



Josh Henrikson

THE LAST STAND COFFEE CO.

What do Occupy Eugene and the Occupy movement represent to you?

The Occupy movement and myself are merely looking for justice in the U.S. economic system, fairness in medical care, food and education for the whole, not just the rich and connected. The future has to provide change and justice.

Why did you get involved directly, and what are you doing or have you done to support it?

I am currently helping to support Occupy by providing logistical support and motivation for the peaceful protesters. I am working to deliver coffee and morale to the Occupy site whenever possible, speaking with the occupiers and learning of the concerns and directives that are most crucial to the success of the revolution.

What do you hope Occupy Eugene will change?

The Occupy movement is here to begin that change to really start the stones rolling towards justice.

Jeff Merkley

U.S. SENATOR, OREGON

What do you think Occupy Eugene and the Occupy movement represent politically and socially?

It represents the enormous frustration of working people. Basically, over the last three and a half decades from the time I got out of high school, wages — inflation adjusted — have gone flat and in the last decade they've gone down. You see health care rising; you see tuition is rising; you see real wages dropping, and people realize this is not working for their own family, this is not working for our nation and we've got to do something about it.

Do you think the Occupy movement can effect change the way the Tea Party did?

Absolutely. Folks are paying attention to this intense emotional outpouring that says "We have got to do something to change the dynamics of our current economy."

It's in every Senate caucus meeting, in conversations I'm having with my colleagues. Folks have responded from all over the country. I talked to someone today from Roseburg, and there's a little Occupy Roseburg gathering that I didn't know about. All over the country people are saying, "We want to be part of this. We've been sitting in our living rooms, frustrated, sitting at our kitchen tables, frustrated. And now we're going to come out and join each other and make much more public our collective sense that things have to change." It's affected the conversation a lot already.

For years I have been quoting statistics about the working people failing to get ahead and share in great productivity of the nation. Our enormous increase in national wealth has not been shared with those who are creating that wealth. Now I hear colleagues quoting statistics about the top quintile, the bottom quintile and the top 21 percent. There's been a huge direction in people coming up to speed about this challenge and brainstorming. It's been very helpful to have folks expressing themselves.

What does the Occupy movement need to do in order to create political and economic change?

I think that there are two levels here: One is the sense of identifying the problem, and I think the movement has dramatized and amplified that conversation.

Then there is the question of what are the specific things that we do to change this? I think at some point it would be helpful to have the movement engage in the dialogue with a series of proposals that they can get behind and help carry the conversation through the next election year, I'm not sure exactly how that would unfold, but it could be helpful to direct the energy into the additional sphere of ways we can help strengthen the economy for working people.



Sparrow

OCCUPIER; OCCUPY EUGENE ORGANIZER;
UNEMPLOYED AND HOMELESS

What do Occupy Eugene and the Occupy movement represent to you?

It represents the whole group of united working poor and homeless, and those who will eventually be homeless because of how the economy is going. That's what it represents to me, and I feel a lot of people in the Occupy movement feel that way.

Why did you get involved directly and what are you doing?

I got involved because I've felt this coming for a long time. This isn't just a political movement. I feel people are waking up. In a way this is a mental evolution. I got involved because I can't stand what's going on. Me and four others who live on the street are trying to unite the local street families and unite them with the Occupy movement.

What do you hope the Occupy movement will change?

I personally hope to see another kind of community come from this, one that doesn't have a hierarchy system based on monetary means. We don't pay attention to things anymore, and it's made us lose track of what really matters.

Play in the Rain Day

Nov. 12 10am-3pm
Rain or Shine

White Oaks Pavilion at Mount Pisgah Arboretum

- Tree Climbing
- Campfire Cookery
- Hayrides
- Nature Crafts
- Smokey Bear
- Hikes

Leave no child inside!



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4th Annual

Get your family out the door and into nature this fall!
Check out Youth in Nature's online events calendar, a great resource for local outdoor events:
www.youthinnature.org/calendar

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