As Senate millionaires vote to go ahead

Wide protests challenge plan to gut health care

By Kathy Durkin

July 25 — Protesters hit the streets across the U.S. from July 17-25 to stop the Republican right’s vicious plans to dismantle the Affordable Care Act and remove at least 22 million people from health insurance coverage. Hundreds were arrested in Washington, D.C., many at the Capitol building, where the millionaire-filled Senate scheduled a procedural vote to begin debate on repeal of Obamacare.

Despite the massive popular opposition to their scheme, the Senate voted today to open debate. The reactionaries needed Vice President Mike Pence’s tie-breaking vote to win by 51-50. Judging by the protests up to this time, this narrow vote sets the stage for what can be an epic struggle.

Among the earlier dramatic actions in Washington was the July 24 Emergency Die-in vs. Trumpcare. Millions rely on the ACA to access medical care primarily through Medicaid expansion and federal subsidies to purchase insurance. The National Council on Independent Living (NCIL) scheduled a March and Rally for Disability Rights on Capitol Hill on July 25, which its nearly 900 conference attendees planned to join.

The Committee for a Responsible Federal Budget estimates that the Senate’s latest bill would cause at least 22 million people to lose health insurance by 2026: 15 million would be cut from Medicaid, 5 million would lose private insurance and 2 million would be dropped from employer-sponsored coverage. If the ACA is simply repealed and nothing is passed to replace it, 32 million people would lose health insurance they now have, says the Congressional Budget Office.

Activists with Americans Disabled for Attendant Programs Today, who were in the second day of a campout outside the Russell Senate Office Building, joined the die-in and spoke at it. Of particular concern to ADAPT and other people with disabilities, including parents of children with disabilities, is the threat that the inhumane bill poses to Medicaid recipients. They call this a life-and-death struggle.

Massive cutbacks in the program would eliminate caregivers and essential, life-saving services and equipment. One banner said it all: “Medicaid = life and liberty for disabled people.”

‘Kill the bill! Don’t kill us!’

Mass actions of all kinds have taken place for months across the country, as well as in Washington, and have stopped two attempts to “repeal and replace.” Chants of “Kill the bill! Don’t kill us!” and “No cuts to Medicaid!” have echoed throughout the U.S. capital for several

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Big real estate threats to silence ‘people’s radio station’

By Dolores Cox
New York City

A press conference was held on the steps of New York City Hall on July 13 to bring attention to the current plight of Pacifica Radio’s New York station WBAI (90.5 FM). Among the more than 100 supporters were local and state officials calling for preservation of the free-speech radio station and for the real estate company using Pacifica for millions of dollars to reach a fair settlement.

WBAI-FM is a listener-sponsored, non-commercial radio station, which has broadcast for over 50 years in New York City and is heard throughout the United States. It is the oldest nonprofit radio station in the country, with five major market radio stations in its network. WBAI’s antenna and transmitter currently sit atop the 102 floors of the Empire State Building. After the destruction of the World Trade Twin Towers in 2001, broadcasting stations in the New York City area have had few options for antenna space rental. The Empire State Realty Trust, owner of the Empire State Building, has a California nonprofit corporation, which has five major market radio stations in its network.

WBAI’s lease with Pacifica is for $2 million for unpeared tower fees. ESRT is “holding the network hostage” with a contract that increases tower rent annually by about 9 percent. The greedy transnational corporation held $55.4 million in cash and cash equivalents, as of last December, and owns billions of dollars worth of real estate. WBAI is legendary in New York’s cultural and political life. The station is a strong, essential voice which advocates for economic, environmental and racial justice. It airs news, ideas, analysis and information from a progressive perspective and presents regular programming by and for diverse communities.

The station is the “Voice of the People,” unhampered by corporate or government funding. It is an important resource that keeps communities and movements connected and allows organizers and activists to spread their messages.

In the current crisis, Pacifica’s interim Executive Director Bill Crosier asserts in a July 11 press release: “The amount being charged is over four times the market rate in New York, and threatens the future of independent radio. Market rate for FM transmitter tower leases in New York City is now about $12,000 monthly.”

“WBAI’s bill for the month of May 2017, in contrast, came to over $250,000. We have never been willing to pay what’s fair and reasonable, but these exorbitant annual increases are killing us,” stated Crosier. “The ESRT must settle and release us from the rest of this onerous contract. Pacifica is calling for a fair settlement, relief from excessive annual fee increases and release from the current contract. See wbai.org for updates.

Cox is a voting member of WBAI’s local station board.

TURN THE GUNS AROUND Mutinies, Soldier Revolts and Revolutions by John Catalinotto

Weary of trampling the Constitution and reaping all the benefits of militarism, and despite the legal right to shelter, food, water, health care, and education or anything else — unless they can pay for it — the 1 percent is using military force to silence the voices of the people.

Workers World Party is a revolutionary Marxist-Leninist party inside the belly of the imperialist beast. We have engaged in multi-national, multigenerational and multiracial organization that not only aims to abolish capitalism, but to build a socialist society because it’s the only way forward!

Workers World Party World

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“Workers World fights for socialism because the working class and the oppressed must take control of the means of production, distribution and exchange in order to meet their basic human needs,” states the Workers World Party World.

Wages are lower than ever, and youth are saddled with seemingly insurmountable student debt, if they even make it to college. Black and Brown youth and trans people are gunned down by cops and bigots on a regular basis.

WWP fights for socialism because the working class produces all wealth in society, and this wealth should remain in the hands of the producers, not be stolen in the form of capitalist profits. The wealth workers create should be socially owned and its distribution planned to satisfy and guarantee basic human needs.

Since 1959, Workers World Party has been out in the streets defending the workers and oppressed here and worldwide. If you’re interested in Marxism, socialism and fighting for a socialist future, please contact a WWP branch near you.

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Disability Pride rocks NYC for health care, access
By Mary P. Kaessinger and Edward Yudelovich

More than 7,500 people with disabilities, along with their families, caregivers, friends and allies, marched, rolled, rode and scooted in a glorious New York City Disability Pride Parade on July 9.

They were celebrating the anniversary of the passage of the Americans with Disabilities Act on July 26, 1990. They were also remembering the brutally oppressed and bereaved, and demanding dignity, rights and freedom for people with disabilities.

The boiling summer heat didn’t deter 200,000 people from coming out to join one of the world’s largest civil rights demonstrations.

