

# PA student/teacher solidarity

# Education workers win strike

By Joe Piette  
Philadelphia

Strong, spirited strike solidarity between professors, adjuncts and students has proven to be unbeatable. Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education (PASSHE) officials must have come to that conclusion before they signed off on a tentative agreement with the Association of Pennsylvania State College and University Faculties on Oct. 21 after a three-day strike.

The state had proposed 249 changes to the contract with APSCUF members at universities in West Chester, East Stroudsburg, Bloomsburg, California, Cheyney, Clarion, Edinboro, Indiana, Kutztown, Lock Haven, Mansfield, Millersville, Shippensburg and Slippery Rock. In September, the union filed an unfair labor practice, complaining that state officials were not negotiating “in good faith” over the many demands. (wdadradio.com, Sept. 29)

“We fought back virtually every one of [the contract changes],” said APSCUF President Kenneth Mash in announcing the settlement. “And the amount of love and respect throughout this from our students, you can’t pay for that with money.” (New York Times, Oct. 21)

The first strike in the 34-year history of the state-supported university system was marked by student walk-outs by hundreds of students at 11 a.m. on Oct. 19. Student marches, organized by the PASSHE Student Power Network, joined up with their professors and adjuncts on picket lines because “we all understood what the PASSHE administration was pushing, which were bureaucratic, cowardly measures that really sought to change the fabric of our state system education,” said West Chester University student Sabina Sisterovich.

“The student turnout was also our response to a growing sentiment amongst higher-ups that young people are complacent and uninformed,” Sisterovich continued. “I think we showed that we are quite the opposite. We won’t make room on our campus for destructive, negligent and profit fueled changes, and neither will our professors.”

WCU, with 17,000 students, is the largest campus in the state system totaling 105,000. Students there organized a caravan on the second day to Harrisburg, Pa., to confront PASSHE Chancellor Frank T. Brogan.

Brogan had told a Philadelphia House committee last spring that PASSHE has about the same funding as it did in 1997, with about 13,000 more students. In the past eight years, 900 staff positions have been cut. (theslateonline.com, April 18)

On Oct 21, WCU picketers marched to nearby Westchester to confront Philadelphia Gov. Tom Wolf, a member of the system’s board of governors. The Philadelphia Inquirer reported that he was “extremely disappointed” in the strike and warned of detrimental effects on the system for years to come, claiming the system has lost 12 percent of its enrollment since 2010 and faces a \$10

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No matter who wins the election...

WHY WE MUST KEEP FIGHTING FOR SOCIALISM

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Malcolm X



WW PHOTO: LIZ GREEN

## VICTORY FOR STRIKING HARVARD WORKERS!

The dining service workers of UNITE HERE Local 26 have beaten back the billionaire university for a big win. At 1 a.m. on Oct. 25, HUDS workers announced a tentative agreement that met their demands on health benefits and wages. Hundreds of Harvard students had militantly occupied the negotiating site in solidarity, chanting, “If WE don’t get it, shut it down!” See more on p. 5.

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## FREE ANA BELÉN MONTES

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# Seattle schools say ‘Black Lives Matter’ statewide

By Jim McMahan  
Seattle

“The #BlackLivesMatterAtSchool event in Seattle yesterday was breathtaking. Never before in the country has an entire district of educators risen up to declare that Black lives matter. It’s hard to even put into words the power of this event,” said Jesse Hagopian, Black educator and co-advisor to the Black Student Union at Garfield High School in Seattle. (iamaneducator.com)

Rallies were held at schools throughout Seattle on Oct. 19, along with educational events. Lessons were taught on Black history and institutional racism throughout the day.

A racist provocation led to the Black Lives Matter day. For at least a year more than 100 Black men have welcomed students at different Seattle schools as the students enter. The men, organized as Black Men United to Change the Narrative, high-five the students to present a positive image of Black men and to encourage students in their studies.

The men had planned another demonstration in September at John Muir Elementary, a multinational school. The event was announced in the local media. But racist websites such as Breitbart also publicized it, and the school received a bomb threat for hosting this positive welcoming action.

The school district cancelled the event but dozens of Black community members, encouraged by Black Men United to Change the Narrative, showed up to welcome the students. Students and teachers were resolved to counter this racist threat.

A resolution by the Social Equality Educators, a progressive rank-and-file group, was presented to the Seattle Education Association’s Representative Assembly. The resolution called on SEA members to participate in an action by wearing Black Lives Matter T-shirts at school, together with Black Men United to Change the Narrative, on Oct. 19. The resolution passed unanimously.

Hagopian estimated that about 3,000 teachers and staff, out of 5,000 members, wore the BLM shirts. He



PHOTO: SHARON CHANG

said, “There was a joyous atmosphere around the city. ... There is so much work to be done to make Black lives truly matter at school. But at the rally for Black lives at lunch time at my high school, Garfield, something happened that let everyone know that change is already happening.

“One of our teachers, Janett Du Bois, revealed to everyone in the middle of our rally that the police had murdered her son a few years ago. No one at the school knew about this. It was in that moment of seeing everyone wearing Black Lives Matter T-shirts that she found the strength to tell her story. Her bravery to go public has changed Garfield forever. I am so glad that she no longer has to suffer alone with the pain.”

Along with the SEA, Social Equality Educators and the NAACP strongly supported the action. Even the school district supported it.

Photographs of teachers and students in their BLM shirts at all schools were taken to send to and give encouragement to teachers around the country. More than 200 scholars and professors nationwide signed a statement of support for the Seattle educators. Some leading social justice activists also sent a statement of support, saying, “We’ve got your back.”

The Seattle teachers have fought hard to gain the platform to expose racism in their community. □

## MUNDO OBRERO WORKERS WORLD

### Who we are & what we’re fighting for

Hate capitalism? Workers World Party fights for a socialist society — where the wealth is socially owned and production is planned to satisfy human need. This outmoded capitalist system is dragging down workers’ living standards while throwing millions out of their jobs. If you’re young, you know they’re stealing your future. And capitalism is threatening the entire planet with its unplanned, profit-driven stranglehold over the means of production.

Workers built it all — it belongs to society, not to a handful of billionaires! But we need a revolution to make that change. That’s why for 57 years WWP has been building a revolutionary party of the working class inside the belly of the beast.

We fight every kind of oppression. Racism, sexism,

degrading people because of their nationality, sexual or gender identity or disabilities — all are tools the ruling class uses to keep us apart. They ruthlessly super-exploit some in order to better exploit us all. WWP builds unity among all workers while supporting the right of self-determination. Fighting oppression is a working-class issue, which is confirmed by the many labor struggles led today by people of color, immigrants and women.

WWP has a long history of militant opposition to imperialist wars. The billionaire rulers are bent on turning back the clock to the bad old days before socialist revolutions and national liberation struggles liberated territory from their grip. We’ve been in the streets to oppose every one of imperialism’s wars and aggressions. □

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# Protest honors Laquan McDonald

Hundreds of activists took part in a demonstration at Chicago Police Headquarters on Oct. 20 to commemorate the second anniversary of the racist police murder of Laquan McDonald. Speakers demanded swift justice, an end to police brutality and structural change to ensure community control of public safety.

— Photo and story by Jeff Sorel

# Mothers cry for justice

With loud demands of “No justice, no peace! Stop the racist police!” protesters stopped traffic in the heart of Harlem, N.Y., on Oct. 23. After a rally at the Adam Clayton Powell Jr. State Office Building, demonstrators occupied famous 125th Street for their 21st annual militant march. Led by mothers of color who lost their sons from police murders — leaders of the Stolen Lives Project — participants sang: “We’re marching for our families. We’re marching ‘cause we know, the people are the river and they can’t stop our flow!”

The Stolen Lives Project keeps a national list of people killed by law enforcement agents from 1990 to the present. Through grassroots efforts they have documented more than 2,000 murders that are evidence of a national epidemic of police brutality. Stolen Lives is a joint project by the Anthony Baez Foundation, the National Lawyers Guild and the October 22 Coalition to Stop Police Brutality, Repression and the Criminalization of a Generation.

—Photo and story by Anne Pruden



By Stephen Millies  
New York

Deborah Danner was executed for being mentally ill. The 66-year-old Black woman was killed Oct. 18 by New York Police Sgt. Hugh Barry.

Barry was part of a team of six cops who confronted the elderly woman in her Bronx apartment. Claiming she was carrying a baseball bat, Barry fired two bullets that struck Danner.

With so many cops on the scene, concerned people are asking why Barry had to shoot. Even New York Mayor Bill de Blasio declared that Danner “should not have died.”

In his eight-year police career, Barry has been sued twice for brutality. New York City paid \$25,000 to Gregory Peters, who said he was pepper-sprayed and beat up by Barry and another officer after leaving the B.B. King Blues Club in 2010. (New York Daily News, Oct. 19) But charges of brutality didn’t prevent Barry from being promoted.

Danner suffered from schizophrenia, a mental illness. Neighbors called 911 because they thought she was acting irrationally. Instead of getting help, Danner was killed.

## Never forget Eleanor Bumpurs

Thirty-two years before Danner was slain, another 66-year-old Black woman was killed in her Bronx apartment by police. Eleanor Bumpurs was slaughtered on Oct. 29, 1984, when Emergency Services Officer Stephen Sullivan fired his 12-gauge shotgun twice at her.

Bumpurs was mentally ill and physically disabled. Sullivan and other cops came to evict her from a New York City Housing Authority apartment because she was four months late on her \$98.65 rent.

That’s how much Black lives are worth under capitalism. In a trial without a jury, Judge Fred Eggert found

Sullivan not guilty of manslaughter.

Almost five years before she was killed, Danner wrote a moving essay of what it’s like to live with schizophrenia. “Flashbacks, depression and stigma” was how she described her illness.

Referring to the Bumpurs’ killing, Danner wrote that “it was not an isolated incident.”

Danner was a skilled worker in the information technology field, dealing with management information systems. Her family felt that the stress of performing hi-tech jobs helped her disease to relapse. Danner was fired from one job after she told her boss about having schizophrenia.

She ended her essay with “I smile rarely, but I am surviving.” (New York Times, Oct. 19) Danner survived — until Sgt. Barry killed her.

Being labeled emotionally disturbed shouldn’t be a death sentence, but it’s often an excuse for cops to kill. An estimated 124 people with mentally illness were killed by police across the U.S. in just the first six months of 2015. (Washington Post, June 30, 2015)

Mohamed Bah was also executed by New York police. The 28-year-old immigrant from Guinea worked as a cab driver while attending Borough of Manhattan Community College.

His mother, Hawa Bah, called for an ambulance on Sept. 25, 2012, because her son was depressed and acting erratically. Instead of medical assistance, police came and fired 10 shots at Mohamed in his Manhattan apartment.

According to Bah family lawyer Debra Cohen, the firing started after a stun gun fired by an officer struck another cop, who yelled out, “I’ve been stabbed. Shoot him.” A knife was conveniently placed at the scene.

Cohen said that “a police officer straddled Mr. Bah while he was still alive and breathing on the ground,

bent over and shot him in the head to finish the job.” (Huffington Post, Oct. 7, 2015)

Capitalism barely tolerates people with mental illness or any disability. The billionaire class is willing to exploit them only if they can make a profit off their labor.

To all the Trumps — including the big capitalists supporting Hillary Clinton — millions of people with disabilities are just broken machinery, fit only for the scrap heap.

In socialist Cuba, people with mental illness and other disabilities are treated with love and respect. They can’t be fired from a job, like Danner was. Cubans remember how police under the U.S.-backed Fulgencio Batista dictatorship in the 1950s used torture.

Mothers whose sons were killed by U.S. police found this out when they visited Cuba this spring. The delegation included two mothers from the Bronx, Iris Baez and Juanita Young.

As singer Aretha Franklin would put it, socialist Cuba has what we need: respect. □

# PA rally demands end to ‘death by incarceration’

By Joe Piette  
Harrisburg, Pa.

More than three busloads of family, friends and human rights activists from Philadelphia, Pittsburgh and other cities gathered in Pennsylvania’s state capital on Oct. 18 to demand an end to “death by incarceration.”

A rally on the steps of Harrisburg’s Capitol building featured speeches by mothers and sisters of life-without-parole (LWOP) prisoners, people who have lost loved ones to violence, formerly incarcerated people, members of the Coalition to Abolish Death by Incarceration (CADBI) and other groups.

“Denying anyone the right to transformation and redemption is an affront to everyone’s humanity,” said Patricia Vickers of the Human Rights Coalition and CADBI. Representing a group of five Pennsylvania state representatives, Jason Dawkins spoke about House Bill 2135, a bill he has proposed, which would end death by incarceration and allow Pennsylvanians incarcerated for life to apply for parole after 15 years. (decarceratepa.info)

## Cancellation of capacity to be redeemed

Twenty-five countries have declared LWOP to be unconstitutional. Pennsylvania



WW PHOTO: JOE PIETTE

nia is one of only six U.S. states that deny parole to lifers. Prison rights activists call it the “other death sentence,” or “death by incarceration,” because a life sentence in these states means your entire life.

