

news Briefs

dences of cancer. Their report, released two weeks ago, indicated there are increased incidences of acute myelogenous leukemia (AML) and lung cancer in certain areas in the neighborhoods.

Medical histories indicate, however, that the majority of people in the cases for both types of cancer had a history of smoking. The report concluded further research was needed in the AML cases to determine if the cancer was affected by environmental exposure or other factors. There was no significant elevation in cases of nasal and brain cancer. OSCaR will continue to monitor incidences of brain cancer at the community's request.

In the same neighborhoods adjacent to J.H. Baxter, many years of railroad operations at the Union Pacific Railyard have caused environmental contamination in the soil and groundwater. This contamination may also have had a negative impact on the health of nearby residents and workers.

SHINE is hosting a meeting to discuss this environmental contamination in the River Road and Trainsong neighborhoods. Epidemiologist Jae Douglas will review findings from the public health assessment report completed earlier this month. The meeting is at 6:30 pm Thursday, May 31 at the Red Cross, 862 Bethel Dr. For more information see <http://oregon.gov/DHS/ph/shine/uprsite.shtml>

To read the cancer report and comment on the investigation in neighborhoods surrounding J.H. Baxter and other industrial sites visit www.healthoregon.org/superfund SHINE invites comments through June 30

— Erin Rokita

PALAST EXPLAINS 'CAGING'

Monica Goodling dropped a bombshell in her testimony before the House Judiciary Committee last week, according to journal-



ist Greg Palast, and hardly anyone in the U.S. media blinked.

Goodling, a staffer for Attorney General Alberto Gonzales and liaison to the White House, testified that Gonzales' Chief of Staff Kyle Sampson perjured himself, lying to the committee in earlier testimony. The lie: Sampson denied Monica had told him about Tim Griffin's "involvement in 'caging' voters" in 2004," writes Palast at www.gregpalast.com

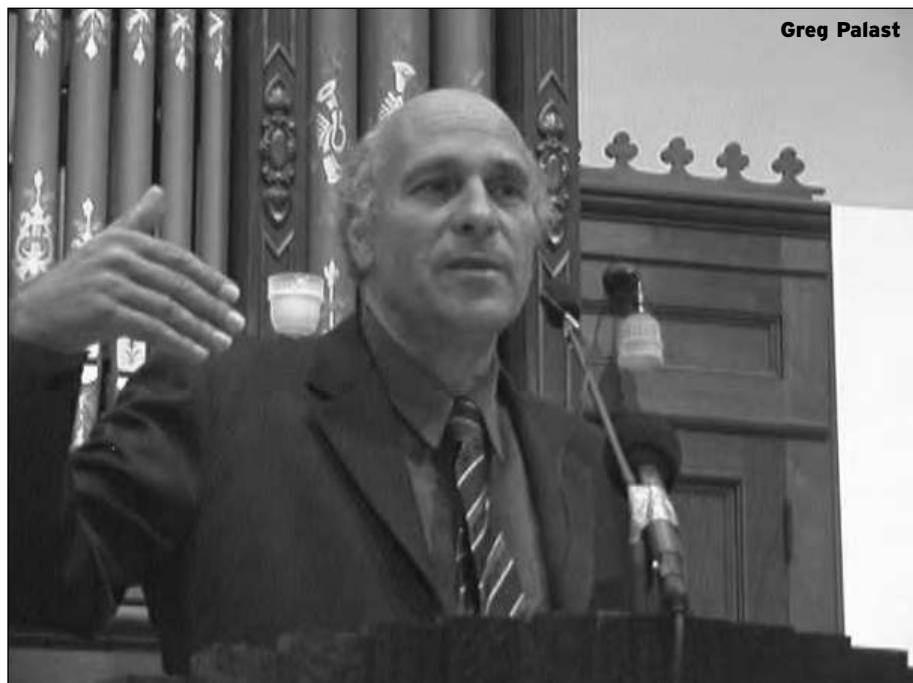
"The perplexed committee members hadn't a clue — and asked no substantive questions about it thereafter," says Palast. "Karl Rove is still smiling." So what is "caging"?

"The Bush-Cheney operatives sent hundreds of thousands of letters marked 'Do not forward' to voters' homes. Letters returned ('caged') were used as evidence to block these voters' right to cast a ballot on grounds they were registered at phony addresses," says Palast. "Who were the evil fakers? Homeless men, students on vacation and — you got to love this — American soldiers. Oh yeah: most of them are black voters."

Palast says caging is a felony offense and Griffin, Rove's right-hand man, was directing the illegal purge. Griffin was then named U.S. attorney for Arkansas, at Rove's insistence.

U.S. media are "missing the real story behind the firing of the U.S. attorneys," says Palast. "It's not about removing prosecutors disloyal to Bush; it's about replacing those who refused to aid the theft of the vote in 2004 with those prepared to burgle it again in 2008."

"How do I know?" he asks. "I have the caging lists ... I have them because they are attached to the emails Rove insists can't be found."



Greg Palast

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