The 67th annual New York City Disability Pride Parade merged with the 26th annual NYC Pride Parade, and the结合 resulted in a celebratory and triumphant event.

The PPA leaflet also called for the ending of the warehousing and mass incarceration of people with disabilities. It pointed out other inequities: People with disabilities make up over 25 percent of people living in poverty, and 27 percent of disabled people are not getting any medical care, which is twice the rate for nondisabled people.

Featuring a photograph of wheelchair-user, African-American Jeremy McDole, killed by Delaware police in September 2015, the leaflet documented that disabled people are more than 50 percent of the people killed by police annually.

Chinatown’s ADA birthday party
One week after the parade, on July 16, both of these reporters also attended the third annual Chinatown ADA Birthday Party. Like the Disability Pride Parade, it featured many entertainers, performers and speakers with disabilities.

One speaker cited the special link between Chinese Americans fighting big-octo and the disability rights movement as early as 1971. “The social justice movement, now so broad and deep, is within everyone’s ability to engage in nonviolent direct action, including civil disobedience,” said Edward Yudelovich.

Here’s the buzz: 40 years of support for WW

By Deidre Grisswold

In this electronic age, maintaining a print as well as an online weekly newspaper is a rarity on the left. How does Workers World do it?

For one thing, everyone involved in its production is a volunteer—from the writers and editors to the copy editors, proofreaders, layout and design artists, and those who keep up the subscription lists, label the papers for mailing and deliver them to the post office. The paper is put out weekly thanks to a hie of volunteer workers who can be depended on because they believe in what they’re doing.

But there are other things that must be paid for with cold cash, like the printing and postage. Workers World/Mundo Obrero doesn’t take advertising. It keeps subscription rates very low so those on limited incomes can afford it. And it’s free to prisoners those locked away for much of their lives, mainly for being unable to afford lawyers. They treasure the paper and pass it from hand to hand. Progressive unions and community groups get bundles. All this takes funds.

This is where the Workers World Supporter Program comes in.

By giving the paper’s readers a way to contribute financially, the Supporter Program expands the hie of volunteers and narrows the gap between the paper’s costs and its income.

This month marks the 40th anniversa- ry of the Supporter Program. WW spoke to Davis, who has been running the program since its inception.

Davis explained, “Over the years many hundreds of people have regularly contributed to the paper through the Supporter Program. It really shows a ded- ica- tion to the paper and what Workers World stands for.

“We’ve had supporters from nearly every state in the U.S. and from other countries as well. The reach of the program has been phenomenal, encouraging, exciting.

“The important thing is not just the ma- jor donors,” Davis stresses. “Our readers are not wealthy people; they are people dedicated to our politics. Many give just $5 or $6 a month, but over time that really adds up. It shows their confidence and their willingness to invest in the paper.”

Besides these consistent contributions, there are the occasional windfalls. “People in the Supporter Pro- gram have put us in their wills. And some have contributed large sums when they had the money—from, for example, from the sale of a house.”

Davis sends out a monthly newsletter to supporters with the buzz on current political issues. “In recent years we’ve focused on cases like the Cuban Five, the struggle to get health care for Mumia Abu-Jamal and freedom for Puerto Rican political prisoner Oscar Lopez Rivera.” When people contribute to Workers World/Mundo Obrero, they’re helping publicize these struggles for justice and dignity.

“We want to thank our supporters for their generosity and continuity, their steadfast dedication,” said Davis.

WW Supporter Program at 40: Continue defense of Cuban Revolution

On July 26, 1953, Cuban revolution- aries stormed the Moncada Barracks in Santiago, Cuba. Less than six years later, Fidel and his guerri- llas ousted the U.S.-backed dictator Fulgencio Batista on July 26, 1959.

That same year, Workers World newspaper began to publish. After more than a decade of newsstands and readers in the U.S., the Cuban Revolution helped revive interest in revolutionary socialism.

The more outrageous the anti-Cuba propaga- nanda and the more fervently the hand- ers worked to tell the truth about this great victory over U.S. imperialism.

In 1961, when the U.S. announced that it was breaking diplomatic relations with Cuba, WW’s first editor, Vincent Copeland, led a protest inside the United Nations, his booming voice proclaiming the U.S.’s “sports for the bankers, not the people.”

“What’s going on now is the 1960s, Cuba endured great economic hardships after the So- viet Union fell and the U.S. tightened its blockade. Workers World helped build the Peace for Cuba International Appeal to end the blockade, the travel ban and all intervention against Cuba.”

Despite the crushing blockade, the Cuban Revolution only grows stronger and more respected as it sends life-saving medical teams all over the world. As the Trump ad- ministration increases its hostility to the socialist country, Workers World remains a source of anti-racist, pro-LGBTQ and solidarity journalism.

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Farmworkers protest attack on their right to organize

By Dante Strobino

Raleigh, N.C.

The Farm Labor Organizing Committee and other labor and community allies called July 18 at the state Capitol in Raleigh, N.C. Their immediate goal was to deliver a letter of protest to Democratic Gov. Roy Cooper, who N.C. Their immediate goal was to community allies rallied July 18 protest in Raleigh, N.C., outside Capitol. to organize. At the rally, the groups announced they were filing a lawsuit to challenge SB 657 for violations of the right to freedom of assembly and the constitutional rights of farmworkers, especially for being singled out for elimination of union payroll deduction.

This type of abandonment of immigrant workers is nothing new from the Democratic or Republican parties. We’ve been excluded from every labor law reform since the racist exclusion of farmworkers from the National Labor Relations Act in 1935,” said FLOC President Baldemar Velásquez. “We plan to challenge this bill in the courts as a violation of farmworkers’ rights to freedom of assembly and speech and to continue our fight for better wages for immigrant families in the state.” (PayDay Report, July 13)

Earlier in the legislative session, a bill passed in the state Senate, SB 375, would have eliminated payroll deduction for all unions in public and private sectors in North Carolina. But when anti-union SB 375 went to the N.C. House, pushed from unions made it impossible for sponsors to secure the necessary votes for passage. Concerted opposition came from the N.C. Association of Educators, N.C. AFL-CIO; and United Electrical Workers Local 150, the N.C. Public Service Workers Union. So Rep. David Lewis, who chairs the House Rules Committee and is a farm owner in Dunn, N.C., pivoted to attack farmworkers by slipping anti-union language into SB 657. Besides nixing union payroll deductions, the Farm Bill SB 645 also eliminates the right of workers to collectively bargain directly with farmers. SB 657 is a vicious attack on the progress made by FLOC in recent months, particularly with its important victories for kale and sweet potato pickers, all Latinx migrant workers. FLOC is also in the midst of a powerful international campaign to organize RJ Reynolds, whose primary U.S. source for tobacco is North Carolina fields.