Harsh sentencing tears communities apart and disproportionately impacts Black and Brown people and especially poor people. More than 5,000 prisoners are serving LWOP sentences in Pennsylvania. More than 65 percent of them are Black and 8.5 percent are Latinx, according to a Decarcerate PA factsheet.

Not coincidentally, the Pennsylvania Department of Corrections (DOC) incarcerates the second-highest number of elderly prisoners of any state. In 1980

there were 370 elderly prisoners. There are now more than 8,000 in Pennsylvania’s prisons, though not all are sentenced to LWOP. (PA DOC FY 2011-2012 Cost & Population Report)

To make matters even more inhumane, the DOC refuses to treat almost 7,000 prisoners — including political prisoner Mumia Abu-Jamal — who have hepatitis C, even though medicines exist that would cure the deadly disease.

Felix Rosado, currently serving LWOP at State Correctional Institute Graterford, said: “Death by incarceration is a cancellation of the distinct human capacity to be redeemed. It strips too many people of the opportunity to participate in the healing our communities desperately need.” (Decarcerate PA fact sheet)

More than 480 people in Pennsylvania are serving juvenile LWOP — people convicted to life in prison as juveniles — more than any other state. (Juvenile Law Center) The U.S. is the only country in the world that sentences children to life without the possibility of parole. (sentencingproject.org)

At a rally on May 8 in Philadelphia,

Movita Johnson-Harrell, whose 18-year-old son was shot and killed by two young men, described her decision to ask for mercy for the two. “We must realize that young people frequently make poor choices. ... We must also realize that while they make poor choices they also have the capacity to grow and change. It is important to recognize that part of human development is making mistakes, but it is important to give young people the opportunity to redeem themselves. No child should live their entire life behind bars. ...

“I stand with the Coalition to Abolish Death By Incarceration,” Johnson-Harrell continued, “because I understand that one bad decision and my son could have been on the other side of the gun. I also understand young people change and can contribute positively to society if given the resources and opportunity.” (decarceratepa.info)

A sentence of death by incarceration at any age exacerbates the disparities of a systematically racist and anti-working class legal structure in the U.S.

Prisons are concentration camps for the poor. Outlawing LWOP would be one step in freeing hundreds of people from the hellholes of this state’s prisons. HB 2135 should be supported, but true justice will only be won when the whole system of mass incarceration is overthrown. □



# BAYAN USA: Solidarity with Standing Rock

*BAYAN-USA, a progressive anti-imperialist alliance of over 20 Filipino organizations, sent a delegation to Standing Rock, N.D., in solidarity with the Sioux Nation in their fight against the Dakota Access Pipeline — and all Indigenous people protecting the water and lands, facing state repression and corporate plunder. The alliance issued a press release on Oct. 20 entitled “From the Philippines to Standing Rock: Water Is Life, Land Is Life, Fight for Self-Determination.” Excerpts are printed here; see full statement at [tinyurl.com/gp5o83a/](http://tinyurl.com/gp5o83a/).*

“We are here to carry messages of love, hope, solidarity, and resistance from our homeland, the Philippines, which is comprised of dozens of distinct ethnolinguistic tribes and national minorities. We stand with you — the water and land protectors of North Dakota — as the U.S. government continues to prioritize corporate interests over your autonomy, self-determination and ancestral relationship to the land and water.



“We stand with you in resistance against the U.S. military state and its violent dispersal of your people, trumped-up charges, and human rights abuses. ... We stand in solidarity, as police deploy military-grade equipment, including armored vehicles, surveillance helicopters, planes, drones, and attack dogs — knowing that this state repression is endemic to U.S. imperialism and the suppression of resistance all over the world. ...

“Similar to the 280 Indigenous tribes that have united here at Standing Rock, SANDUGO, an alliance of national minority groups in the Philippines held a protest at the U.S. Embassy in Manila [on Oct. 21] ... against U.S. imperialist plunder and militarization, and [is] fighting to defend their ancestral lands and right to self-determination. [Protesters] were violently dispersed with water cannons, teargas, and over 50 people were injured when a police van ... [ran] over people re-

peatedly.

“The brute force from the Philippine military and police to protect the U.S. embassy is in line with maintaining U.S. imperialism over the rights and welfare of the Filipino people. From our homeland in the Philippines to the militarization of communities by Urban Shield, to the killing of Berta Cáceres in Honduras, and to defending Indigenous rights in Standing Rock, we denounce the criminalization of resistance and stand with the protectors of land, water, and human dignity all over the world.

**‘Protect our waters and territories; No to Dakota Access Pipeline!’**

“The International Indigenous Peoples Movement for Self Determination and Liberation in the Philippines (IPMSDL) stands in unity with the Standing Rock Sioux Dakota and Lakota Indigenous Peoples in asserting their right to protect the waters of their ancestral lands.

“Chairman Dave Archambault II of the Standing Rock Sioux reminds the world that Indigenous Peoples suffer from poverty and environmental sabotage because we are forced to subsidize for-profit corporations through schemes such as [DAPL]. ... The U.S. government started the construction of the DAPL without the Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) of the Standing Rock Sioux Dakota and Lakota Peoples. ...

“The IPMSDL strongly urges the U.S. government to respect the rights of Indigenous Peoples within and outside its territories, ... immediately halt construction of the destructive [DAPL] and honor the obligations and treaties it has signed and endorsed with respect to Indigenous Peoples and human rights.”

IPMSDL calls for “Indigenous Peoples Rights organizations and groups to support the Standing Rock Sioux Dakota and Lakota Indigenous Peoples in their continuing fight for their right to self-determination.” □

# Price, profits soar for life-saving EpiPens

By Sharon Eolis, RN, FNP, ret.

*The writer is allergic to bee stings; while a teenager, she developed difficulty breathing after a sting. A doctor administered epinephrine and an antihistamine. Epinephrine saved her life.*

Amarria Johnson, a first-grader with a peanut allergy, was in a playground when a classmate gave her a peanut in 2012. Within minutes she had trouble breathing. When she was taken to the school clinic, there was no prescription in her name for an EpiPen — the brand name for epinephrine, which treats anaphylaxis, a life-threatening allergic reaction, in a self-injecting pen.

Amarria was pronounced dead at the hospital. The Hopkins Elementary School in Richmond, Va., had an EpiPen prescribed for another child on hand, but was legally barred from using it.

Soon after Amarria’s death, the Virginia State Legislature passed Amarria’s Law, which required the state school system to stock EpiPens and allows school authorities to administer one to a child without a designated prescription in a life-threatening emergency.

Epinephrine, which has been around for a century, costs less than \$1 per dose.

The EpiPen was developed in 1977 and priced at \$57 per device when Mylan Pharmaceuticals bought it in 2007. Mylan raised the price then, and in subsequent years.

The Food and Drug Administration changed the protocol for epinephrine in 2010 and recommended an EpiPen twin-pack, based on studies that showed some children needed more than one dose. Mylan developed a twin-pack and this year raised the price to \$600. That meant Mylan raised the cost six-fold since acquiring the EpiPen.

Since epinephrine loses potency after a year, people must buy new EpiPens every year for themselves or their children to both carry and have at home. Parents may have to purchase a set for their children’s school if the facility doesn’t have a program covering its purchase. Relatives may also need to stock the drug. For many low-income families, the cost is prohibitive.

Mylan developed a major marketing campaign to get the medication into schools through its EpiPen4Schools program, and now services 25,000 schools

in 50 states. The government funds this program.

The only other self-injectable epinephrine is Adrenaclick, priced at \$450. But most insurance companies don’t cover it, it isn’t widely available, and pharmacies can’t swap it for EpiPens when a prescription is written for Mylan’s product. Most doctors and other health care providers are familiar with EpiPens, and patients are familiar with its easy use.

**U.S. price-gouging vs. no profit motive in Cuba**

The U.S. pharmaceutical industry is part of the medical-industrial complex, which stretches across the globe, reaping billions of dollars in profits. Yet, the capitalist government does little, if anything, to control medication costs. Relations are often cozy between government officials and Big Pharma executives.

In fact, the Oct. 22 New York Times reports that Teneo, a global advisory firm “with roots in the Democratic establishment,” organizes salons for its clients at high-priced restaurants and private residences, which it did for Heather Bresch, chief executive of Mylan in 2011. The following year, she and a Teneo employee “met with President Obama’s senior adviser, Valerie Jarrett, at the White House.”

Turing Pharmaceuticals raised the price last year of Daraprim, an antiparasitic drug used to treat malaria and toxoplasmosis, from \$13.50 to \$750 per pill. It is often taken by people with AIDS or transplant patients. Protests resulted in a price reduction to \$375 per pill, but a daily dose of two tablets adds up to \$750.

Gilead Sciences, which makes the highly effective new hepatitis C medications, Sovaldi and Harvoni, charges from \$84,000 to \$94,000 for a three-month course of treatment. The company made a deal to sell Sovaldi to the Egyptian government for \$900 for each course of treatment. It also allows India to manufacture generic versions of the drugs, which sell for \$4 per pill.

Meanwhile, people in the U.S. are fighting for these medications to be affordable. Pennsylvania prisoners, including world-renown political prisoner Mumia Abu-Jamal, are suing the state Department of Corrections to obtain the curative hepatitis C drugs.

A March 17 article in AlterNet, “10 of the Worst Pharma Companies Rip-Offs

— and Their Plan to Keep the Gravy Train Rolling,” lists several other companies which charge exorbitant prices for life-savings drugs. It describes Big Pharma’s fierce opposition to consumer pressure or government attempts at controlling prices.

In contrast, Cuba, which is a poor country due to the nearly 60-year U.S. blockade, makes medications accessible to all its people — due to the absence of profit-seeking drugmakers. The socialist country has developed research and biotechnology, producing medicines and

vaccines to deal with tropical and infectious diseases and other ailments.

Cuban researchers recently developed Heberprot P to treat foot ulcers from diabetes. It potentially reduces amputations by 75 percent and is now being used in 26 countries. Cuba’s CIMAvax vaccine is proving effective in extending length and quality of life for people with early lung cancer. The blockade bans both drugs from use in the U.S.

*Eolis worked as an emergency room nurse for 35 years and retired after eight years as a nurse practitioner.*

# Education workers win strike

*Continued from page 1*

million deficit. (Philly.com, Oct 19)

When Sisterovich asked the governor to join the picket line, Wolf replied, “You should really get back to class.”

**A big win**

According to PASSHE spokesperson Kenn Marshall, the tentative agreement includes raises and measures to save on health care costs. (New York Times, Oct. 21) While all the details for the agreement have not been made public yet, Ben Kuebrich, WCU professor on line for tenure, explained that he and everyone he’s talked to “feel good about the results — it’s a big win!”

Instead of new rules demanded by PASSHE that would have amounted to a 20 percent pay cut, adjuncts reportedly will receive a raise of 1 percent each year.

Kuebrich said the 59-hour strike made the union stronger because union members at each of the 14 campuses now feel a new sense of solidarity with each other.

Among factors on why the strike was so effective is the inclusion of adjuncts alongside tenured professors in AP-SCUF. This inclusion is a major reason why the starting salary for WCU adjuncts is \$46,610 ([tinyurl.com/PASSHE-AP-SCUF](http://tinyurl.com/PASSHE-AP-SCUF)), significantly over the national average salary of \$27,800 for adjuncts at most U.S. universities. ([glassdoor.com](http://glassdoor.com))

WCU is a teaching college, not a research institution, so students who hope to become teachers themselves someday

felt an unequivocal comradeship with their striking professors.

To the beat of drums, triangles, banjos and other musical instruments, picket lines at 10 sites on the WCU campus as well as a Philadelphia Center City location featured chants such as “Support public ed! You heard what we said!” and “Hey hey, ho ho! David Brogan has got to go!”

Picket lines were immediately ended as news of the tentative three-year agreement was relayed to picket captains. The pact, which would run retroactively from the June 30, 2015, end of the previous contract through June 30, 2018, requires the approval of the PASSHE Board of Governors in Harrisburg. A legislative assembly of APSCUF members must also approve the new contract before its 5,500 members can vote on it. The ratification process could take up to six weeks.

The Pennsylvania faculty strike may be a harbinger of more labor struggles at other U.S. university campuses.

In August, the National Labor Relations Board ruled that graduate students who teach at private universities are employees with full rights to join unions, a sweeping decision that paves the way for student unionization on campuses nationwide. (Wall Street Journal, Aug. 23)

And at Harvard University, dining hall workers have been striking since early October. That strike is the first by Harvard employees since 1983 and the first ever during the academic year. □



# Support surges for militant Harvard workers’ strike

By **Gerry Scoppettuolo**  
Cambridge, Mass.

