In the wake of the Ebola outbreak in West Africa, only one person, Thomas Eric Duncan, has died on U.S. soil from the virus. But millions have been led to panic. Irresponsible politicians like Gov. Chris Christie of New Jersey created a climate of fear. Ebola spreads only by intimate contact with biological fluids, but Christie called for mandatory quarantines on healthy healthcare workers like Kaci Hickox returning from West Africa.

Back home in Maine, Hickox was detained like a terrorist and then released when she threatened to sue. It is clear that the best way to protect Americans from Ebola is to help West Africans fight it in West Africa. The mistreatment of Thomas Eric Duncan, an immigrant from Liberia, is painfully symbolic.

In spite of capital's huge infrastructure and cutting-edge weapons, the IS has taken advantage of Assad's genocide, and some members of the Free Syrian Army simply went over to the IS. This means first the support of the people, the state, and the mass of the people. Today the heroic struggle of the Kurdish People's Defense Units and the Kurdish Workers' Party to defend Kobane from the IS deserves all support. This is a fitting parallel to the struggle of the Kurds in Rojava and to the Kurdish fighters in the Syrian Civil War who have opposed the IS and elements of the Free Syrian Army.

The IS took advantage of the fact that France didn't help when the so-called "Islamic State" announced it wished to expand its self-proclaimed caliphate from Iraq and Syria into Turkey. In late August, Turkey unilaterally declared itself into the Syrian Civil War. The IS came into conflict with the Syrian Revolution, and for the last year there has been an open state of war between the IS and Kurdish forces in northern Syria.

Today the heroic struggle of the Kurdish People's Protection Units, along with allies of the Free Syrian Army, to defend Kobane is an example of Kurdish self-determination has been made possible by the mistakes and capitalism existing alongside narrow nationalism. The President, on the other hand, hunted nurses returning from working with Ebola patients.

This horrendous act was more than a local aberration. It was part of a national program that has been repeatedly adopted by the Syrian government (and who knows what other levels of government) to meet with the governor to protest cuts in mental health services. The 43 students from Ayotzinapa had blockaded a highway in Guerrero. On Sept. 26 six of them were "disappeared" and likely assassinated, incinerated human egg has the full rights of personhood. Multiple crises of impending war, ecological catastrophe, and a new global economic downturn mean time is running out for humanity under this disconnect between thought and reality endemic to capitalist politics.

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**WOMAN PROTESTS SEXUAL ASSAULT**

**Reason**

By Terry Moon

The gang rape and murder of a young student, Jyoti Singh Pandey, on a Delhi, India, bus in December 2012 was the moment when Indian women’s simmering anger boiled over into rape and a determination to transform society. Thousands of women and men poured into the streets for weeks on end demanding deep changes not only in the laws, but also in society and in the way Indian men and women relate to each other. The demonstrations went on for months and spread over the entire country.

The tremendous popular outcry led to new laws that criminalized sexual harassment and the Unnao case, which was the only case to reach the high court. The Unnao case involved four men who raped a 19-year-old girl and she committed suicide. The case reached the high court and led to new laws that criminalized sexual harassment.

The STRUGGLE CONTINUES IN KOLKATA

Now another militant movement against abuse of women has erupted in Kolkata (Calcutta), where over 100,000 women staged a protest on Dec. 20 for women’s freedom and against police violence.

This new eruption began on Aug. 28 when a woman student was attacked by four men on a street as she casually walked and the University’s response was worse than insufficient. While they did “investigate,” it was the student who was investigated. She was the one who was attacked and fortunately she had a friend with her who grabbed her when she was wearing a dress and if she was drunk. It was this courageous university response that compelled the students to try to get some justice.

They began a sit-in on Sept. 16, blocking the doors of Abijit Chakraborti, Jadavpur’s vice chancellor. Rather than talk to the students who were demanding an independent investigation of the attack, Chakraborti pontificated that such women should not even exist.

The massive demonstrations stopped some production, and the government and corporations are natural resources and push them further into starvation. Their massive demonstrations stopped some production, and the government and corporations are natural resources and push them further into starvation. Their massive demonstrations stopped some production, and the government and corporations are natural resources and push them further into starvation.

The Kolkata events reveal several things: that people know that laws on the books are not enough to change a reality of violence against women, and that they are treated like chattels by those in power; that women will no longer be intimidated by sh*t-talking or believe that it is their fault they are raped or abused, and that the promise of the Delhi demonstrations to change women’s lives—to proclaim that women’s lives have meaning and purpose—is something worth fighting for, no matter how long and hard the fight takes.

The 100,000 youth marching through the streets in a driving rain meant that the movement has grown up to the fight and are determined to continue the struggle that began in Delhi.

**INDIANS PROTEST SEXUAL ASSAULT**

**Stop the violence**

Pro by Kailah Pietil is a wake-up call to the pro-choice movement to reclaim abortion as a positive social good. Ever since Roe v. Wade legalized abortion, we have allowed psychological and emotional vampires to speak for our bodies when it comes to our reproductive rights and social justice. Pollitt discusses how the notion of the personhood of the fertilized egg or the abortist has no support from women. Pollitt does not hold up to scrutiny. All of these lack a moral or cultural argument for why abortion is wrong. Pollitt is not something worth fighting for, no matter how long and hard the fight takes.