The attack on farmworkers through SB 645 comes after a major wage theft settlement this January between FLOC and state Sen. Brent Jackson (R-Sampson), the powerful co-chairman of the N.C. Senate Appropriations Committee, who is president of the Jackson Farming Company.

The 1937 state law is based on the federal National Labor Relations Act of 1935, which guarantees the right of workers to collective bargaining. Jim Crow-era laws that aim to stop a now almost entirely Latino workforce from organizing, this is an affront to freedom of association and smacks of racism.

Calling for widespread labor and community solidarity in this struggle, the resolution quoted Saladin Muhammad, of Black Workers for Justice and the San Francisco Labor Council: “This must become a national battlefront for all workers, organized, unorganized and unemployed in our communities.” The council called on N.C. Gov. Roy Cooper to veto the bill “as part of supporting labor’s ‘national battlefront’ to organize the South and regain the power of labor everywhere in this country.” (See related article on protest Gov. Cooper’s bill signing.)

Fight for back pay in N.J.

New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie called a government shutdown on July 2, using an austerity maneuver when the state budget wasn’t passed by July 1. With between 30,000 and 35,000 members of the Communications Workers of America, CWA, holding pickets and striking, the state Senate promptly passed the bill. The state Senate passed the bill, the state Assembly agreed to pass a similar bill, and Christie even promised to sign it. (Labor Notes, July 20) Nothing like exercising union muscle when state power runs amok!

airport workers ready to strike

Nearly 200 Reagan National Airport cleaners authorized a strike July 12 against their employer, HMS, a Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority contractor, to protest lack of affordable health care and income below MVAAs living wage guidelines. The vote came as American Airlines and the workers’ union, Service Employees 32BJ, entailed discussions that led to a tentative agreement that same day at Newark, LaGuardia, JFK and Philadelphia International airports.

Though suspended, the strike, involving thousands of airport workers employed by American Airlines’ contractors, is still on the table. Airport workers are ready to strike should talks fall apart.

“Working families are enduring enough financial pain as a result of the dysfunction in Washington,” said 32BJ SEIU Vice President Jaime Contrares. “MWAAs contractors should be functioning at a higher level than Congress by being part of the solution, not the problem.” (seiu32bj.org, July 12)
By Jeff Sorel

In 2004, Harvard student Mark Zuckerberg launched Facebook from his dorm room, and Facebook went public in early 2012. Zuckerberg was already a billionaire at the age of 23. Today, this social network has a market capitalization of over $465 billion. Zuckerberg’s current net worth is over $63 billion, ranking him as the fifth richest person in the world, according to Forbes.

How could so much wealth and capital be so quickly accumulated in one person’s hands?

The short answer is monopoly. With more than 2 billion monthly active users, Facebook has a virtual monopoly of social media, messaging, and networking traffic. It achieved that monopoly in large part thanks to a vital tool of capitalist accumulation: patents.

Patents provide monopoly profits

Patent law provides the patent holder, in return for public disclosure of the invention, with the exclusive right to make, use, and sell the invention for a limited period (20 years for most patents). In other words, patents confer a government-authorized “intellectual property” right to exclude competition and monopolize.

With patent rights in hand, capital-ists can use and even sell information without fear that disclosure will render it worthless. Patents thereby transform ideas and information into profitable private property.

Facebook’s superprofits derive from ownership of patents relating to digital advertising and content placement rates. Those patents allow Facebook (including its subsidiaries like WhatsApp, Messenger and Instagram) to control much of the internet’s social media and messaging traffic.

That control in turn enables Facebook to charge monopoly prices for displaying content that does not make it, thereby garnering immense revenues without incurring the costs of production.

There are no inherent barriers that prevent the free flow of information over the internet. But free flow is not conducive to private profit, the lifeblood of capitalism. To allow monopolistic profits to flow from the expense of the many, capitalism created artificial barriers to free flow by developing intellectual property law.

The initial reasons given for designing patent laws were to encourage and protect individual inventors. But as capitalist-ism developed, large corporate interests replaced individual creators as the beneficiaries of patent law. Today, most companies require their employees to sign over the intellectual property they come up with to their companies. In this way the companies secure most of the resulting profits.

To maintain its monopoly status by free ride on inventions that others create. Although Facebook applies for hundreds of patents each month (tinyurl.com/mjn42n5), it has purchased most of its patents and patent applications, including those covering its “news feed” and “like” button, from the actual inventors or other companies.

Like other tech giants, Facebook spends vast sums to acquire huge patent portfolios, allowing it to expropriate others’ innovations and multiply profits. It then wields its patent rights against potential competitors by suing or threatening to sue.

Zuckerberg might object that no one is forced to join Facebook. But no one person has to buy TV sets in the mid-twentieth century either, yet in practice few believed they could do without them. It is likewise becoming increasingly difficult to function in today’s world without Facebook and other social media. This means big bucks for Zuckerberg and his cronies.

Data control provides revenue bonanza

It is hard to overstate the reach of Facebook’s data accumulation. Rapidly developing technology allows Facebook to know (or infer) who you are and what you believe, where you are and where you will be, what you are doing and why you are doing it — and even what you will do next.

Access to this massive customer data enables content providers to immediately tailor retail prices to individual need and ability to pay, as well as ascertain minimum acceptable quality and service. This data-driven opportunity to increase sales and prices represents an enormous commercial advantage.

Facebook’s data dominance largely precludes competitors. As a result, it has reaped monopoly profits by rapidly raising advertising and content placement rates. Facebook amounts to a three-sided network composed of users, content providers and advertisers. Its profits derive from the “network effects” of connecting these three elements. Facebook acts as an intermediary on virtually every transaction, getting paid big time for simply matching buyers with sellers. When you click on a Facebook page and buy a product or service, Facebook gets its behind-the-scenes cut.

Advertisers and companies pay Facebook for access to the data and users it controls. Those who make the payments haven’t bought the ownership of Facebook’s data or intellectual property; rather, they lease access to the information much like a landlord leases land and access to water.

But unlike with land, which can be leased to only a single lessee at a time, information can be leased to an enormous number of lessees. That enables Facebook to generate vast inflows of revenues from its patent-based monopoly.