Oct. 22 — More than 1,000 striking dining hall workers and supporters, members of UNITE HERE Local 26 in Boston, shook and rattled Harvard University’s ivory towers today in the biggest show of fightback and labor militancy yet, on the 18th day of their strike. Massachusetts Avenue was shut down for more than an hour as the multinational, multilingual union members, 60 percent of whom are women, chanted “Shut it down!” Earlier in the day, a group of Harvard University Dining Service workers and supporters marched on the Head of the Charles Regatta, the world’s largest rowing event held on the Charles River in Massachusetts.

The dining hall cooks, servers and dishwashers are showing by their resolve that it is they — and not the wealthy Harvard Corporation and its \$37 billion endowment — who are in control of their destiny. The HUDS strike is raising the crucial demand that “health care is a human right!” The union is demanding no concessions on the health care plan they currently have and refusing the huge deductibles and copays that Harvard is trying to force on them.

The workers are holding the line for quality, preventive health care for workers and their families, and their fight for this basic human right has struck a chord worldwide. More and more education workers are coming under attack from big business/big education institutions like Harvard, which are run by representatives of Citigroup, Bank of America and Goldman Sachs. They are also fighting for an annual base salary of \$35,000.

At the rally, the Harvard 9 — striking women who were arrested last week for sitting down in the middle of Harvard Square — promised to “get arrested again until we win!” They spoke from a huge flat-bed truck stage provided by Teamsters Local 25, and were followed by a long line of students from the Harvard Medical School and the Harvard School of Public Health.

Students from Tufts University, Northeastern University, the University of Massachusetts-Boston, the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and Wesleyan and Yale universities came to show support. On Oct. 17, 500 students got up in the middle of their classes and walked out. They marched past cheering strikers and held a rally in Harvard Yard. A delegation from the Monica Moorehead/Lamont Lilly Workers World Party Presidential Campaign marched too.

The strikers’ militancy was matched by the unprecedented display of labor solidarity at the rally. Roxana Rivera, president of 32BJ SEIU’s District 615, joined after participating in a similar action minutes before at nearby Tufts University. “On behalf of the 18,000 members of my union who do much the same kind of work you do, I tell you that we also rep-

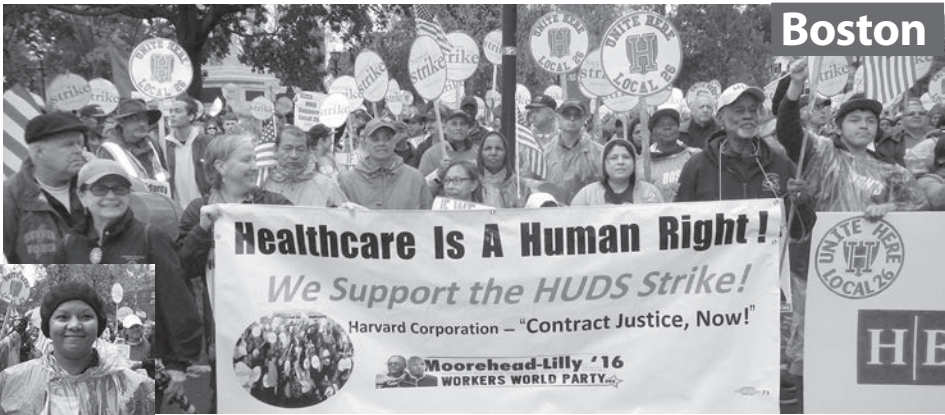
resent 1,000 workers at Harvard, and we may be joining you on strike too soon!” Immigrant workers are the backbone of both Rivera’s union and Local 26.

The huge Teamster presence was organized by Boston Local 25, whose president, Sean O’Brien, chaired the rally. “When you take on Local 26, you are taking on 1.4 million Teamsters,” he shouted to the roaring crowd. Teamsters have donated \$10,000 to the HUDS strike support fund.

Unions from through the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic regions sent delegations by car and bus to the rally. UNITE HERE Local 100 (New York City), Local 54 (Atlantic City) and Local 23 (Philadelphia) came, as well as UNITE HERE International President D. Taylor. UNITE HERE Local 100 recently won a major victory when the New York City Council passed the Worker Retention Bill, which requires a 90-day retention period for food service workers when an owner or operator terminates a food service contract for a corporate cafeteria, arena, cultural institution, etc.

They were joined by the Harvard Union of Clerical and Technical Workers; the Massachusetts Nurses Association; United Steelworkers Local 8751, Boston School Bus drivers; International Electrical Workers Local 2222, Verizon workers; the Harvard Union of Clerical and Technical Workers; the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees; Operating Engineers Local 877; and Service Employees Local 509, human service workers and educators. Food service workers from UNITE HERE Local 217 at the University of Hartford, who are in the middle of contract negotiations, came to show support.

In a sign of growing political support, last week the Boston City Council voted unanimously to endorse the strike. Cambridge Mayor Denise Simmons also joined the rally. □



WW PHOTOS: LIZ GREEN



New York

## Workers bus to Harvard protest



WW PHOTO: JOHNNIE STEVENS

By **Cathy Zeitz**

A busload of workers from UNITE HERE Local 100 in New York arrived at Cambridge Common in Massachusetts on Oct. 22. They came in solidarity with the Harvard University dining hall workers, who have been on strike for better health care benefits for several weeks. Members of Parents to Improve School Transportation and Community-Labor United for Postal Jobs and Services joined Local 100 on the bus.

Local 100 shops represented on the bus included New York Life, Hunter College, J.P. Morgan, Columbia University, Montclair State University, organized by Local 100 Secretary-Treasurer José Maldonado and Lead Organizer Shafiqur Rahman.

Along with 1,000 Local 26 supporters, we marched through Harvard Yard

and down Massachusetts Avenue to City Hall, where we had a second rally. Local 100 militantly chanted, “No contract, no peace!” and many other chants throughout the march.

On the way home, Maldonado strongly stated that, in solidarity, Local 100 will supply staff and resources to the Harvard dining hall strikers’ campaign. Some of the children on the bus chanted, “All day and all night! Harvard workers on strike!”

Local 100 will celebrate the passing of a New York City food service worker retention bill on Oct. 31 at 4 p.m. on the steps of New York’s City Hall. This bill will make sure cafeteria workers can’t be unfairly fired when buildings undergo new ownership. The new owners are now required to keep the workers for 90 days; workers can take violations to the Supreme Court.

Workers united will never be defeated! □

## Harvard strikers show solidarity with COSATU

*The following edited solidarity statement was sent to the Congress of South African Trade Unions by the Harvard University dining hall strike committee.*

**To our sisters and brothers of COSATU,**

Our sisters and brothers of the Harvard dining hall workers of the UNITE HERE union Local 26 voted enthusiastically to send a solidarity message to you.

We greet you with solidarity.

For 40 years we have supported each other. During the appalling South African apartheid government, our members were arrested many times in the battles to stop Harvard University from supporting your enslavement by the apartheid government.

Some of the same corporations we are fighting today — Goldman Sachs, Bank of America and Citigroup Bank — profited greatly from your slavework conditions. These corporations lead the Harvard Corporation, which controls all major decisions at Harvard.

During apartheid, our dining hall workers refused to serve banquets for the South African apartheid government put on

by the Harvard administration.

To force the Harvard administration to stop their support for apartheid, we had a coalition with the Black students and others. This coalition put on a rally of over 5,000 workers and students to demand Harvard divest from enslaving you, and at this rally we had COSATU leaders speak. COSATU’s words inspired us, because you used that time to support our struggle and the strike that we were about to have.

Our solidarity back then led us to have successful struggles. Today, we face the same opponents as then, from the Harvard Corporation to Johannesburg. Again it is the “less-than-1%” exploiting the “over-99%.”

Our issues we are fighting for today — health care, retirement and layoffs — are similar to those of all workers of the world. Today, we are both on strike to stop this cruelty to workers.

Again: Solidarity. A better world is in birth.

**The Harvard University Dining Hall Workers Strike Committee, UNITE HERE Local 26**  
**Ed Childs, Chief Steward**

## Buffalo protests anti-immigrant raids

By **Tom Answeeney**

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement arrested 25 migrant workers in four Buffalo restaurants on Oct. 18. After police racially profiled, harassed and demanded identification from several families at a suburban playground, the cops then gave their information to ICE agents, who began spying on the families. This led to an investigation of the restaurants where they worked. (BuffaloNews.com, Oct. 18)

Two days later, several organizations and local activists brought a protest to the ICE field office, despite rain and high wind,

chanting “Cops and borders, we don’t need ‘em! What we want is total freedom!” They demanded the release of the migrant workers who were arrested, as well as full legalization for all migrant workers.

The protest was organized by People United for Sustainable Housing and supported by the New York Civil Liberties Union, ICE Free NYC and Workers World Party. Demonstrators included youth who are active in Buffalo’s Black Lives Matter movement.

Speakers connected these arrests to the struggle of more than 11 million undocumented people throughout the U.S.

and the national call for legalization and an end to deportations.

That same day, Buffalo faith and labor leaders held a protest in front of one of the raided restaurants. They denounced the arrests and advocated for the immigrant workers, who have already had wages stolen and now face deportation.

The local police profiled the families at that suburban playground specifically because they had come to a white neighborhood and were trying to live their lives. And ICE followed up by doing its real job: threatening migrant workers to prevent their organizing and dividing

the working class.

These arrests are absolutely connected to the resurgence of open racism in the U.S., encouraged by presidential candidate Donald Trump. The racist media labeled these undocumented workers as villains, and pushed the lie that immigrants are to blame for the poverty of the working class. A recession is blamed on workers who have pitiful wages, no access to many government services, no legal say in the government that created the recession and no ownership of the businesses that benefit from it. This narrative is absurd in the extreme, and we don’t buy it! □



## Syracuse, N.Y.

## On the campaign road to revolution

By Minnie Bruce Pratt  
Syracuse, N.Y.

Monica Moorehead, Workers World Party's 2016 presidential candidate, hit the road for socialist revolution again with a campaign meeting in Syracuse, N.Y., on Oct. 23.

A serious and enthusiastic crowd of activists and organizers heard Moorehead speak on a wide range of issues, including WWP's commitment to the Black Lives Matter movement; the connection between the fight to end white supremacy and the right to self-determination of oppressed peoples and nations; and the battle to end U.S. imperialist wars.

Moorehead emphasized that the path to socialism must be based on building broad solidarity and unity with struggles like #NoDAPL in Standing Rock, N.D.; the rebellions in Charlotte, N.C., Baltimore and Milwaukee against police terror; and the continuing struggle against deportations of migrant workers and



PHOTO: YANIRA RODRIGUEZ

Participants in the Oct. 23 discussion, with one holding out the WWP campaign program.

families. She noted this solidarity must include fighting LGBTQ oppression, like the struggle against HB2, the anti-trans, anti-worker hate law in North Carolina.

"The current global economic crisis with fewer jobs," said Moorehead, "is making youth of color more expendable and thus more susceptible to police murder and mass incarceration. That capitalist crisis is the basis for the growing police war against Black, Brown and Indigenous youth. We must fight to abolish the police

as a repressive force."

Moorehead stressed, "To respond, we need a unified left without sectarianism, and we need to build a progressive movement independent of any bourgeois political party."

An in-depth, two-hour discussion then followed among the multinational attendees, most in their twenties and thirties, where participants both voiced their concerns and thoughtfully explored strategy and theory on how to move forward.

Present were members of a number of organizations, including the local Black Lives Matter group, the Palestine Solidarity Collective, the Radical Education Collective and the Workers' Center of Central New York. Those in the discussion came not only from the U.S., but also had roots in the Dominican Republic, Mexico, India, Palestine, Puerto Rico, Haiti and other Caribbean nations.

Key organizers were there from the General Body's militant 2014 occupation of Syracuse University's administration building. Also participating were a United Auto Workers Local 774 member leading the struggle against racism at his GM plant near Buffalo; and a teacher active in the recent big union win by the Association of Pennsylvania State College and University Faculties, whose united full-time faculty and adjuncts struck at 14 colleges.

The Moorehead/Lilly WWP presidential and vice presidential candidates have obtained official status as write-in candidates on New York state ballots in the Nov. 8 general election. □

## WWP candidate:

## 'Elections rigged for billionaire ruling class'

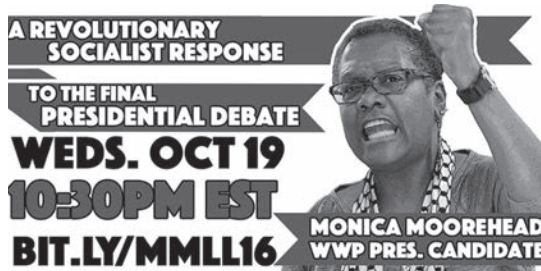
The following abridged remarks were made by Workers World Party 2016 presidential candidate Monica Moorehead on Oct. 19 in response to the third presidential debate between Hillary Clinton and Donald Trump. The remarks, recorded on a Facebook Live webinar broadcast, have been viewed by more than 3,400 people as of Oct. 23. Go to "Facebook/monica moorehead lamont lilly 2016" to see the full talk.

Sisters and brothers, I am grateful for the opportunity to address you, not because the debates had any kind of real substance to them but to reiterate some important points many of you already know.

