

LEADERS, from page 3

Blethen. "People want to have access to fresh fruit and veggies and not be reliant on high prices. We provide the resources they need to do it themselves."

Food Works is different from other youth agriculture programs, believes program supervisor Ryan Schoonover, because of its willingness to be messy and make mistakes. "Part of giving youths responsibility is giving big tasks away. Maybe they decide to pick way more potatoes than they can sell. Sometimes they're going to make mistakes, and sometimes they're going to come up with really creative solutions," says Schoonover.

"Food Works is about taking our young people seriously," says Amber Baker, program director for Village Gardens. "We set high expectations for them, and they rise to that challenge again and again."

Food Works gives youths "soft work skills," says Baker, who still writes recommendations for program alumni now applying for college and jobs. They learn professional communication skills and reliability, she says, but also how to create a resume and fill out an application.

Appropriately, Food Works was inspired by youths. After Village Gardens started in 2001, youth pursued their own site, starting with 800 square feet at St. Johns

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Woods Apartments. Salad mix got them the most bang for the buck, which they started selling at the Portland Farmers' Market. In 2005, they expanded to two acres on Sauvie Island, where Food Works is today. The summer program, brainchild of a youth named Ahoefa

Ananouko, was added

three years ago.

Schoonover likes to say that Food Works grows four things: business, community, farm and self. Youth are responsible for all sales and marketing, they donate almost half of their produce to their communities, they run the farm, and they are supported by Food Works staff to reach their personal goals and become community leaders.

Many Food Works youths become advocates for healthy foods in their New Columbia/Tamarack and St. Johns Woods neighborhoods, says Schoonover. "A lot of youths begin to change the way they think about food and widen the spectrum of food they're willing to eat."

"This year, despite the bad season, they are on pace to shatter previous records. They work so hard out here. They really run the place and have made it their own."

Where to buy from Food Works: News Seasons Market, Portland Farmers Market, St Johns Farmers Market, Join their Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) project

Hatfield speech resonates today

BY TERRIS HARNED
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

A crowd of approximately 40 people showed up at Pioneer Square Aug. 2 to listen to a recitation of a speech delivered by former Oregon senator Mark Hatfield. The delivery of this speech comes 22 years after the original, to the day. And the anniversary comes on the heels of Congress' contentious budget wrangling over the debt-ceiling vote.

Hatfield, a Republican, served as Secretary of State in Oregon, the 29th Governor, serving for eight years, and finally moved on to the Senate, where he served for 30 years, from 1967 to 1997.

His speech was a plea to then-president George Herbert Walker Bush, to reconsider the nation's trend in spending money on the defense budget. He stated passionately and firmly that each dollar spent on defense was a dollar stolen from those in the US who were undereducated, unfed, unsheltered and unclothed.

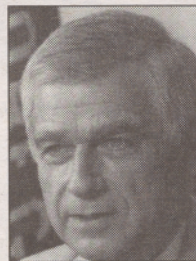
The speech, titled "Peace Through Strength is a Fallacy," was brought forth during a federal budget consideration, declaring why Hatfield was voting against the budget proposal, and urging his fellow senators to do the same. It is amazing how impactful this speech is, given the current budget issues.

The event was planned and hosted by Project Cone Orange (coneorange.com). Roscoe Kopple, an avatar of cone orange, gave the opening remarks. The other speakers were Scott Teitworth, Debra Buchanan, Dave Milholland and Johnny Stallings and Martha Gies.

Here is an excerpt from former senator Hatfield's speech that still resonates today:

Mr. President, from the Revolutionary War to the Civil War to the Spanish-American War through World War II, through Korea, through Vietnam, and through the cold wars in between: At no time did the spending for military purposes reduce or diminish after those wars. They reached a peak during a war, and then remained at that peak following the war. No build-down, only a buildup. And no peace dividend, Mr. President. None at all.

And as we entered this decade, the clarion call went out: despite one of the largest and



Mark Hatfield



PHOTO BY TERRIS HARNED

An audience gathers in Pioneer Courthouse Square for a reading of former Oregon senator Mark Hatfield's 1989 speech. Given the recent budget negotiations over the debt ceiling, the speech is a relevant today as it was more than two decades ago.

best trained militaries in the world, despite a nuclear arsenal of unprecedented destructive power, we were — somehow — vulnerable. A spending gap is what they called it, and so we began a massive buildup; billions and billions of dollars to catch up. Nevermind that this spending gap was as phoney as the bomber gap of the 1950s and the missile gap of the 1960s. Democrats and Republicans alike dutifully lined up and marched to the drummer of higher military spending.

And so it is that we have gathered here every year since only to play on the margins. Oh, we sound reasonable, and we like to think that we sound responsible. We go to hearings and briefings, we have long debates over this program and that program, this weapon and that weapon, and we cast our votes on amendment after amendment. ...

We have played on the margins so long, Mr. President, that I am afraid we do not even know what the real issues are anymore. We seem to have lost sight of the fact that many of the programs we have authorized — and are authorizing again here today — are intended for one purpose only; mass destruction.

We seem to have lost sight of the fact that every dollar we spend on bombs and bullets means that we are underfunding programs to meet the nation's desperate human needs: health care, education, our war on drugs, low income housing, prison construction, AIDS research — all of these things are part of our national defense.

Sometimes, Mr. President, we even lose sight of the margins. Several days ago, the Senate considered an amendment earmarking money for the development of more lethal weapons for our ground troops. More lethal? Even the words have begun to lose their meaning: What is more lethal supposed to mean when some of our troops already carry tactical nuclear weapons on their backs? But nobody else even raised an eyebrow: the vote was 98-1.

I remember, back in 1981, when 10 subcommittees of the Senate Appropriations

Committee were forced to make \$9.9 billion in cuts from domestic spending so that defense spending could be increased by \$7.4 billion. We can no longer afford to fool ourselves, I said in the full committee markup, but oh, how wrong I was. The nation's defense budget has almost tripled in the past decade with our bipartisan blessing, and spending to meet the desperate human needs throughout this country has been cut and cut and cut again to pay for it — some 33 percent reduction in the nondefense discretionary programs in the last decade.

Could somebody tell me if there is some secret strategy, some finite figure that we will one day reach and then suddenly be secure? Will we ever have enough?

I do not think so. We are, Mr. President, like the thirsty man in the desert who thinks he sees an oasis ahead, but when he moves closer, it moves too. Further and further, or for us higher and higher. And as his thirst finally kills him, our lust for bigger and better weapons of mass destruction is going to destroy us one day too.

Peace through strength is a fallacy, Mr. President, for peace is not simply the absence of a nuclear holocaust. Peace is not a nation which has seen its teenage suicide rate more than double in the past two decades. Peace is not a nation in which more people die every two years of gunshot wounds than died in the entire Vietnam War. Peace is not the town in Pennsylvania which last year was forced to cancel its high school graduation because officials believed that a group of students planned to commit suicide at the ceremony. And peace is not here in Washington, where after leading the nation in murders last year, children are beginning to show the same psychological trauma as children in Belfast, Northern Ireland.

Can we really believe that the decisions we have made — and are making — do not have a direct relationship to the violence which plagues our nation?

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