At bottom, companies that sell products and services effectively pay “information rent” to Facebook for the right to use information over which Facebook maintains a monopoly due to its patents. As a Facebook user, you might say: “So what? I don’t pay anything to use Facebook.” But, in fact, you pay plenty. Facebook’s monopoly of vital consumer information enables it to charge inflated prices to advertisers and commercial purchasers of that information, who then pass on those inflated prices to the ultimate consumers of their products and services.

In other words, those billions piling up in Mark Zuckerberg’s coffers are being squeezed out of all of us.

Facebook’s monopoly may eventually collapse due to expiration of its patents or for other reasons (technological, legal), but only after many years of extracting monopoly rents, inflating consumer prices and stifling innovation.

Facebook’s role in the capitalist economy

From a Marxist economic perspective, what role does Facebook play? Marx explained that capitalism enables industrialists to obtain more value from their workers’ production than the value of the wages paid to those workers.

But unlike with land, which can be monopolized, private intellectual property facilitates the transfer of much of the total surplus value produced by the global working class into the hands of information monopolists. Whether these “information monopolies” are bringing about a great enough change to represent a new phase of monopoly capitalism is a question that invites serious analysis.

In any event, the ability to generate and provide access to vast troves of information is clearly a major productive force in contemporary capitalism. The contradiction between continued growth of this force of production and the prevailing relations of production (private information monopolies) appears unsustainable.

Fear that their vast wealth may tumble like a house of cards motivates occasional forays into philanthropy by Zuckerberg and other information technology tycoons like Bill Gates of Microsoft and Jeff Bezos of Amazon to assuage suffering from the inequalities they helped create. But philanthropy cannot resolve the exploitative contradiction at the heart of the information economy.

Capitalism, with its private ownership of the means of production, must be overthrown to unleash the full potential of the information age. Replacing capitalism with socialism will remove the monopolistic fetters of private intellectual property and establish a planned econo-my to ensure social utility and information serve everyone and are no longer hijacked to create instant billionaires like Mark Zuckerberg.

Workers World Party holds Marxist classes in Philadelphia

Over the July 22-23 weekend, young activists and revolutionaries from Philadelphia, Baltimore, New York, Boston and Durham, N.C. attended an educational weekend on Marxist-Leninist theory and practice hosted by the Philadelphia branch of Workers World Party.

— Story and photo by Joe Piette

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For more information on these books and other writings, by the author, Fred Goldstein, go to LowWageCapitalism.com

Available at all major online booksellers.
O.J. Simpson and the injustice system

By Monica Moorehead

Orenthal James Simpson, aka O.J. Simpson, is set to be paroled from a Nevada prison in early October, after serving nine years of a 33-year prison sentence for armed robbery. He was found not guilty of murdering his ex-wife Nicole Simpson, and her friend, Ron Goldman, in Los Angeles in 1994. The trial was watched live on July 20 by millions on ESPN, the world’s largest sports channel, and via other major media outlets. Simpson first came to national prominence when he won the Heisman Trophy, which is awarded annually to the best college football player, in 1968. He then became one of the greatest running backs in the history of the National Football League until his retirement in 1979. Simpson was on the main face in TV ads for the Hertz car rental company and appeared in films and TV shows.

The 1994 courtroom drama involving Simpson was dubbed the “trial of the century.” Simpson’s “dream team” of high-profile lawyers included Johnnie Cochran, F. Lee Bailey, Robert Shapiro and Robert Kardashian. Members of the Los Angeles Police Department were accused of tampering with evidence, including the notorious Mark Fuhrman, a white police officer, Wilson fatally shot Mike Brown. The documentary also raises the 1979 police killing of 39-year-old Eula Mae Love, who was shot eight times on her lawn for the “crime” of owing money on her gas bill. The documentary also shows the Coleman police repression against the Black Panther Party and other Black political activists.

Even though Simpson was acquitted in 1995 and committed no violations while imprisoned, he will continue to be labeled as a murderer, especially by the corporate media.

Once Simpson, who is now 70 years old, is released from prison, he will be tied to parole obligations until Sept. 29, 2022, if there are no violations. He will have to make monthly reports to the Nevada Board of Parole Commissioners.

Simpson will be one of 7 million U.S. adults — or in 31 of the population — who are on either parole or probation. This is 2.2 percent of adults at 2.2 percent. (pewtrusts.org)

Documentary puts verdict in political context

This year’s Oscar-winning documentary, “O.J.: Made in America,” took more than seven hours to present the historical and political context of Simpson’s rise to prominence, the trials, the verdict and the reaction to the verdict. The director, Ezra Edelman, who is African American, showed that Simpson became a major symbol of the racist injustices that Black people as a whole face on a daily basis, especially if, unlike Simpson, they can’t afford the best lawyers money can buy. Many of those incarcerated today have not gone to trial due to being indigent, either unable to make bail or forced to accept plea deals.

Edelman also showed that Simpson lacked social consciousness compared to activist athletes like Colin Kaepernick. Simpson put his career ahead of support for the aspirations of Black people facing police brutality, lack of jobs, decent housing and more in Los Angeles. This was not a subjective commentary on Simpson, but a factual presentation.

The fact that so many Black people cheered and applauded when Simpson was acquitted on Oct. 3, 1995, was due to the acquittal being viewed as a symbolic victory — a Black man beating a bigoted system — rather than his guilt or innocence.

Edelman stated his film’s goal: “It’s a deeper portrait of a country. It’s the people who have experience being Black in America and the inequalities that come with that. To see the most famous and entitled person be on trial and to have so many people vested in his acquittal when he’s so not representative of the people, that is the tragedy.” (independent.co.uk, March 6)

Edelman did a powerful job of raising examples of just how racist the system — courts, laws, police and more — is toward Black people in Los Angeles. Take the tragic murder of Latasha Harlins, a 15-year-old African American, by a Korean grocer in South Central Los Angeles in 1991. The grocer was fined $500 and did no prison time, yet another example of how the courts deluminate Black Life. Many cite this particular killing, along with the acquittal of four white cops who savagely beat Black motorist Rodney King, as a major spark for the Los Angeles rebellion of 1992.

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Monica Moorehead was the 2016 presidential candidate of Workers World Party.

Ferguson activistAssata Shakur and Black woman leadership and recent housing developments in Oakland, Calif.

