Kyle V. Mazurek
Sent: Wednesday, June 16, 2010 12:02 PM
To: Kyle V. Mazurek; 'Bob Dascola'; 'Caroline Kaganov'; 'CHohnke@a2gov.org'; 'Doug Allen';
                   ; 'Ingrid Ault (ingrid
'ed
                                                                 )'; 'JHieftje@a2gov.org';
'jkosteva
                    ; 'joneal
                                                         'Josie Parker'; 'Karen Farmer'; 'Kirk
Westphal'; 'maggie ladd'; 'Mary Kerr'; 'mstasiak
                                                                  'Teall, Margie'; 'Nancy -
getDowntown'; 'ptallen'
                                  ; 'rdetter
                                                            rene
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Fraser (rfraser@a2gov.org)'; 'Roger Hewitt'; 'State Street Association (statestr@a2state.com)'; 'Susan Pollay (spollay@a2dda.org)'; 'Tamara Real'; 'jsplitt'; 'Relyead ("Therezinski@a2gov.org'; 'clayton'; 'karen ("mriley@artfair.org'; 'maura@mainstreetannarbor.org'; 'newcombe.clark ("Subject: RE: Tuesday's Downtown Marketing Taskforce")
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Just a reminder that the next Mayor's Downtown Marketing Taskforce meeting is this upcoming Tuesday, June 22, from 10:00 to 11:30 a.m. at the DDA offices.

Please shoot your agenda items my way!

Note that this is our last meeting before we break for the summer hiatus months of July and August.

Thanks, Kyle