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news Briefs

Global justice and antiwar organizer David Solnit and Seattle-based Iraq war veteran Chanan Suarez Diaz will talk and offer a multimedia presentation from 3 pm to 5 pm Sunday, Jan. 20, at Cozmic Pizza.

Solnit, coauthor with Aimee Allison of *Army of None: Strategies for Countering Military Recruitment, Ending War, and Building a Better World*, has been touring the U.S. offering guides, tools, resources and strategies to groups working to shut down the U.S. "war machine."

The goal of Eugene's Committee for Countering Military Recruitment is to "challenge the military's lies of omission, false portrayals of military life and what it claims it has to offer."

For more information email phil@countermilitary.org

MLK ON WAR AND THE SPIRIT OF AMERICA

From Martin Luther King Jr. April 4, 1967: "The war in Vietnam is but a symptom of a far deeper malady within the American spirit, and if we ignore this sobering reality we will find ourselves organizing clergy and laymen-concerned committees for the next generation. They will be concerned about Guatemala and Peru. They will be concerned about Thailand and Cambodia. They will be concerned about Mozambique and South Africa. We will be marching for these and a dozen other names and attending rallies without end unless there is a significant and profound change in American life and policy. ... "I am convinced that if we are to get on the right side of the world revolution, we as a nation must undergo a radical revolution of values. We must rapidly begin the shift from a 'thing-oriented' society to a 'person-oriented' society. When machines and computers, profit motives and property rights are considered more important than people, the giant triplets of racism, materialism and militarism are incapable of being conquered.

"A nation that continues year after year to spend more money on military defense than on programs of social uplift is approaching spiritual death." (*Hear the rest of the speech at www.oilempire.us/mlk.html*)

QUAKERS GO BEFORE FED JUDGE

A small group of local Quakers arrested in a protest at the U.S. Courthouse Oct. 12 will

return to the building to face federal Judge Thomas Coffin at 1 pm Thursday. The protesters were arrested for refusing to leave the offices of Sen. Gordon Smith.

The group that was arrested included physician Paul Qualtere-Burcher, pediatric nurse practitioner Laurie Knackstadt and retired rural outreach counselor Peg Morton. An unnamed high school student and special education teacher were also arrested in the protest at Sen. Smith's office.

The action was part of the national Occupation Project, developed by the organization Voices for Creative Nonviolence (www.vcnv.org). More than 320 people, including 11 in Eugene, have been arrested for nonviolently occupying offices of members of Congress who were unwilling to make a commitment to vote against funding for the Iraq occupation.

Morton says she faces the possibility of a stiffer penalty since she is not a first-time offender. She was arrested in a similar protest at Rep. Peter DeFazio's office March 12.

GREENING THE HOOD

"Greening the Neighborhood" is an upcoming neighborhood empowerment series planned at the River Road Recreation Center, 1400 Lake Drive. Jan Spencer will be hosting a series of films and discussions, a tour and action plans.

The free series begins 7 pm Wednesday, Jan. 23 with a showing of *An Inconvenient Truth* and will continue into the spring. Subsequent dates will look at peak oil, market capitalism, human potential, home economics, suburban renewal and other topics Spencer identifies as part of "ecological culture change."

For more information, call Spencer at 686-6761 or visit the website suburbanpermaculture.org

CORRECTIONS/CLARIFICATIONS

Last week in News Briefs was a story on Erin Ely and her entry in a national online contest to win \$10,000 to kick-start an indoor farmers market for Eugene. Public voting actually continues until Jan. 21. "If I get into one of the top two positions in the 'heavy hitters' category," she says, "then I will be in the final voting for this month, which takes place from Jan. 22 to Jan. 29, and people will need to go back and vote again during that last week of January." To vote, go to www.ideablob.com Free registration is required before voting.

Lane Area Herbicide Spray Schedule

• Lane County has opened a **60-day comment period** ending March 3 regarding proposed herbicide uses originally listed in the Integrated Vegetation Management 2007 Report. See details at: forestlanddwellers.org/News/LaneCounty/2008-RoadsideSpraying/

• **Renewals of No Spray Area Permits** are due Jan. 31. For more information or to request a new No Spray Area Permit, call Caroline at Public Works, 682-6911.

Compiled by Jan Wroncy, Forestland Dwellers:
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