Ashley Yates is a co-founder of the Ferguson-based grass-roots organization, Millennial Activists United (MAU). Originally from Florissant, Mo., Yates was one of the early on-the-ground organizers following the unjust police killing of Mike Brown on Aug. 9, 2014, in Ferguson, Mo. In 2015, she was a Black Lives Matter representative at the United Nations in Geneva, Switzerland.

As one of the more vocal activists at the forefront of the Ferguson Rebellion, Yates’ many contributions have helped provide key leadership to a new generation of young freedom fighters and Black abolitionists. Affectionately described by CNN as a “disruptor of the status quo,” Yates’ thoughts and critiques on racism and state violence have been featured on NPR, Democracy Now! the Huffington Post and MSNBC. Read along as we discuss Assata Shakur, Black woman leadership and recent housing developments in Oakland, Calif.

Lamont Lilly: Ashley, thank you so much for your time and willingness to talk with me. Though you’re still connected to the ground in Ferguson and St. Louis, you’re actually living in Oakland, Calif., now. When did you move to Oakland?

Ashley Yates: I moved out here in mid-December 2014, shortly after Wilson’s non-indictment. [While a police officer, Wilson fatally shot Mike Brown.]

LL: What brought you out to Oakland?

AY: There were a few different factors that went into that. A few personal things that happened made it clear that my life had drastically changed after I decided to take a stand for Mike Brown and Black lives, especially in a place like Ferguson and St. Louis. I really felt like my life was different, and it was not going to go back to the way it was. I also knew I needed some space to heal and grow. I also came to Oakland to connect with the history here, more specifically the Black Panther Party. I wasn’t a scholar on the Black Panthers or anything, but I did know that this was the founding place. I also didn’t know much about the city, or who was doing what. It just seemed like a place where I could learn and grow, and to soak up some of the organizing history.

I’ve taken a different path than what I expected, but it’s been a huge blessing. Ideally, I wanted to just jump right in and be like, “Yo, take me to every space. The Black Panthers were at.” But it doesn’t work like that. That’s just being idealistic. It’s taken me a few years to build relationships with people, but the city has given me a lot.

LL: In addition to police terror and state violence, there is another major struggle in Oakland — gentrification and affordable housing. What are the housing conditions like in Oakland, particularly within the Black community? What are you seeing there?

AY: In Oakland, there are entire tent cities and it’s concentrated. I can think of at least six tent cities off the top of my head, along with small and constant camps of folks without housing! And I barely know the city like that. It’s almost indecipherable. When you add the downward spiral to the multimillion-dollar corporations, along with the backdoor deals of the courts and city officials, it becomes a multi-layered reality that’s just too painful for people in their homes — or to stop an eviction. The rate at which it’s happening is just mind-blowing.

The thing happening in Oakland is a direct effect of Silicon Valley and the tech industry. These people could not be more directly responsible than if they walked in there and said “hurry up and take the money out of their homes. For me to not name that would be an injustice to Oakland.”

These industrial evictions are violently displacing people, yet they’re wiping their hands clean. On top of that, some of these corporations aren’t paying any local taxes. They’re making more money, yet poor people are being pushed out of their homes. If you allow it to, it will make your head hurt. The average rent in the Bay Area now is $3,000.

LL: I just want to make sure I hear you correctly. Did you say the average rent in the Bay Area is $3,000 per month.

AY: I’m sorry. Let me not be hyperbolic. The number that we pulled from the last year was actually $2,675, just rounded that up to $3,000. That’s absurd!

Last year here in Oakland, I was looking at two-bedroom apartments, ranging from 900 to 1,100 square feet. Those were $2,400 a month. I saw one apartment I thought about briefly, but it was $1,800 a month. People are paying $2,000 plus for a studio apartment in Oakland now. I just can’t afford that. And there are a few thousand families and communities left in Oakland. Gentrification is wiping them out. East Oakland is pretty much what’s left here.

LL: You were recently arrived in Oakland, Calif. What was your purpose in going? What were some of the things you’re working on?

AY: Funny story about Brazil. I’m still not quite sure how that happened. Out of the blue, I received an email invite to this conference in Brazil. When I contacted the sender, there were some language barriers, but I eventually found out that I was being invited by the Brazilian government to attend their first state conference on racism and anti-Blackness.

The conference was a week long. I was able to hear about the Black Lives Matter movement in the U.S. People wanted to hear about Ferguson and Baltimore, and some of our strategies of response, organizing history.

The events were so powerful and political, but also very cultural and full of art and music. I was being invited as a representative from there the United States.

We also got a chance to visit and build with folks in the favelas, the equivalent of “the hood” in the U.S., the shanty towns. These were the communities that were forced into the most undesirable parts of the city and country — the hillsides and highlands — where the poor were forced to create their own infrastructure. We’re talking strongholds of
Ashley Yates talks Oakland, Black woman leadership

By Lamont Lilly

Afro-Brazilian communities that are direct descendants of African captives, who have thrived in the highlands for quite some time. This was right after the World Cup. There were units of SWAT teams still present in the favelas. They were charged with "cleaning up the streets" for these huge international events, to make it look a certain way. But "cleaning things up" had been taking place for several months. Developers were coming into the favelas and kicking people out of their homes. These same communities were once undesirable. But now that people have been there for decades, now that plumbing and piping and foundations have been set up, not to mention the gorgeous view — these favelas have become points of interest for luxury housing. Now, there are thousands of Afro-Brazilians being violently removed from their homes to make way for the rich and their new condominiums.

Being able to witness this for myself was so powerful. It really put a lot of things into perspective for me. It was a reminder of why it's so important to create these relationships, to learn from each other.

One of the things I found out while I was down there is that, in addition to Israel, Brazil has been a training site for U.S. law enforcement. We're talking about the Los Angeles Police Department, the FBI and the Chicago Police Department, who flew down to share tactics and information with Brazilian authorities and state police. We certainly cannot ignore these international partnerships that perpetuate our oppression, both locally and globally. If our oppressors are organizing globally, we should be organizing globally just as hard for our liberation.

LL: I wanted to ask about the infamous "Assata Taught Me" T-shirt, which can also be purchased as a hoodie. It has become a staple of movement apparel. Where did the idea of such a simple, but powerful statement come from? What does the phrase "Assata Taught Me" mean to you?

AY: Right after the murder of Mike Brown, we formed a small unit on West Florissant Street. I hate to say this or perpetuate such an analogy, but when you're in a war, you have to form a unit by any means, but it was something that came to me. It's not an original phrase, but without MAU on them. Somehow in shirts with a popular movement message, it was so powerful. It really put a lot of weight and weight and weight behind what I'm saying now to the international community.