The racist, misogynistic Donald Trump has claimed that the elections are rigged on behalf of the Democratic Party. But the large drop in his poll numbers is in response to the 2005 videotape exposing his nauseating degradation of women of all ages. To say that Trump is guilty of sexual assault is truly an understatement.

Trump once again targets "illegal immigrants" as the root cause for voter fraud along with African-American voters, a growing number of them disenfranchised, along with other people of color. But let's be clear that voter fraud doesn't come from the people but from the capitalist system itself.

Workers World Party does agree with Trump that these elections are rigged, but not for the reasons he espouses. These elections are rigged on behalf of himself and the billionaire ruling class that he represents, just as they are rigged on behalf of Hillary Clinton and the billionaire class that she represents — especially her Wall Street backers and the Pentagon and its allies, especially NATO, which seeks to enslave the workers and oppressed of the world along with their resources all for the sake of making profits. Just ask the people of Libya and Honduras, who had their sovereignty violently taken away from them when Clinton was secretary of state. Now Clinton has set her sights on a possible war with Russia, which is defending the Syrian government against U.S.-NATO attacks. I guess having a counterrevolution in the former Soviet Union just wasn't enough.



These elections are rigged to keep the ruling-class parties, the Republicans and Democrats, in power by giving the false notion that these elections are all about defending democracy for the majority. In reality, it is really for the superrich, a tiny minority.

Obama stated, "Trump's warnings could abrade faith in the U.S. political system. One way of weakening America and making it less great is if you start betraying those basic American traditions that have been bipartisan and have helped to hold together this democracy now for well over two centuries."

How ironic and hypocritical for Obama, being the first Black president after all white male presidents, some of them slave owners and KKK sympathizers. During his eight years in office there have been more deportations of immigrants — at least 2 million — and more police murders of Black, Brown and Indigenous people than during any other presidency, as well as mass shootings by a growing number of alienated people.

As Colin Kaepernick, the courageous quarterback, stated early on, these debates are "embarrassing" and boil down to Trump and Clinton trying to outdo themselves to appear less racist. Let's not forget that Clinton once called Black youth "superpredators" and that Trump called for the death penalty for the Central Park Five, Black youth falsely accused of rape in the 1980s who have since been exonerated. And let's be clear that Clinton has never been a champion of women's rights.

Yes, these elections are rigged: against every person of color targeted by police violence and mass incarceration; every worker fighting for a living wage and decent benefits, like the heroic strike of the Harvard University Dining Services workers; every woman facing humiliating objectification; every LGBTQ person

facing bigotry, like in North Carolina under the heinous HB2 bill; every student facing student debt; every family fighting for decent housing, medical care, education; people fighting for clean water from Standing Rock, N.D., to Flint, Mich.; for healthy food; a solution to climate change; and an end to occupation and war.

These important struggles and issues are not being raised by Trump, Clinton or the big business parties they represent — unless they are forced to talk about them.

We say that these elections are rigged against third-party candidates, be they Lamont Lilly and myself, Jill Stein, Gloria LaRiva or others. Why are we being kept out of these debates? What are the big business networks so afraid of when it comes to revolutionary and progressive third party candidates having equal time in these debates?

The big business media are afraid of letting millions of people hear a message of independent mass organizing and fightback. They are afraid of any message challenging our movements to not be subservient to the Democratic Party. They are afraid of any candidate that states that the fight against racism and white supremacy is central to every oppression in this country, as the Black Lives Matter Uprising has shown. They are afraid of the clarion call for real solidarity — especially for those facing racist repression, be they Black, Brown, Indigenous, Muslim, Arab, Asian, immigrant, etc.

I want to raise the current economic crisis. A poll taken in October 2015 by Marketplace states that 39 percent of "Americans" are losing sleep over their finances. We have to assume that this number is even higher since you can be certain that undocumented workers and millions of disenfranchised people were not counted. The poll said that "more Americans are increasingly worried about losing their jobs, the ability to pay their mortgage or rent and saving for retirement. Thirty percent of Americans are very fearful that they will lose their job in the next six months, up from 10 percent a year ago."

The permanency of this worldwide economic crisis is at the heart of the police war on Black and Brown people, who are becoming more and more expendable be-

cause there are fewer and fewer jobs being created, along with massive cutbacks in services, which will certainly lead to more and more alienation and suffering. Our youth want to be unionized, not brutalized by police terror.

The economic crisis will become even more devastating on a worldwide scale following the elections. These are the very issues not being raised by the Democrats and Republicans. They know that capitalism is at a dead end and cannot be reformed. All U.S. elections boil down to which Democrat or Republican can best administer the capitalist state by making more acceptable deeper economic and political attacks on all workers, starting with the most oppressed.

So sisters and brothers, I know that so many of us are counting the days until this horrific sham of an election is over, but the work will just be beginning. It doesn't matter who gets into the White House, because none of the growing dire conditions are going to fundamentally change for the better for the workers and oppressed, here or worldwide.

We must take our organizing and mobilizing to an even higher level. We not only must be ready to defend any rebellions sparked by police murder, but must also go on the offensive to unite as many forces as possible to fight on an anti-capitalist, anti-imperialist basis. That is the role of a party fighting for revolutionary socialism, to rid this earth of institutionalized racism, sexism, LGBTQ oppression and all forms of inequality in order to meet all human needs.

This message will be a major theme of our Party conference Nov. 11-13 in New York City, because we know that you can't vote away racism, you can't vote away war or inequality. You can vote for our candidates by ballot in New Jersey, Wisconsin and Utah and with many state write-in campaigns, along with online petitions, because ours is a protest campaign against the entire capitalist system. Go to workers.org/wwp for more information.

I especially want to thank our supporters on social media and in the streets for showing our campaign so much love and energy. Black Lives Matter! Long Live International Solidarity! □



# Trump, Obama, Clinton and the fight to end sexism

By Teresa Gutierrez

Oct. 18 — The sordid video of Donald Trump’s vulgar sexist remarks has opened up a widespread national conversation on sexism and misogyny in the U.S. and ignited deep outrage.

There are two important lessons that progressives and revolutionaries must consider during this conversation.

First, the scandal has brought to the surface the horrific nature of women’s oppression in capitalist society. Fighting sexism, along with fighting racism and police terror, must be at the top of the progressive agenda. As the U.S. may soon elect its first woman president, it is of the utmost necessity to fight sexism. And that fight must be considerably nuanced.

Second, the election campaign has revealed that the political system administered by Washington on behalf of Wall Street and the Pentagon is in deep crisis. Capitalism at a dead end. Despite the demoralizing campaign shenanigans, workers and oppressed must not retreat, but be inspired to build a revolutionary movement like never before.

A “shitstorm” of misogyny

The recent video of Trump boasting of sexual assault has unleashed and emboldened Trump’s “deplorables” in their woman-hating. The video opened up wounds for many a victim of sexual assault, with the Rape, Abuse and Incest National Network reporting that calls for help by women had jumped to about 800 a day.

The Southern Poverty Law Center, which monitors U.S. right-wing and hate groups, began to document anti-women groups a few years ago. It also tracks “manospheres” — blogs and online forums launching sexist attacks on women — and reported on those in “Misogyny: the Sites.” (splcenter.org)

Mark Potok, editor of that report, remarked: “I was completely astounded. I had no idea that there was this dark world of woman hatred” where “misogyny had become an increasingly common means of articulating broader discontent.” (New York Times, Oct. 16)

Trump doubles down

Trump’s sexist crimes of verbal and physical assault have showed that women’s oppression is alive and well under capitalist society — not just abroad but right here “at home.” The capitalist media and U.S. administrations’ justification of imperialist war to “save women” have, in the past, located the oppression of women as if it happens only in the Middle East or elsewhere.

But now the video and Trump’s subsequent denial of ever assaulting anyone have encouraged women sexually assaulted by him to come forward. At least 11 women have recounted the vilest incidences. Trump has walked into teen beau-

ty pageants while young, underage women were half dressed. He has approached a stranger next to him on a plane, reached under her skirt and kissed her aggressively — without her consent. He has sexually assaulted a woman journalist assigned by her publication to interview him.

Without a doubt, Trump is a sexist predator. He embodies the epitome of ruling-class, straight, white male privilege. But Trump’s reactionary sexist and racist base continues to blame women and back him. Thuggish followers have tried to cover up Trump’s behavior by claiming Hillary Clinton’s election would be a victory for sexism because her spouse, former President Bill Clinton, committed sexual assault.

Ominously, Trump supporters have stepped up their threats of violence against Hillary Clinton with shouts of “lock her up” and worse. Trump himself promised to jail Clinton if he is elected — an unheard of threat by a U.S. presidential candidate against a political opponent.

It is important to note what’s at the base of Trump’s campaign, in addition to bitter sexism. Trump has gathered and galvanized a corrosive and poisonous element. At its heart is racism. This current, always present in U.S. politics, re-emerged with the election of the first Black president, a moment in history it refuses to accept.

That is at the heart of the slogan “Make America Great Again.” What Trump supporters mean is “Make America Racist and White Male Again.” This base is anti-immigrant to its core because migrants are contributing in record numbers to the “browning of America,” a historical development they fear down to their racist boots.

News accounts indicate women are turning away from Trump’s campaign in droves. Now Trumpites rant that women’s right to vote should be repealed by abolishing the 19th amendment to the U.S. Constitution, which gave women the vote only in 1920. This sexist assault links Trump’s base to current right-wing attacks on voting access for people of color, who have fought to defend their right to the ballot from the abolition of slavery to this very day.

Corrosive sexism & misogyny

Woman-hating hurts everybody. It is dangerous for women first and foremost, but it is also damaging for children. Men as well are affected by the oppression of women — the oldest oppression of all. This is why the fight to end sexism must be revolutionary and class conscious. It

must be led by women, especially women of color, but men must see women’s liberation as their fight as well.

To that end, the term “toxic masculinity” has encouragingly been added to today’s vernacular and to widespread discussion. As a 2015 Salon article noted: “The three most destructive words a father or mother can tell their young son is to ‘Be a man.’”

In an Oct. 13 New York Times article, Jared Sexton expanded on Trump’s toxic masculinity: “Taking refuge in traditional masculinity is a coping mechanism that works only so much as it deadens a man and his emotions. Their masculinity, already a coping mechanism, becomes toxic. ... I’ve heard men attack the character of women in the same tone that an uncle once used to call for the nuclear annihilation of the entire Middle East and the murder of every last Arab. I’ve heard men ... then excuse it all with one of Mr. Trump’s pet phrases: ‘We live in the real world.’”

Sexton puts this into an economic context: “But the real world — complicated foreign policy questions, confusing social change, economic dislocation — is precisely what toxic masculinity is trying to avoid.” At a time when the economic crisis has closed factories, when Uber jobs at \$13 an hour are the best one can get, when home after home is foreclosed, toxic masculinity should be studied and fought against.

That is why revolutionaries and class-conscious fighters refuse to give up on male workers. Many of Trump’s “deplorables” are lost forever. But some cannot and should not be given up on.

And real world violent attacks on women must always be kept in mind. As novelist Margaret Atwood has said, “Men are worried that women will laugh at them, while women are worried that men will kill them.” Indeed, on Oct. 10 six women walking in the vicinity of Trump Towers in New York City were accosted by a group of young men who tried to light them on fire. Those attempts were unsuccessful. (NY Times, Oct. 16)

A Hillary Clinton warmonger presidency

Trump’s misogyny was turned on its head last week by a woman of color who has endured not only racism and sexism, but hate mail and death threats.

First Lady Michelle Obama gave one of the most stirring speeches of this election season at a Oct. 13 campaign rally for Clinton. Her words in defense of women and against the actions of Trump were beautifully, dramatically eloquent.

Gloria Steinem, the 1970s feminist,

called her a prophet. Democrats and independents both loved her talk. Even conservatives were shaken by it. Glenn Beck, calling it “the most effective political speech I have heard since Ronald Reagan,” said, “It kills me to say that.” (glennbeck.com)

The speech brought this writer to tears, despite the fact that Obama’s spouse has deported Mexicans and other migrants in record numbers — policies the First Lady has not opposed.

Michelle Obama spoke to the heart about the deep feelings women have about sexual predation and assault. She shamed misogynists in the process.

Then she ended her words by calling on everyone to ensure the election of Hillary Clinton. But Clinton is no friend of the people, despite glaring differences between her and The Donald.

Clinton is a well-documented warmonger, a hawk who has the blood of the Honduran, Libyan and Syrian people on her hands. She has historically backed the economic and political forces implicated in the mass incarceration of millions, primarily Black and Brown people. She is aligned with dismantling the federal welfare system, which ramped up extreme poverty for poor women and women of color.

The progressive movement must fight a Clinton administration tooth and nail on these issues and beyond. We cannot stop until Washington jails killer cops and stops mass deportations. The demands raised by young people who supported the Sanders movement — like the cancellation of student debt — must be brought forward and expanded.