One night, I was at MokaBe's Coffee House and Jamilah Lemieux (from Ebony magazine) was sitting right across from me. I was talking to her about the Assata chant and about the fact that we needed shirts with a popular movement message, but without MAU on them. Somehow in the conversation "Assata Taught Me" just came to me. It's not an original phrase, by any means, but it was something that I felt would really resonate with people.

Who else better as a symbol of resistance — from the New Jersey Turnpike, to being broken out of prison, to living in exile in Cuba? It's the real-life story line of a Black woman legend.

The design of the shirt was created right in MokaBe's. Jamilah helped me pick out the font because I'm picky as hell about everything. I was just going for something strong, simple and straightforward. After Jamilah helped me through my self-doubt, we said, "Yeah, that looks good." We put it on Teespring and went from there.

I just hope people feel empowered by it and feel a sense of community when they wear it. I hope they feel the resistance, the ancestors and unapologetically Black. You're not only wearing Assata Shakur. You're also wearing the Black Liberation Army. They were the ones who rescued Assata. I'm just glad people like the shirt. The feedback has been incredible.

AY: Speaking of women warriors, when we talk about Black Lives Matter, we must also talk about the critical role of Black woman leadership. What does that mean to you?

LL: It's quite sensitive, to say the least, to talk about resistance without mentioning the Stonewall Rebellion? How can we talk about the Black Liberation Movement without mentioning James Baldwin? We can't! I can't imagine a movement without Black queer people, whether we're talking 1965 or 2014.

In reference to Black women in general, we've been pushing back against that narrative since Harriet Tubman and Ida B. Wells. It's a shame that Black women still have to be invited to a table that we helped create. As Solange [Knowles] would say, we've earned our seat at the table. We've earned several seats! With Black women, there wouldn't be no damn seats, no table, no nothing!

LL: Thank you so much for talking with me, Ashley, and sharing your experiences. You really are an amazing freedom fighter. Salute to you, Sis! AY: Thank you so much for your time, Let's stay in touch and keep building.

A North Carolina-based activist, Lamont Lilly was the 2016 Workers World Party Women's Candidate. In 2015, he was a U.S. delegate at the International Forum for Justice in Palestine in Beirut, Lebanon. He is also an organizer and journalist in the Black Lives Matter movement.
Film review

‘Ukraine on Fire’ exposes fascism

By Mike Kuhlenbeck

Director Igor Lopatonok’s powerful documentary, “Ukraine on Fire,” exposes the history of Western imperialist intervention in Ukraine and the 2014 coup that allowed the far-right to ascend to power.

“Ukraine on Fire” was written by Vanessa Dean and executed by filmmaker Oliver Stone (“The Putin Interviews,” 2017). It contains much footage of the street violence that brought down the Ukrainian government in 2014. The film also features conversations with Russian President Vladimir Putin, former Ukrainian President Viktor Yanukovych and Minister of Internal Affairs Vitaly Zakharchenko, as well as with award-winning investigative journalist Robert Parry, the founder of Consortium News.

The film investigates the series of events that led to the “Euromaidan” and set the stage for the coup in Ukraine.

The film’s narrator describes Ukraine as a land of beauty, heroism and sacrifice. Rich in arable land and resources, it has served as a pathway for Western powers trying to subvert and conquer the East, particularly the former Soviet Union, and now, Ukraine.

But the Ukrainian people have “paid the highest price for these games of pow-...” (LA Times, July 23)

Class-war criminals and San Antonio

By Minnie Bruce Pratt

Most of us are familiar with the conce...
NYC demonstration: ‘Maduro, the people are with you’

By Brenda Ryan

An emergency action was held in New York City on July 22 to stop U.S. interven-
tion in Venezuela and to protest the New York Times’ collaboration with the U.S. State Department. Protesters marched from Times Square to the New York Times building chanting “Maduro, amigo — el pueblo están contigo” (Maduro, friend — the people are with you) and “Donald Trump out of Venezuela!”

The U.S. president has threatened “strong and swift” economic actions against Venezuela if President Nicolás Maduro proves too popular. Maduro, an elected president who has recently been attacked by the Venezuelan ambassador to the United States, said that “we must do everything we can to stop U.S. intervention in Venezuela.”

The battle against racism and for immigrant rights is a key struggle in the class war against the crime of capitalism. Today, amid violence and threat of sanctions and knowing well the risks, the Venezuelan people are taking brave steps toward deepening the gains of the revolution. Only recently, during the dry run for the election of representatives to the National Constituent Assembly, armed biker gangs terrorized a polling station in a pro-government neighbor-
hood, killing one person and injuring three others.

In the words of Ansata Shakur, “It is our duty to love and support one another.” We support the Venezuelan people in their heroic struggle for socialism.

VENEZUELA ANALYSIS: The gains of the Bolivarian Revolution

By John Steffin

The people of Venezuela are currently taking steps to deepen the Bolivarian Revolution, and the U.S. ruling class is now scrambling to prevent this.

President Nicolás Maduro has called for a National Constituent Assembly in order to defend the gains of the Bolivarian Revolution against an increasingly violent opposition led by oil scions like Leopoldo López (goo.gl/tm0OfK) and bankers, such as the two Gram Citibank who recently attacked the Venezuelan ambassador during his recent trip to New York City (goo.gl/qP8Zjg).

In response, the State Department, the White House and Marco Rubio have condemned the National Constituent Assembly as illegal and called for more “democracy.”

These claims are preposterous, given that the current Venezuelan Constitution provides for such an assembly in Article 347, and given that Venezuela’s electoral process has always been the best in Latin America.

The 2003 invasion of Iraq, the New York Times and other U.S.-funded pro-socialist magazines, have published numerous articles calling for U.S. intervention in Venezuela. As it did with Iraq before the 2003 invasion, the New York Times has published numerous articles calling for U.S. intervention in Venezuela, and as with Iraq, its reasons for doing so are built on lies.

The U.S. media, particularly the New York Times, but also even so-called pro-socialist magazines, have continued a shameful legacy of supporting imperialist war efforts by giving ex-
clusive voice to the right-wing opposition in Venezuela. As with Iraq before the 2003 invasion, the New York Times has published numerous articles calling for U.S. intervention in Venezuela, and as with Iraq, its reasons for doing so are built on lies.

The Missions were first implemented under President Chávez. The Missions allow communities and people to decide what their needs are and how they are met. The book is available at major online booksellers.

Grass-roots institutions

There is much to defend in the Bolivarian Revolution. The information campaign run by U.S. media, however, has been successful in hiding what the Vene-

zuelan masses have gained. The Bolivari-
an Missions and the Commune Movement are inspiring examples of endeavors to build socialism, and they are under threat.

While riots stemming from the wealthiest neighborhoods of Caracas rage in narrow areas, Afro-Vene-

zuelans, Indigenous communities and oth-

er members of the most oppressed in Venezuela look forward to the National Constituent Assembly. There they hope to have the opportunity to ensure the Bolivarian Revolution’s pro-people, pro-

poor endeavors in the Constitution.

The Missions were first implemented under President Chávez and are man-

aged by workers and citizens. They pro-

vide anti-poverty services, free medical clinics for the poor, food and housing subsidies, and support for CILAS campaigns and Indigenous rights.

The Communes, which were first formed in self-defense against the as-

ault of neoliberalism in the late 1980s, are a network of neighborhood councils, self-defense groups and other grass-roots bodies of self-governance and self-deter-

mination that were connected and insti-
tutionalized at the national level under President Chávez. The communes allow communities and people to decide what their needs are and how they are met.

Enshrining these institutions in the constitu-
tion would strengthen them against attacks from a right-wing-dom-

inated National Assembly.

Role of the U.S. left and Venezuela

The sharpening of contradictions in the U.S. has eroded the political center here and propelled some people toward new alternatives further to the left. Un-

fortunately, this explosive movement toward social democratic groups has not yet removed all the chauvinist, pro-U.S. indoctrination of the past.

When organizations spread or accept without question the misinformation spread by the U.S. media, they weaken the growing resistance to U.S. imperial-

ism. This is compounded if they set up some sort of litmus test that any revolu-
tion abroad or any government under im-

perialist attack is almost guaranteed to fail. It is the primary role of the U.S. left to stop U.S. imperialism from intervening against other countries and movements, which must organize under difficult, of-

ten brutal conditions propagated by im-

perialist violence and economic sabotage.

Back in 2002, mere months after the Chávez government took the first steps toward socialism by redistributing land to peasants and the urban poor, and started using oil revenue to fund social services, democratically elected Presi-
dent Chávez was captured by a narrow, pro-imperialist sector of the top military as the U.S. media cheered.

Only through a heroic mass struggle and with support of other sectors of the Venezuelan armed forces were the Ven-

ezuelan people able to reverse the U.S.-

backed coup — the first successful strug-

gle to do so in Latin American history. Chavistas have not forgotten this lesson, and it is crucial that the U.S. left not for-

get it either.

Today, amid violence and threat of sanctions and knowing well the risks, the Venezuelan people are taking brave steps toward deepening the gains of the revolution. Only recently, during the dry run for the election of representatives to the National Constituent Assembly, armed biker gangs terrorized a polling station in a pro-government neighbor-

hood, killing one person and injuring three others.

In the words of Ansata Shakur, “It is our duty to love and support one another.” We support the Venezuelan people in their heroic struggle for socialism.
The disparity in how the media are handling the fatal shooting of a white woman in Minneapolis by a cop born in 1987-1990.

What the media won’t say is that no police killings are justified. The police exist to terrorize the most oppressed. Therefore, such murder is treated as a “misd.” Such numbers don’t fit into that description is victimized. Why are the police so trigger happy in the first place? Why are they increasingly being armed with military weapons?

Some of this money was given by the British crown to wealthy settlers, making them work the land without pay. So-called “enslaved” families, mostly of African origin, had a net worth of $7,700. (“America’s Financial Divide,” Huffington Post, July 28, 2006)

While the median net worth for all white families is $166,000, based mainly on home ownership, the median net worth of the top 1% is $8.4 million — 72 times as much. This huge class divide is why the U.S. has the highest rate of police brutality and mass incarceration in the world today. When police guns are fired in press and Black and Brown communities, it is to defend a racist system that has served the rich so well. When there are no decent jobs, it is a wake-up call that young workers of color are expendable.

Racism does not defend the interests of white workers. On the contrary, Whites make up the majority of those shot and killed by U.S. cops each year, and they are usually armed with guns. But people of color suffer police brutality and murder far out of proportion to their numbers.

The U.S. county with the highest proportion of police killings in 2015 was Kern County, Calif., where 52% of the people are Latino, 5% Black, 5% American Indian and only 32% white. Its courts also handed out the largest number of death sentences. (Death Penalty Information Center)

As workers struggle to make ends meet, the biggest challenges we face are defeating racism, Islamophobia and targeting of immigrants. Billionaires like Trump understand this very well and do everything they can to instigate hatred and divide our class. Building class solidarity against all police killings, especially targeting the most oppressed, is paramount.

We say abolish the police, courts, jails and all the instruments of class and national oppression. The multinational working class, who make everything, can create a society of abundance for all, where these oppressive institutions will have no place.

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Disability Pride rocks NYC for health care, access

By Viviana Weinstein

Denver

The wide sweep of the current disability rights struggle was inspiringly clear in a list of organizations in this year’s Disability Pride: AccessVR, Achilles International, ADAPTS, Adaptive Climbing Group, AHRC, Art Improvement School Transportation, Project Search, March 23, rule protecting the health and safety of the people of the state.

A gas explosion killed two people in Firestone on April 17 due to a severely gas line a few feet from their basement. The well was 172 feet from the house, violating the 200-foot setback rule.

In response to this tragedy, community and environmental groups called for a shutdown of all wells until independent investigators assessed they were safe and complied with regulations. Anadarko, the company involved, shut 3,000 wells and, responding to community demands, said it would check all flowlines within 1,000 feet of all structures.

The COGCC gave all oil and gas operators until the end of June to comply. The July 1 Denver Post said that by that date, companies reported they had capped over 6,000 lines from active and inactive wells.

But there are hundreds of thousands of flowlines underneath Colorado’s land. Angry residents are demanding to know the locations of all flowlines. They say mandatory regulations and incentives need, not just voluntary responses by the industry after a tragedy occurs.

Fight far from over

The people of Colorado are challenging a wealthy, powerful industry with enormous influence in the state in companies have repeatedly opposed local efforts to place anti-fracking measures on the ballot.