But the struggle against a Clinton administration must be nuanced and thoughtful. Just as was necessary during the two terms of the first Black president, the struggle against Clinton must be factual and not sexist, pro-worker and not misogynistic.

Clinton must be attacked for her program, for her deeds and not for what she wears or what she looks like. Woman-hating terms must not be used. Her body parts are off limits, no matter her crimes.

On Jan. 20, thousands will converge in Washington, D.C., to protest the inauguration — likely of the first U.S. female president. But a woman in the White House will mean little as long as decisions coming out of the Oval Office are controlled by the Pentagon and Wall Street.

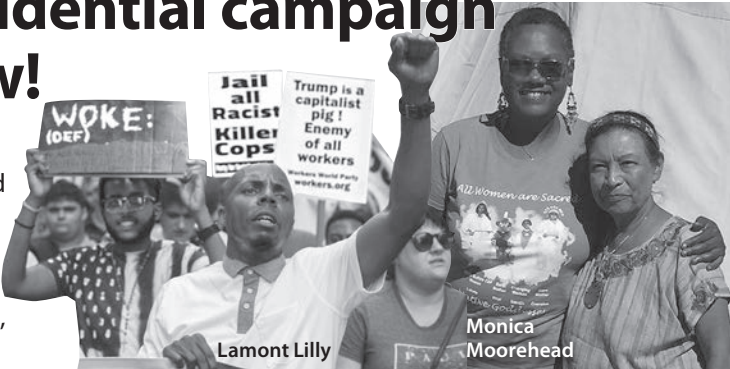
*Gutierrez is campaign manager for Workers World 2016 presidential and vice-presidential candidates Monica Moorehead and Lamont Lilly.* □

## The Moorehead/Lilly presidential campaign needs your donation now!

**Workers World Party candidates — Monica Moorehead for president and Lamont Lilly for vice president** — have marched against the Republicans in Cleveland and the Democratic Party machine in Philadelphia. They have gone coast-to-coast speaking to workers and people of color about revolutionary socialism.

The candidates attended the Border Convergence in Tucson, Ariz., Oct. 7-9, and then traveled to California, where they spoke at various events between Oct. 9 and Oct. 21. During the week of Oct. 24, they visited the upstate New York cities of Syracuse, Rochester, Buffalo and Albany, as well as Huntington, W.Va., and Baltimore. The campaign ends the month with a meeting in Detroit on Oct. 29. Visit our website: [workers.org/wwp/campaign-news](http://workers.org/wwp/campaign-news).

In the remaining days before the Nov. 8 election, we have a chance to reach many more people with meetings, ads, online voting and social media.



But we can’t do this without your support!

We are a working-class party and our only source of income is from people like you. Help us get out the voice for revolutionary socialism to counter the Clinton war machine and Trump’s racist, anti-people offensives.

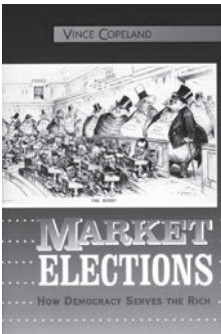
Contributions are urgently needed, no matter how small or large. Please make a generous donation today at [workers.org/wwp/donate](http://workers.org/wwp/donate). Mail checks to **Workers World Party 2016 Presidential Campaign Committee**, 147 W. 24th St., 2nd Floor, NY, NY 10011.

### MARKET ELECTIONS

How DEMOCRACY SERVES THE RICH

by Vince Copeland

The paperback (296 pages) can be ordered from online booksellers or directly from World View Forum at 147 West 24th St., 2nd floor, New York, NY 10011 at a discounted price of \$15, which includes shipping. □





# Chicago to host national Cuba meeting

By Cheryl LaBash

The National Network on Cuba, an umbrella organization of Cuba solidarity, travel, social justice and anti-imperialist groups, will hold its national meeting at the University of Illinois in Chicago Nov. 18-20. It is the first national meeting in many, many years outside of New York City or Washington, D.C., where participants will hear directly from Cuban diplomats and representatives of the Cuban Institute of Friendship with the Peoples. Sandra Ramirez, director of ICAP's North American division, and Leima Martinez, also from ICAP, are traveling from Cuba. A representative from the U.S. Cuban Embassy in Washington, D.C., will also participate. Pictures taken by renowned Cuban photographer and videographer Roberto Chile of Cuba's historic revolutionary leader Fidel Castro will be displayed in celebration of Fidel's 90th birthday this year.

Chicago was chosen for its active and

longstanding organizing in solidarity with Cuba and its vibrant labor, Black Lives Matter, Puerto Rican liberation and anti-war movements. The new diplomatic relationship between the U.S. and Cuba officially begun on Dec. 17, 2014, means new challenges and opportunities for building the bonds of friendship with Cuban leaders and the Cuban people. The return to Cuba of the last three imprisoned Cuban 5 heroes, Gerardo Hernández, Ramón Labañino, and Antonio Guerrero, who joined previously released René González and Fernando González, is an indelible symbol of what a united global movement can achieve. Included in the agenda are informational panels on such topics as updating the current fight to stop the Internal Revenue Service from revoking the 501(c)(3) non-profit status of the Interreligious Foundation for Community Organization, parent of the Pastors for Peace Friendship Caravans plus many other progressive social justice projects, and upcoming

caravan plans; the defense of Floridian Albert Fox, who is facing a \$100,000 fine for travel to Cuba; discussion of ethical travel and Cuba; participation by U.S. doctors who graduated from Cuba's Latin American School of Medicine; Venceremos Brigade 'responsables'; and much more. A business meeting with co-chairs, elections and acceptance of new member organizations is also on the agenda. Please spread the word about the pub-

lic event on Saturday, Nov. 19 at 7:30 p.m., which will be held at the University of Illinois at Chicago Student Center East, Room 302, 750 S. Halsted. More information about the NNOC is available at NNOC.info. There is a registration fee for representatives of member organizations and visitors. For membership information or questions, write to NNOC20012002@yahoo.com. □

# Venezuela stymies regime change

By Chris Fry

From Argentina to Yemen, from Brazil to Syria, from the Democratic Republic of Korea to Iran, U.S. imperialism has conducted non-stop "regime change" campaigns. These political, economic and often military campaigns are all designed to do one thing: overturn those governments that put up an obstacle to the rapacious greed of U.S. banks and corporations. For the last 19 years U.S. imperialism has tried to overturn Venezuela's pro-socialist government now led by President Nicolás Maduro. In 2002 it masterminded a military coup against President Hugo Chávez, whose seizure by rightists sparked a huge popular uprising that stopped the coup leaders and the Pentagon in their tracks. Washington and the Venezuelan rightists have never stopped their subversion. The latest attempt was a right-wing signature drive for a recall election of President Maduro. An Oct. 21 ruling by the Venezuelan National Electoral Council cancelling the recall for 2016 has stymied U.S. imperialism's plans. For now. The initial petition drive, the council announced, contained 605,727 irregularities, over 30 percent, including signatures from over 10,000 deceased people. (telesurvtv.net, Oct. 21) This is a key setback. It means that even if the recall campaign succeeds next year, the pro-socialist vice president would take over when Maduro would be forced to step down. This would leave progressive forces in office at least until regular elections are held in 2018. Because presenting false signatures on a petition is a criminal offense, the government has ruled that eight right-wing politicians, responsible for the recall campaign, cannot leave the country. Frothing at the mouth, the right-wing leaders have gone so far as to press the military to stage a coup. "Hopefully the armed forces will have people respect the constitution," said Henrique Capriles, head of Justice First and one of the leaders of the rightist MUD (Mesa de la Unidad Democrática) coalition. Republican Florida Senator Marco Rubio is leading the U.S. charge to overturn the Venezuelan government, promising "concrete consequences" for "violating demo-

cratic norms." (abcnews.go.com, Oct. 22)

### Comparison with U.S. Pinkney case

Right now the Rev. Edward Pinkney rots in a Michigan prison. He was sentenced to up to 10 years because some of the signatures on the recall petitions for Benton Harbor's mayor contained the wrong dates. Unlike what happened in Venezuela, none of the signatures in Michigan were found to be invalid. And no evidence was presented that Rev. Pinkney had anything to do with discrepancies on the petitions. But Rev. Pinkney was standing up to the giant multinational Whirlpool Corporation, which runs the politics and courts in Benton Harbor. He was supporting the oppressed African-American community there. Those were his crimes in the eyes of Wall Street and its minions. The Bolivarian Revolution in Venezuela has used revenue from the country's vast oil reserves to fund key social programs that have greatly lifted the living standard of the country's poor people. Chávez won election after election until he died in 2013.

Venezuelans elected Maduro to a five-year term as president that year. But then the world price of oil collapsed, causing extreme economic problems for Venezuela, including a spike in inflation. The Maduro government has struggled to preserve gains for the workers and poor, including proclaiming a 50 percent pay increase for workers and debit cards with emergency cash for the poorest Venezuelans. Venezuela's reactionary capitalists have used the problems, seeing in them an opportunity to further destabilize the country's economy and government. Factory owners have restricted production and diverted up to 40 percent of needed commodities to illegal street sales and even to other countries. Some organized gangs have been hired to firebomb government buildings and attack government security forces. In response to the rightist offensive, on Sept. 1 thousands of Venezuelans packed Avenida Bolívar in the capital city of Caracas to support Maduro. The workers and poor have a right to defend their sovereign country from attack by Venezuelan capitalists and the imperialist colossus that stands behind them. □



PHOTO: 25TH JUAN RIUS RIVERA BRIGADE

Puerto Rican Juan Rius Rivera Brigade of the Cuba Solidarity Committee during their last trip to Cuba, carrying a banner calling for the release of Oscar Lopez and Ana Belén Montes.

By Berta Joubert-Ceci

Ana Belén Montes is a Puerto Rican woman facing a 25-year prison sentence for passing information to Cuban intelligence agencies. She has already served 15 years in the Psychiatric Unit Detention Center at the Federal Medical Center, Carswell in Fort Worth, Texas. Montes was charged with conspiracy to commit espionage, a penalty generally paid with death. Her defense team was able to reach a "lesser" penalty, which in itself has buried her alive due to extreme conditions of isolation. She cannot receive visits, email or calls or use a computer. There are only a small number of people to whom she has access, including her mother. There is now an extremely urgent situation. Ana was diagnosed with breast cancer and a few days ago underwent a mastectomy, after which she will receive chemotherapy. Given her isolation, the extent of the cancer or even where the surgery was performed is not known.

### Admirable work

Unknown to many people, this woman is the very image of immense generosity and sacrifice. What was her crime? Here we could repeat that famous quote from Che, the internationalist, who said that "the true revolutionary is guided by great feelings of love ... love of humanity, of justice." It was that deep love of justice which led Ana Belén to prison. In these days, when there is a renewed effort by Cuba and millions of people in solidarity with the Cuban Revolution to end once and for all the criminal U.S. blockade against Cuba, it is imperative to remember the sacrifice this Boricua woman made to benefit millions of Cuban lives. Nothing illustrates this desire for justice more than her statement to the court that condemned her on Oct. 16, 2002: "I engaged in the activity that brought me before you because I obeyed my conscience rather than the law. I believe our government's policy toward Cuba is cruel and unfair, profoundly unneighborly, and I felt morally obligated to help the island defend itself from our efforts to impose

our values and our political system on it. "We have displayed intolerance and contempt toward Cuba for most of the last four decades. We have never respected Cuba's right to make its own journey towards its own ideals of equality and justice. I do not understand why we must continue to dictate how the Cubans should select their leaders, who their leaders cannot be, and what laws are appropriate in their land. Why can't we let Cuba pursue its own internal journey, as the United States has been doing for over two centuries?" Interestingly, the end of her statement is similar to President Obama's announcement regarding U.S.-Cuba relations in December 2014. Montes stated, "My greatest desire is to see amicable relations emerge between the United States and Cuba. I hope my case in some way will encourage our government to abandon its hostility towards Cuba and to work with Havana in a spirit of tolerance, mutual respect, and understanding." Montes' work did not pose a risk to the U.S. or its "national security." On the contrary, it prevented hostile U.S. military operations against Cuba that would have cost thousands of lives, from both Cuba and the U.S. The information Ana Belén passed to Cuba was solely so that nation could defend itself. The work she performed for 16 years was completely voluntary; she was not pressured, nor did she receive — nor accept — a penny for this great sacrifice. It is such a noble example that the U.S. authorities have only been able to describe it as madness, locking her in a psychiatric prison. A book written by none other than Scott Carmichael illustrates her devotion. Carmichael worked at the Defense Intelligence Agency, the same agency where Ana Belén worked as a senior analyst on Cuba. This agency advises the president, the Pentagon and the Joint Chiefs of Staff and has great influence on their actions. Carmichael was a counterintelligence investigator — a "mole hunter" — who was in charge of investigating Ana. In his book, "True Believer," you can perceive the meticulous work and sacrifice of this brave woman. Although the

Continued on the next page



# World Federation of Trade Unions advances ‘class-oriented’ unionism

By Martha Grevatt  
Durban, South Africa

For U.S. labor activists, who have to contend with a conservative labor bureaucracy that at times promotes “partnership” with employers, the World Federation of Trade Unions’s emphasis on militancy, internationalism and “class-oriented” unionism was a breath of fresh air.

The WFTU held its 17th Congress in Durban, South Africa, Oct. 5-8, drawing over 1,500 delegates and observers from 244 unions in 111 countries on five conti-

book’s purpose was not to create sympathy, it is impossible not to feel admiration and respect for her.

**Solidarity with Ana**

Solidarity with Ana Belén Montes has grown in the last year, with the strongest organizing in Cuba and Puerto Rico. Support has also been expanding internationally, particularly in Brazil, where groups in solidarity with Cuba have picked up the banner of Ana Belén. People supporting her release have written to Obama, like Irish Nobel Prize winner Mairead Maguire and Cuban troubadour Vicente Feliú.

There have also been voices of support for her release in the United States, France, Argentina, Chile, Galicia and the Dominican Republic. Progressive U.S. songwriter David Rovics wrote “Song for Ana,” which you can watch at Youtube.com.

In Cuba, known personalities such as Silvio Rodríguez have called for her release. Several groups, including CubaX-AnaBelénMontes, held a concert last September to commemorate the 15 years she has been in prison.

On Oct. 21, René Gonzalez, one of the heroic Cuban Five, wrote an open letter asking that people write to Ana: “Ana Belén Montes, the courageous Puerto Rican woman imprisoned for protecting Cuba from the U.S. policies of aggression, has been operated [on] because of breast cancer. ... Although she is not allowed to receive mail, the message of thousands of letters arriving to her prison door would surely be a powerful one. Please join in this effort and write a letter or a postcard to Ana.”

That message echoes the previous one that Ana’s cousin, Miriam Montes Mock, made through the Working Committee for Ana Belén Montes in Puerto Rico: “I ask all my friends to send their messages to President Obama at info@mail.whitehouse.gov, the U.S. Prisons Authority, to Carswell Prison at crw/execassistant@bop.gov, showing your concern for the health of Ana and demand her release, ask for a compassionate release.

“I ask you to send a copy of your messages to the Five Heroes Network (cincoheroes@listas.cujae.edu.cu) so that they circulate through the network and see if we can somehow get them to Ana, so she can see that she is not alone and that hundreds, thousands of people in Cuba and in the world accompany this struggle for life and freedom.”

To write to Ana:  
ANA BELÉN MONTES 25037-016  
FMC CARSWELL  
FEDERAL MEDICAL CENTER  
P.O. BOX 27137  
FORT WORTH, TX 76127

You can also send emails to  
abm-@googlegroups.com and  
anaBelénmontes2015@gmail.com. □

nents. The unions combined have 92 million members, an increase from 74 million at the 16th Congress held in 2011 in Athens. They were attracted by the theme of struggle “for the attainment of contemporary workers’ needs against poverty and wars generated by capitalist barbarity.”

Some 17,000 people from all over the world watched the congress on the internet.

While Europe was well represented and over 20 observers came from the U.S., the majority of voices were from workers of the “global South” — Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Middle East.

Keynote speakers included WFTU General Secretary George Mavrikos, Congress of South African Trade Unions President Sidumo Dlamini, South African President Jacob Zuma and South African Communist Party General Secretary Blade Nzamande.

COSATU, Zuma’s African National Congress and the SACP together represent the Tripartite Alliance that was forged during the long struggle to defeat racist apartheid. The speakers were proud of the decision to hold the Congress — the first on the African continent — in Durban. Dlamini explained that the unions in South Africa “are still struggling to correct the imbalances of the present,” such as the “unforgivable” contrast between CEO salaries and workers’ wages. Zuma pointed out that “in 1962 WFTU was already in the trenches with us.”

Union leaders from almost every country in attendance took the floor. One after another expressed how honored they were to be gathering in the heroic land of South

Africa. A recurring theme was the need for class-struggle unionism. From the U.S. delegation, Cherrene Horazuk cited the Harvard cafeteria strikers and striking Allina nurses as rare positive examples of class-struggle unionism in the U.S.

**Capitalism condemned**

Speaker after speaker openly condemned capitalism, privatization and other neoliberal economic schemes, including attacks on pensions and on public workers. They also condemned imperialist wars against Syria, Yemen, Afghanistan and Iraq; the proliferation of precarious work; Islamophobia and xenophobia; the Israeli occupation of Palestine; the imprisonment of Huber Ballesteros, Oscar Lopez Rivera and other political prisoners; the absolute impoverishment of over 500 million people, the majority in Africa; climate change; attacks on labor rights; theft of water resources; the oppression of women; deaths due to unsafe work; rising unemployment; the right-wing coup in Brazil; and other world problems created by capitalism.

“Only revolution can put an end to this,” said a German delegate. A female delegate from Cameroon attacked “the capitalist system that is killing us.” An Egyptian speaker said, “The struggle should be against capitalism.” As a leader of the All India Trade Union Congress (AITUC) put it: “The whole world runs because of workers. Why should those who produce food go hungry, who produce clothes go clothesless, who produce medicine not get health care? Capitalism should be demolished.”

## Behind Duterte’s shift toward China

By Deirdre Griswold

An announcement by President Rodrigo Roas Duterte of the Philippines, made during a state visit to Beijing on Oct. 20, that his country would reorient its foreign policy toward China and away from the United States has opened up the prospect of major infrastructure development in this Pacific islands nation of more than 100 million people.

Ever since the U.S. defeated Spain in the war of 1898 and took over its colonies, Washington and Wall Street have treated the people of the Philippines as a source of low-wage labor and their land as a base for military operations in the Pacific. U.S. neocolonial domination over the islands has been absolute in political, economic and military terms, interrupted only by the equally harsh occupation of the Philippines by Japanese imperialism during World War II.

As a result, the Philippines has been mired in poverty and underdevelopment.

**Millions in extreme poverty**

In 2006, the National Statistics Coordination Board of the Philippines reported that nearly 29 percent of the population lived on less than \$1.25 per day. In 2013, when the NSCB conducted its most recent survey, the percentage living at this level of poverty had barely changed, while the cost of just putting food on the table every day had risen to those seven years from \$39 to \$127 a month.

In this same period, poverty in many other countries around the world had decreased significantly, especially in China.

The more urban areas in the National

Capital Region around Manila have the lowest poverty figures, ranging around 3.9 percent. Many young people who have left to find work overseas send remittances home to their families.

Poverty is highest in the more agricultural provinces. According to the NSCB, the Mindanao Region had the highest poverty levels, ranging from 42 to 47 percent. Duterte was a mayor and congress member from Mindanao before becoming president.

So it should be no surprise that there is much enthusiasm among the people of the Philippines for Duterte’s visit to China and the resulting agreements in infrastructure development, trade and other economic areas.

**Duterte has support — but not on Wall Street**

But in Washington and on Wall Street, the reaction is dismay and increasing hostility, even when cloaked in diplomacy. There are dire warnings that Duterte’s statements about pivoting toward China and away from the U.S. will bring economic ruin.

CNNMoney on Sept. 24, in a segment entitled “This industry is freaking out over the Philippine president’s anti-U.S. rhetoric,” reported that Duterte’s comments “sent a shudder through industries that rely heavily on the U.S. market, particularly the big business of handling call center work and other tasks for American companies.” The implication is that these U.S.-owned call centers will go somewhere else if the owners are angered by the government’s attitude.

What it doesn’t mention is that the cen-

On the road toward demolishing capitalism, “Class-oriented trade unionism is an absolute necessity,” said Nzamande on the final day of the congress.

Giving the closing speech, Mavrikos said, “We have to uplift the content and the forms of our struggle with the direct aim of the emancipation of the working class from the capitalist exploitation.”

The congress re-elected Mavrikos as General Secretary and Mzwandile Makwayiba, president of South Africa’s National Education, Health and Allied Workers Union, as President. The international governing body expanded the number of African representatives from eight to 12; all but eight members are from the global South. This reflects the worldwide changes in the character of the working class — the transfer of work to low-wage countries while the wealth being produced flows back to the capitalists in the imperialist powers.

COSATU and WFTU joined in a long, spirited march on Oct. 8 to the Curries Fountain Stadium where COSATU was founded. Freedom songs from the anti-apartheid struggle blared from COSATU sound trucks. Brazilians chanted “Fora Temer” — Temer Out. (Temer is Brazil’s current president, placed in office by an illegitimate “parliamentary coup.”) AITUC led chants of “Down, down capitalism; up, up socialism.” A short rally followed the march.

The WFTU Congress was a huge step forward for the world labor movement, one that will help make real the slogan “Workers and oppressed peoples of the world unite.” □

ters pay people in the Philippines wages far below those in the U.S.

CNN quotes a senior State Department official, Daniel Russel, as saying after a meeting with the Philippine foreign minister that Duterte’s remarks have fueled growing concerns in “corporate boardrooms.”

CNNMoney speaks to bankers and business people. In other U.S. media oriented to the general public, the attacks on Duterte have centered more on his blunt style and his relentless campaign against drugs, in which many accused drug lords have been killed by police. No mention is made, of course, of the fact that U.S. prisons are full of people convicted of nonviolent crimes connected to drug possession and that many police killings of people of color allegedly involve drugs.

Nor is anything being said in the media here about what plans the Pentagon and other U.S. agencies of violence and repression may be discussing in response to Duterte’s move. But history has shown that the U.S. political establishment has no respect for sovereignty or peaceful negotiations when it considers the core interests of the imperialist ruling class at risk.

However, there is a mitigating factor against the U.S. resorting to violent intervention to bring the Philippines more securely back under its control.

It is the fact that there has long been an armed as well as a civil anti-imperialist opposition in the Philippines that enjoys much support among the masses. Should the U.S. move too directly or violently to thwart the direction now being taken by Duterte, the resulting reaction of the people could spiral out of U.S. control. □



# The right to vote

Is there a contradiction between denouncing elections in the U.S. as part of the process that allows the 0.01% to rule over the 99% — and at the same time championing the people’s right to vote?

We don't think so.

It's a fact that presidential elections here are purchased at such a high price — and the corporate media are so determined to stifle any candidates but those of the two big business parties — that only those who have first been vetted and proven dependable by the super-rich make it to the White House.

It's also a fact that tens of millions of workers and oppressed peoples hope that by voting they can bring about some improvement in their conditions.

Furthermore, the right to vote was not given to everyone. In Britain, for example, for a long time only proper-

ty men were allowed to vote for Parliament. The extension of suffrage to non-landowners, then to women, and in this country to African Americans came about only after years of struggle.

Even then, many stratagems have kept workers, especially of color, from voting. That's why the Voting Rights Act of 1965 was necessary.

But now, admits Bloomberg Businessweek of Oct. 13: “For the first time in a half-century, Americans will go to the polls in November without the full protection of the Voting Rights Act. Following a 2013 U.S. Supreme Court ruling invalidating a key section of the 1965 law, the U.S. Department of Justice has had to curtail its federal observer program, under which trained monitors oversee access to ballot boxes in areas historically prone to discrimination.

“The shift comes just as Republican nominee Donald Trump has been exhorting his supporters to be vigilant about the supposed threat of voter fraud.”

Trump has said he won't accept any other result than victory, meaning he will charge “fraud!” as soon as the election is over.

That is laughable, but the threat to voters is no laughing matter. Especially in areas with a high concentration of people of color and immigrants, voter intimidation is already being planned by right-wing groups.

Voting is not going to undo capitalism. Only a people's revolution can do that. But the people have to exhaust all other avenues of struggle before they are convinced of the need for revolutionary change.

Revolutionaries must vigorously defend the right to vote, even while exposing capitalist elections. □

## Trump and the tide of lesser evilism

WW Commentary

Who are our enemies? Who are our friends? This is a question of the first importance for the revolution. To ensure that we will definitely achieve success in our revolution and will not lead the masses astray, we must pay attention to uniting with our real friends in order to attack our real enemies.

~ Mao Zedong

By Greg Butterfield

I first arrived in New York in the spring of 1990, an enthusiastic young white worker from the Midwest, eager to become a revolutionary. I quickly learned that one of the most difficult struggles being waged in the city, one that required a lot of determination and courage, was defense of the Central Park Five.

This group of Black and Brown teenagers, not much younger than me, had been framed up just a year before. The New York Police Department forced them to confess to the brutal rape of a white woman. These youths and their communities were demonized by the media and politicians, both conservative and liberal.

Leading the charge against them was Donald Trump, a wealthy casino owner and real-estate developer. Trump took out full-page ads in all four of the city's leading newspapers calling for reinstatement of the death penalty to be used against the Five. He never missed an opportunity to harangue them in the media.

His exploitation of the Central Park Five case helped make Donald Trump a national celebrity.

Despite the community's determined organizing, led by Pan African revolutionary Elombe Brath, despite our ongoing protests and exposure of the criminal conduct of the police, prosecution and media, the Five were convicted and sentenced to long prison terms.