With their limited funds, the industry’s advertising is based on lies, and it confuses people. Energy officials placed a measure on the ballot in 2016 that made it financially impossible for environmental groups to get the signatures needed to place anti-fracking propositions on the ballot. This expensive process requires the collection of signatures of a minimum of 2 percent of registered voters in each of 35 state senatorial districts.

Moreover, the measure must get at least 55 percent of the total votes to win.

The energy industry also vigorously opposed two resident-led ballot propositions in 2016. These measures would have increased the minimum setback (distance) between active drilling operations and houses, schools and other structures. Additionally, it would have made the setback distance mandatory, providing greater safety for communities.

Horizontal drilling for miles means that although residents can’t see the wells, the gas lines can be dangerously close to school and homes.

There are some minimum setback rules in Colorado, but the companies get waivers all the time from the COGCC.

The numerous gas lines to and from active and inactive wells present dangers to existing structures and people. Development east of the Rocky Mountains is growing rapidly. Without effective regulations, builders and homeowners do not know what is underneath the ground on their properties. People want to know this before they build homes.

Residents are demanding a voice in the planning of projects that are going to adversely impact human health and do not want to object to them. Increasingly, they are challenging the COGCC as nothing but a front for the oil and gas corporations.

But there are hundreds of thousands of people who complain, protest or call for regulations near schools and homes as “paid, out-of-state agitators.” But that is not the case for many of the Denver protesters who have never been activists to organize, form committees and demand regulations and inspections.

Denver residents say: No cuts in health care, housing!

Over 100 residents of Kavod, a senior residence in Denver, protested congressional efforts to cut health care programs under the Affordable Care Act, including Medicaid, and the threats to Medicare.

Organized by the Tenant Council Political Action Committee, this demonstration on July 11 also opposed attacks on federal assistance for housing.

Kavod Senior Living is a residence for low-income seniors and people with disabilities, which is supported by the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). Most of its 400 residents receive rental assistance and are on Medicaid and/or Medicare programs.

These individuals are able to be independent because of the many services provided to them, such as income, housing, safety measures and more. Everyone is assigned a social worker. There are activities, including outings, organized by a trip director, and on-site health services.

The threatened cuts to medical care programs and HU will drastically affect the residents, the rent they pay will be cut and rents raised. This is alarming those who live in this housing, and that is why they came out to protest.

— Photo and story by Viviana Weinstein

Denver

Firestone, Colorado, Part III: Impact on environment and people

By Viviana Weinstein

Denver

The scientific evidence is concerning about the deleterious effects of hydraulic fracturing (fracking) on people’s health.

Populist resistance is increasing to the expansion of fracking across Colorado, in which 95 percent of the people tested positive for CO2 at Colorado Oil and Gas Conservation Commission meetings in May to express their fears and concerns. Many of them asked what the drilling was doing to people who feel ignored. A retired couple lived far from an urban center said they could not sleep as a truck jams a day rumble up and down the road nearby, carrying water, sand and chemicals, while drilling vibrates throughout their house all night.

During the day, dust and noise are so bad they cannot sit on their porch.

Shortly after buying a house, a family and their neighbors learned that fracking activity would be allowed in their backyard. Most people had seen old wells that existed individually on their property.

However, under current methods, each well location (“pad”) may have between 15 and 45 wells. These sites are massive industrial developments with constant truck and pipeline traffic.

These are some of the recent problems, which are increasing because there are not adequate regulations and inspections. An energy company in rush in to set up drilling operations and make money.

Colorado lawmakers created the COGCC in 1951 to regulate oil and gas development in the state. In 2013, Lafayette and Longmont enacted the “responsible development of Colorado’s oil and gas” to give communities a voice.

In response to this tragedy, communities and people have never been activists to organize, form committees and demand regulations and inspections.

Disability Pride Parade. Continued from page 3

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Over 100 residents of Kavod, a senior residence in Denver, protested congressional efforts to cut health care programs under the Affordable Care Act, including Medicaid, and the threats to Medicare.

Organized by the Tenant Council Political Action Committee, this demonstration on July 11 also opposed attacks on federal assistance for housing.

Kavod Senior Living is a residence for low-income seniors and people with disabilities, which is supported by the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). Most of its 400 residents receive rental assistance and are on Medicaid and/or Medicare programs.

These individuals are able to be independent because of the many services provided to them, such as income, housing, safety measures and more. Everyone is assigned a social worker. There are activities, including outings, organized by a trip director, and on-site health services.

The threatened cuts to medical care programs and HUD will drastically affect the residents, the rent they pay will be cut and rents raised. This is alarming those who live in this housing, and that is why they came out to protest.

— Photo and story by Viviana Weinstein

Denver
El gobierno venezolano del presidente Nicolás Maduro está siendo culpado por la escasez de alimentos y otras necesidades que aquejan a ese país sudamericano rico en petróleo. Pero para la mayoría de los venezolanos, la escasez no es nuevo. Lo que es nuevo es que no sólo los pobres están afectados.

En febrero de 1989, las ricas de Venezuela disfrutaban bajo el gobierno del presidente en 1999 y que continúa hoy, a la clase capitalista, que está haciendo todo lo posible por sabotear cualquier intento de transformación social. Y la burguesía venezolana tiene a los Estados Unidos detrás de ella, apoyando el intento de desestabilizar el país que se proclama el ejemplo horrendo que llevó a la masacre de diciembre de 1989. Aún la inmensa mayoría de su población vive en una profunda pobreza. Pero la amplia solidaridad de la clase obrera multinacional que fue palpa-

En la mesa de negociaciones, la gerencia de Tufts ha argumentado que el hospital sigue siendo un ejemplo a seguir. Pero a la hora de escribir este artículo no se ha publicado ningún calendario. Se desconoce si se alcanzará o no un acuerdo. Serán importantes las negociaciones de apoyo y asistencia para las/os trabajadoras. Mientras que vertió el dinero en los rompehuelgas de otros estados y en la policía, Tufts también utilizó estos gastos como una justificación falsa para bloquear a las enfermeras.

Las enfermeras dicen que esperan que las negociaciones se reanuden pronto, pero a la hora de escribir este artículo no se ha publicado ningún calendario. Se desconoce si se alcanzará o no un acuerdo. Serán importantes las negociaciones de apoyo y asistencia para las/os trabajadoras. Mientras que vertió el dinero en los rompehuelgas de otros estados y en la policía, Tufts también utilizó estos gastos como una justificación falsa para bloquear a las enfermeras.

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