Eventually the true perpetrator of the rape confessed, and after another long battle, the Five were finally freed.

But the impact of the case was long lasting, and hardly accidental. The campaign waged against them was an essential stepping stone in New York ruling class efforts to “redevelop” large swaths of the city. This so-called “redevelopment” forced mostly Black and Brown working-class and poor communities out of the city while escalating police power. It turned much of Manhattan — and later Brooklyn and now parts of Queens and the Bronx — into a kind of gated community for the well-to-do.

The tactic that began in New York spread across the country, and eventually to Europe as well.

Trump led the charge against the Central Park Five, not only because he is a racist bigot of the worst sort — which he most certainly is — but because he knew it would

be profitable for his real-estate interests.

Those of us who have been fighting Trump for years, even decades, understand that he is a war criminal of the first order — in the domestic class war — just as Hillary Clinton is guilty of war crimes abroad.

### Two (class) war criminals

The 2016 presidential election is frequently characterized as unprecedented and down-right bizarre. So imagine how it looks to people living outside the United States, especially in countries like Russia, Syria, Yemen, Venezuela, the Donbass republics. These and many other countries have been demonized, subjected to sanctions, Western-sponsored terror and drone bombings or even open warfare.

It may come as a surprise to many activists in the U.S., who in recent years have been involved in the Black Lives Matter struggle, the fight to defend refugees and immigrants, and the battle to raise the minimum wage, that many people abroad, including some opponents of U.S. imperial power, could view Donald Trump as the “lesser evil.”

But right now, millions around the world are afraid of the consequences of growing U.S. aggression directed at Russia, which includes the possibility of open warfare or even a nuclear exchange. The conflict has escalated over Washington's plans for regime change in Syria, its support for the far-right junta in Ukraine and the further expansion of NATO militarism to Russia's western border.

Before this election campaign, Trump never once spoke out against U.S. economic and military aggression anywhere in the world. He supported the scapegoating of Muslims and others after the 9/11 attacks in New York, which laid the basis for the invasion of Iraq and the entire “war on terror.”

But Trump is a canny enough politician to know that U.S. interventions in Afghanistan, Iraq and Syria, because they are costly and go on endlessly, are unpopular.

He is also highly selective in his “anti-war” declarations. While cultivating a reputation for seeking cooperation with Russia, he has threatened war against China, Syria, Palestine and Mexico, to name just a few.

To put it bluntly, there is a sector of U.S. white supremacists that supports isolationism and friendship with Russia because they view it as a “white man's na-

tion.” This is the basis of Trump's appeals on the issue.

But Trump is running for office to represent the U.S. imperialist ruling class, which has devoted decades of effort to breaking up and taking over the Russian Federation. There is no sign this class is reversing itself regarding Russia.

Whatever Trump's personal program as president, he would be constrained to serve the interests of this class and restricted by all sorts of pressure from the Pentagon's officer corps, just as President Barack Obama has been.

### Class-conscious glasses

Can anyone believe that Trump — an oligarch claiming to be a populist enemy of the elite, a stirrer-up of racism and national chauvinism, is a friend of peace? Who could fall for such a thing?

Sadly, it seems, some do. Just as others can fall for Clinton posing as the last defense of the rights of women, immigrants, the LGBTQ community and African-American people. Clinton was part of the campaign to criminalize and scapegoat society's most oppressed and downtrodden, labeling them “predators.”

Those who fall for Trump or Clinton succumb for the same reason — fear.

Many workers and progressives in the U.S. feel compelled to support Hillary Clinton despite their better judgement. Some even fall into the trap of desperately trying to justify her behavior out of fear of Trump's fascist-tinged campaign.

In the U.S., we on the left are more accustomed to this kind of labeling of the Democratic Party as the “lesser evil.”

But this year, there are many workers and progressives abroad (and to a lesser extent in the U.S. as well) who seem driven by the same kind of desperation to support Trump. They excuse his misogyny and racism. They embrace conspiracy theories, for example, that the women coming forward against Trump's sexual abuse are “creations” of Clinton and her supporters meant to help steal the election from him.

It's a tough thicket to cut through. There's only one way to navigate it: with class consciousness. As Workers World Party's Campaign Manager Teresa Gutierrez wrote recently, we have to “put on our class-conscious glasses.”

Divide and conquer is always the strategy of the U.S. ruling class. In this case, it is to divide the international struggles against war from the domestic struggle against racism and national oppression.

The danger is that, at a critical moment, those who struggle against U.S. imperialism — those who should be natural allies — will be posed against one another as enemies. And only imperialism can benefit from that.

We must remind the workers and progressive forces at home and abroad that the only guarantee against catastrophic war is building a militant, united fight-back against capitalism — starting right in the U.S.

We must patiently and firmly warn the international anti-war and anti-imperialist movement against the trap Trump has laid for them, just as we warn people here against the trap Clinton has set for the struggles against racism, sexism and anti-LGBTQ oppression at home.

Those who truly want peace, who want to see U.S. aggression defeated, need to make common cause with the struggles for justice being waged inside the U.S.

We must be brave enough to swim against the tide of lesser-evilism, whatever form it takes, and have the courage to tell the truth to the workers of the world, even at the risk of temporary isolation.

This is an urgent task of anti-imperialists, anti-war activists, anti-fascists and all revolutionaries in the U.S. at this moment. □

WORKERS WORLD  
MUNDO OBRERO

## Agua envenenada en cárceles

Continúa de página 12

tañas a menudo dejan residuos químicos. Para la preparación y el lavado de carbón se emplea un “baño químico” para separar el carbón de otros minerales, que dejan aguas residuales tóxicas.

Éstas a menudo se almacenan en presas y estanques que se pueden romper, inundando y contaminando los acuíferos subterráneos. El residuo de aguas grasosas y negras también se almacena en pozos subterráneos que se filtran y contaminan las aguas subterráneas.

Las minas abandonadas son fuentes de drenaje ácido de minas (AMD) que se produce cuando el material de pirita [N. del T.: material sulfúrico incendiario] reacciona con el agua y el oxígeno. El AMD acidifica el agua, ayudando a disolver los metales pesados que luego se vierten en los ríos. Existen altos niveles de AMD en las afluentes del río Schuylkill.

Es difícil demostrar que la producción de carbón provocó la contaminación del agua en Mahanoy y Frackville. La SCMA, gestionada por Pennsylvania American Water, filial con ánimo de lucro de American Water, no ha informado de la contaminación del agua. American Water ha causado varias catástrofes de salud relacionados con el agua en Virginia Occidental y no ha respondido a las



# No to U.S. anti-missile system in so. Korea

By Workers World New York Bureau

Eighty people came out Oct. 20 in New York City to protest the installation of the Terminal High Altitude Area Defense (THAAD) anti-missile system in south Korea.

The event was part of worldwide rallies that took place in Washington, D.C., California and Korea. The New York protest was held in Manhattan’s Koreatown, near Herald Square.

Many Korean Americans spoke in opposition to this dangerous weapons system. So did representatives from the Filipino group BAYAN and Veterans for Peace. Both the Raging Grannies and a duo from the Catholic Worker movement performed.

Representing the International Action Center, Steve Millies told the crowd, “As a retired Amtrak worker I know this THAAD missile system is a nuclear train wreck. There’s nothing defensive about

THAAD. Like the Star Wars program started by racist Reagan, THAAD is really a nuclear first-strike weapon.

“If the utterly mad generals and admirals in the Pentagon think that they are protected from retaliation by THAAD, they are much more likely to launch a nuclear first strike on the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea and the People’s Republic of China. That’s what Generals Curtis B. LeMay and Lyman Lemnitzer wanted to do a half century ago.

“What Koreans need to be protected against is from what Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. called ‘the greatest purveyor of violence’ — Wall Street’s war machine.

“Thirty thousand Korean slave labor-



WW PHOTO: JOHNNIE STEVENS

“It was future Secretary of State Dean Rusk — a war criminal who helped kill millions of Vietnamese and Laotian people — who drew up the map that divided Korea along the 38th parallel.

“Wall Street banksters like Rockefeller lawyer John Foster Dulles provoked the Korean War in which 4 million Koreans were killed. Dropping napalm and white phosphorous bombs on human flesh didn’t satisfy U.S. big business. Future Treasury Secretary Lloyd Bentsen demanded atom bombs be dropped on Koreans.

“Instead of installing THAAD, what the U.S. needs to do is to sign a peace treaty with the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea and get out of Asia. The Pacific Ocean is not a U.S. lake.

“No to THAAD! U.S. out of Korea! Korea is one!” □

# U.S. out of Syria, Yemen, Iraq!

Oct. 24 — In a period of less than two weeks, the United States has expanded its military intervention into three major areas of conflict in Southwest Asia: Yemen, Iraq and Syria.

The Workers World Party 2016 Presidential Campaign opposes all three imperialist military interventions and demands that the U.S. withdraw all military forces from the region.

No matter how Washington explains its role and whatever pretext it gives for the intervention, the Pentagon’s role in the region and in each country is reactionary, harmful and dangerous. U.S. im-

perialism is incapable of making a “humanitarian” intervention.

The Pentagon intervenes to impose the economic and strategic dominance of the transnational corporations and the 0.01% of capitalists who rule the United States. It is no more capable of bringing peace to the world than it is of eliminating racism and police brutality at home.

Let us be precise about these three attacks:

The Navy destroyer USS Nitze fired Tomahawk cruise missiles on Oct. 13 against the Ansruallah movement in Yemen — also called the Houthis. Prior to this Washington supplied weapons and logistical support to the monarchy in Saudi Arabia that has been slaughtering civilians in Ansruallah-controlled areas of Yemen for more than a year.

The U.S.-coordinated coalition, including U.S. air attacks, U.S. Special Forces, the Turkish army, the pro-U.S. Kurdish peshmerga, the Iraqi army, police and sectarian militias, opened a full-fledged attack on Oct. 18 on Mosul in the country’s northeast. Mosul is Iraq’s second most populous city and has been under control of the Islamic State group (IS) for the past two years.

Since Sept. 16, when the Pentagon sabotaged a U.S. agreement with Russia by bombing Syrian government forces near Deir Ezzur, Washington has stepped up its anti-Syria and anti-Russia propaganda campaign. It has especially targeted the Syrian government and Russia for their offensive aimed at freeing Aleppo, Syria’s largest city. Parts of Aleppo are still held by the so-called rebel forces, which are mainly IS and other reactionary sectarian armies.

### U.S. weapons wreak terror

In Yemen, Iraq and Syria, Washington’s intervention over the past 25 years has destroyed the infrastructure, killed more than 2 million people in total and, according to the Pew Foundation, made internal or external refugees of 15 million people out of a total population of 85 million in the three countries. Whether fired by U.S. troops and pilots or by U.S.-NATO client forces in the region, like Saudi Arabia, U.S. weapons have wrought terror.

The biggest battle is now unfolding to take Mosul. The Pentagon admits to not only giving air support but having 100 Special Forces troops on the ground. A total of 5,000 U.S. troops are now — once more — inside Iraq. This means the



Moorehead-Lilly ‘16

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Pentagon is directing a coalition force of 100,000 in the attempt to conquer Mosul.

Prior attacks on a smaller scale carried out by a similar “coalition” flattened the smaller Iraqi cities of Ramadi and Fallujah, leaving hardly a building intact. The battles not only drove out IS fighters, who fled to IS-controlled areas in Syria, but terrorized the population. Some analysts argue that one object of the attack on Mosul is to drive IS fighters to Syria to create problems for the Syria-Russia alliance.

**Support petition against U.S. role in Syria**

The U.S.-led war against Syria raises the possibility of a direct confrontation between the U.S. and Russia, two states armed with thousands of nuclear weapons. Anti-imperialist activists in the United States, to their credit, have begun a process of mobilizing anti-war move-

ments worldwide against U.S.-NATO intervention there. WWP presidential candidate Monica Moorehead, a signatory, urges all to support the petition circulated at [handsoffsyriacoalition.net](http://handsoffsyriacoalition.net).

Not only in Syria, Iraq and Yemen, but wherever U.S. imperialism intervenes, whether in Afghanistan, Libya, Korea, Somalia, Pakistan and Ukraine or by subversion in Latin America, it brings misery to the people, squanders wealth better used at home and turns U.S. youth into cannon fodder for the capitalists.

The WWP 2016 Presidential Campaign demands the U.S. remove its bloody hands off the world’s people and end Pentagon interventions everywhere.

*WWP vice presidential candidate Lamont Lilly visited Syria in February 2015 as part of a solidarity delegation from the International Action Center.*

*Continua de página 10*

preocupaciones del público.

Los prisioneros en la cárcel de la Prisión South Central Regional de Charleston en Virginia Occidental no fueron notificados cuando un tanque que contenía un producto químico de preparación de carbón se derramó en el río Elk, contaminando el agua y afectando a 300.000 personas en 2014. Al no saberlo, se bañaron y bebieron el agua tóxica.

Los prisioneros que protestaron fueron golpeados y puestos en aislamiento.

**Agua contaminada de Estación Aeronaval**

El agua dio positiva para la toxina cancerígena Chromium-6 en la prisión SCI Graterford del Condado de Montgomery. Esto estaba relacionado con la fuga de retardadores de fuego utilizados en la Estación Aeronaval de la Base de Reserva Conjunta a las fuentes de agua potable del condado.

Al cerrarse fábricas rurales en Pensilvania, dejando a cientos de miles de trabajadores varados, el Estado intentó solucionarlo construyendo prisiones. Éstas a menudo fueron construidas en o cerca de los sitios de producción de carbón o en áreas fracturadas para el gas natural, creando problemas de salud para residentes y presos por igual.

El Departamento de Protección Ambiental, el Departamento de Salud y el DOC estatales no reconocen ni limpian la crisis del agua y aire creada por las operaciones de extracción de energía. Sólo cuando grupos activistas como el Centro de Derecho Abolicionista, Coalición de Derechos Humanos de Pennsylvania y la Coalición de Familia y Amigos Internacionales de Mumia Abu-Jamal desafían las autoridades de la prisión, puede ocurrir algún cambio real. □

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Brigada puertorriqueña Juan Rius Rivera del Comité de Solidaridad con Cuba durante su último viaje a esa isla portando pancarta pidiendo la excarcelación de Oscar López y Ana Belén Montes.

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# Tiempo de liberar a Ana Belén Montes, prisionera de conciencia

Por Berta Joubert-Ceci

Ana Belén Montes es una mujer puertorriqueña sobre quien pesa una sentencia de 25 años por pasar información a agencias de inteligencia cubanas. De esos, ya ha cumplido 15 en la Unidad Psiquiátrica del Centro de Detención Carswell en Fort Worth, Tejas. Los cargos imputados fueron de conspiración para cometer espionaje, una pena que se paga generalmente con la muerte.

El equipo encargado de su defensa pudo lograr una “pena menor”, lo que realmente ha sido una muerte en vida debido a las extremas condiciones de aislamiento. No puede recibir visitas, ni correos, ni llamadas, ni usar computadora. Solo hay un reducido número de personas a las cuales puede tener acceso, entre ellas, a su madre.

En estos momentos, existe una situación sumamente urgente. Fue diagnosticada con cáncer de mama y hace pocos días se le realizó una mastectomía, luego de la cual recibirá tratamiento de quimioterapia. Dada las condiciones de aislamiento, lo que incluye no tener acceso a más información, no se sabe la extensión del cáncer y ni siquiera dónde se realizó la cirugía.

## Trabajo meritorio

Desconocida por muchas personas, esta mujer es la imagen misma de una inmensa generosidad y sacrificio.

¿Cuál fue su delito? Aquí podríamos repetir esa famosa cita del Che, el Che internacionalista y solidario que dijo “el revolucionario verdadero está guiado por grandes sentimientos de amor... amor a la humanidad, a la justicia”. Fue ese profundo amor a la justicia lo que condujo a Ana Belén a prisión.

En estos días en que hay un renovado esfuerzo por parte de Cuba y de millones de personas solidarias con la Revolución Cubana por terminar de una vez el criminal bloqueo estadounidense contra Cuba, es imprescindible recordar el sacrificio

que hizo esta boricua en beneficio de millones de vidas cubanas.

Nada ilustra mejor ese deseo de justicia que su declaración ante el tribunal que la condenó el 16 de octubre de 2002.

“Su señoría, yo me envolví en la actividad que me trajo ante usted porque obedecí a mi conciencia en lugar de la ley. Yo creo que la política de nuestro gobierno hacia Cuba es cruel e injusta, profundamente inamistosa, y me sentí moralmente obligada a ayudar a la isla a defenderse de nuestros esfuerzos de imponerle nuestros valores y nuestro sistema político. Hemos mostrado intolerancia y desprecio hacia Cuba por la mayor parte de las últimas cuatro décadas. Nunca hemos respetado el derecho de Cuba de transitar su propio camino hacia sus propios ideales de igualdad y justicia. Yo no entiendo por qué nosotros continuamos dictando como los cubanos deberían seleccionar sus líderes, quienes estos no pueden ser, y que leyes son apropiadas en su tierra. ¿Por qué no podemos dejar a Cuba seguir su propia vía interna, tal y como los Estados Unidos ha hecho por más de dos siglos?

Interesantemente, el final de su declaración es precisamente similar a la esencia de lo que el pasado diciembre el presidente Obama anunció en cuanto a las relaciones de EUA con Cuba: “Mi mayor deseo es el de ver relaciones amigables emerger entre los Estados Unidos y Cuba. Yo espero que mi caso de alguna manera impulsará a nuestro gobierno a abandonar su hostilidad hacia Cuba y a trabajar con La Habana en un espíritu de tolerancia, respeto mutuo, y entendimiento”.

Hay que recalcar que como resultado de su trabajo, no hubo ningún riesgo para EUA ni su “seguridad nacional”. Por el contrario, pudo evitar operaciones hostiles militares estadounidense contra Cuba que hubiera costado miles de vidas, tanto cubanas como estadounidenses. La información que pasó Ana Belén a Cuba, fue exclusivamente para que esta nación pudiera defenderse.

Esta labor que por 16 años ella realizó, fue totalmente voluntaria; ni hubo presión alguna y ni un centavo recibió – ni aceptó – por este gran sacrificio. Es un ejemplo tan noble que las autoridades estadounidenses sólo la han podido calificar de locura, encerrándola en una prisión psiquiátrica.

Es interesante que uno de los documentos que ilustra su abnegación, proceda de un libro escrito nada menos que por Scott Carmichael, quien trabajaba en la misma agencia donde Ana Belén se desempeñaba como analista superior sobre Cuba, en la Agencia de Espionaje de Defensa, DIA por las siglas en inglés. Esta es la agencia que aconseja al Presidente, al Pentágono y a la Junta de Estado Mayor e influye sobre las acciones a seguir.

Carmichael era investigador – caza topes – y estuvo a cargo de la investigación de Ana. En su libro “True Believer” (Verdadera creyente), se puede conocer el minucioso trabajo y el sacrificio de esta valiente mujer. Aunque el propósito del libro no era crear simpatía por Ana Belén, sino todo lo contrario, es imposible que no despierte admiración y respeto por su trabajo.

## Solidaridad con Ana

La solidaridad con Ana Belén Montes ha ido creciendo en el último año, siendo los círculos más fuertes en Cuba y en Puerto Rico. El apoyo se ha ido extendiendo internacionalmente, particularmente en Brasil, donde grupos de solidaridad con Cuba han recogido la bandera de Ana Belén. Voces en pro de la excarcelación de Ana se han expresado escribiéndole a Obama como la Premio Nobel irlandesa Mairead Maguire y el trovador cubano Vicente Feliú.

En el mismo Estados Unidos, en Francia, Argentina, Chile, Galicia y la República Dominicana, han surgido voces de apoyo a su liberación. El estadounidense David Rovics le dedicó una canción [youtube.com/watch?v=T8A-ldHiDyK](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=T8A-ldHiDyK).

En Cuba, personalidades conocidas como Silvio Rodríguez han exigido su lib-

eración. Hay además varios grupos, entre ellos el de CubaXAnaBelenMontes que el pasado mes de septiembre conmemoró con un concierto los 15 años que ha estado en prisión.

El pasado viernes 21 de octubre, René González, uno de los Cinco Héroes cubanos, escribió una carta abierta pidiendo que se le escriba a Ana. Escribe René: “Ana Belén Montes, la valiente mujer puertorriqueña encarcelada por proteger a Cuba de las políticas de agresión de los Estados Unidos, ha sido operada a causa de cáncer de mama.... Aunque ella no puede recibir correo, el mensaje de miles de cartas llegando a la puerta de su prisión sería uno potente. Por favor, únete a este esfuerzo y escribe una carta o una postal a Ana”.

Ese mensaje hace eco del pedido que la prima de Ana, Miriam Montes Mock hizo a través de la Mesa de Trabajo por Ana Belén Montes en Puerto Rico.

“Le pido a todos mis amigos que envíen sus mensajes al presidente Obama [info@mail.whitehouse.gov](mailto:info@mail.whitehouse.gov), a la Autoridad de Prisiones de EUA, a la Prisión de Carswell ([crw/execassistant@bop.gov](mailto:crw/execassistant@bop.gov)), mostrando la preocupación por la salud de Ana y demanden su excarcelación, pidan por su liberación humanitaria. Les pido que pongan copia de sus mensajes a la Red Cinco Héroes ([cincoheroes@listas.cujae.edu.cu](mailto:cincoheroes@listas.cujae.edu.cu)) a fin de circular esos mensajes por la Red y tratar también de hacerlos llegar a Ana de alguna manera, para que ella pueda conocer que no está sola y que cientos, miles de personas en Cuba y en el mundo la acompañan en esta lucha por la vida y por su libertad”.

Para escribir a Ana:  
ANA BELÉN MONTES 25037-016  
FMC CARSWELL  
FEDERAL MEDICAL CENTER  
P.O. BOX 27137  
FORT WORTH, TX 76127  
También pueden enviar correos a [abm-@googlegroups.com](mailto:abm-@googlegroups.com) y [anabelenmontes2015@gmail.com](mailto:anabelenmontes2015@gmail.com). □

# Agua envenenada en cárceles de Pensilvania

Por Betsey Piette

“Tendría que estar loco para bañarse en esa agua”, le dijo un guardia de la prisión SCI Mahanoy a Mumia Abu-Jamal después de ver la negra y mal oliente agua que posaba en su tina. Sin embargo, el agua tóxica en Mahanoy y en otras prisiones de Pensilvania, no le ha dejado a los prisioneros más opción que la de utilizar el agua o no bañarse.

Para los detenidos, entre ellos Abu-Jamal, quien sufre de Hepatitis C sin tratar, el agua tóxica exacerba las condiciones de salud existentes. Él sufre de picazón excesiva relacionada con Hepatitis C.

Los funcionarios del Departamento de Correcciones (DOC) han hecho poco por remediar la crisis del agua, y dicen que lo están “arreglando” mientras racionan periódicamente agua embotellada. Los prisioneros de Mahanoy reciben tres vasos de agua al día con las comidas.

Desde la prisión SCI Frackville, Ma-

jor Tillery, un abogado de prisioneros, escribió el 12 de octubre: “No hemos tenido agua limpia aquí por más de cuatro meses. El agua es de color marrón y apesta. Los guardias beben agua embotellada. Nos quejamos y primero nos dijeron que no pasaba nada. Luego, por tres días hace un mes más o menos, a los prisioneros se les dio un galón de agua embotellada al día. Desde entonces, se ha regresado a beber y ducharse con agua sucia”.

## ¿Es culpable el carbón?

Aunque los prisioneros de Mahanoy y Frackville recientemente dieron la alarma, los problemas de contaminación de agua y aire en otras prisiones de Pennsylvania vienen de años. En la SCI Fayette en La Belle-Pensilvania, los prisioneros y guardias reportaron problemas serios de salud en el 2010, incluyendo dificultad para respirar, mareos y llagas y tumores en el cuerpo.

Los presos, los guardias y los residentes de La Belle han experimentado alarmantes tasas de cáncer de riñón, tiroides y de mama, informó la revista Vice en mayo de 2015. La prisión Fayette se construyó sobre una mina de carbón; su vertedero de cenizas de carbón produjo residuos de partículas finas que vuelan hacia la ciudad y la prisión. Las cenizas de carbón contienen productos químicos tóxicos y cancerígenos; 3,4 millones de toneladas de la misma todavía se depositan anualmente cerca del sitio. Dos lagunas de charco de carbón, que se sospecha contaminan el agua potable, aumentó el riesgo de cáncer a 1 de cada 50 residentes.

El Centro de Derecho Abolicionista, un bufete de abogados de interés público, citando la prohibición de la Octava Enmienda contra el “castigo cruel e inusual”, comenzó a investigar las quejas de 75 presos de Fayette. La investigación del DOC del estado en el 2015 dijo que el agua cumplía con los “estándares de agua

potable”, y el Departamento de Salud de Pensilvania afirmó que el ambiente no contribuye al riesgo de cáncer.

## Minería de carbón amenaza agua del Schuylkill

La Autoridad Municipal del Condado de Schuylkill (SCMA) proporciona servicios de agua y alcantarillado para la mayor parte de la provincia y parece ser el proveedor de Mahanoy y Frackville, aunque el DOC no lo confirma.

El área contiene minas subterráneas abandonadas, además de minas activas de la Compañía de Antracita de Reading. Allí se practicó la extracción de la capa superior del terreno en la cima de la montaña. La mina más grande de este tipo en Reading, situada en el origen de la vertiente oeste del Río Schuylkill, podría estar contaminando el agua de las reservas usada por las prisiones de Mahanoy y Frackville.

Los explosivos que rompen las mon-

*Continúa a página 10*