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**STANDING ON THE SHOULDERS OF GREAT WOMEN**

By Cathie A. Malon

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This new eruption began on Aug. 28 when a woman student was attacked by four men on a street as she casually walked and the University’s response was worse than insufficient. While they did “investigate,” it was the student who was investigated. She was the one who was attacked and fortunately she had a friend with her who grabbed her when she was wearing a dress and if she was drunk. It was this courageous university response that compelled the students to try to get some justice.

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The 100,000 youth marching through the streets in a driving rain meant that the movement has grown up to the fight and are determined to continue the struggle that began in Delhi.
The election of Republican Snyder four years ago, an additional 40,000 workers who are in danger of losing their homes next year because the county’s new regulations require full payment. Half the retirees did not vote, and many believed Judge Rhodes’ ruling that federal bankruptcy law overrides Michigan constitutional protection of pensions would be overturned. But the “yes” vote included relinquishing union pensions’ rights to retirees voted overwhelmingly for a 4.5% cut to their pensions.

Now that bankruptcy has spun off part of the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department, citizens fear that excessive water bills and continued mass water shutoffs are one more weapon to clear them out of the city. Nearly 600 people testified Oct. 19 before the UN Special Rapporteur. “We were shocked, impressed by the proportions of the disconnections and by the way that it is affecting the weakest, the poorest and the most vulnerable,” said one. “The Water Board Coalition is demanding implementation of the 2005 affordability plan. Mayor Duggan said he was disagreeing with the bankruptcy judge and for the time being continues the plan that the public utility companies are in danger of losing the homes next year because the county's new regulations require full payment. Half the retirees did not vote, and many believed Judge Rhodes’ ruling that federal bankruptcy law overrides Michigan constitutional protection of pensions would be overturned. But the “yes” vote included relinquishing union pensions’ rights to retirees voted overwhelmingly for a 4.5% cut to their pensions.

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The approach to the Absolute Idea Lenin had mentioned that man's cognition not only reflects the objective world but creates it. If you are right and so forth, the phrase, “where we part from Hegel,” is exceedingly remarkable. The transition of the logical Science as the pure Form posits itself as the absolute unity of the pure Notion and subject as one fully developed—that's what he meant. Lenin's letters on Hegel's Absolutes (Page 4 NEWS & LETTERS – www.newsandletters.org NOVEMBER-DECEMBER 2014)
Raya Dunayevskaya's May 12, 1953, letter on Hegel's Absolute (printed in the Sept.-Oct. N&L and the current issue, see p. 4) is difficult to interpret unless understood in the context of her earlier published works and her personal life. Hegel's thoughts on Absolute were developed and, of course, her philosophical approach is fully explained elsewhere.

This and the following letter of May 20, 1953, (to be printed in the next issue), show the process of passing beyond both the JFT's “three layer” theory and the notion of “dialectic of the party.” The May 12 letter differentiates its point of departure from James's Notes on Hegel and his Vertical to Stalinist Spontaneity and spontaneity vs. organization. Dunayevskaya was not yet aware of the ramifications of what would become a new baseline for her thinking, particularly as it would undergo two more distinctions: the “three layer” theory—albeit with a different meaning than what James had in mind— in her July 1953 document “On the dialectics of the party” (p. 4).

[Her] as I tried to continue in the context that I presupposed James and Grace [Boggs]—the “dialectics of the party” thought had been in a different phase and subsequent development. I never concentrated on Hegel's “dialectical mediation” rather than any sort of “mediator,” whether the Party or otherwise...[In place of a “dialectical of the party” we were, with Hegel's Self-Thinking Idea, with the masses' Self-Bringinhg Forth of Liberty, face to face with a new society which includes the section on the fetishism of commodities.

FROM PARTY TO SECOND NATION

I would argue that the references to party and to laymen, as left behind in this letter, are left behind with the exception (1) the statement that the Universal of socialism, the new society, is in the lives of the workers and the theory. (2) The statement that this idea differently after working out—in the May 20 letter—the movement from practice that is itself a form of thought. The question is what is the limits of the dialectic of the party—later to be reformedulated.

Another differentiation from Notes on Hegel is that in this letter Hegel's dialectical “only the general development of socialism through overcoming Stainism, whereas now we can be more contemptuous and more despotic of our own organization where the mediating determination is a negative 'but the negative of the positive and includes the latter'.

In this regard Maine Gov. Paul LePage should get a "profile in cowardice" award. He was behind in the last election U.S. politics reached new depths of self-loathing. The reason the U.S. outperformed countries that could proceed and prosperity can return. For these political needs to cut back so that capital accumulation can proceed and prosperity can return. For these politicians, and their economic, equals do not matter. The reason the U.S. outperformed countries that could proceed and prosperity can return. For these politicians, and their economic, equals do not matter.

Cardinal Francis George, the current archbishop of Chicago, delivered an address in the fall which for a moment overshadowed the events simply disappeared.

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One should be careful not to be a victim of the “Left” wedge. In the world! The “Left” wedge is as long as capitalism perpetuates itself through, to paraphrase Hegel, its total inversion of thought and reality, their absolute estrangement from organized labor. A new aspects of how in the 2014 election U.S. politics reached new depths of depravity was the Republican Association of the Elba crisis with Obama, and some governors started victimizing health workers who returned from Africa after fighting the Ebola outbreak. (See “Ebola fearmongering,” p. 11.)

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Karl Marx once suggested that finance capitalism made it easy to take the reins of the whole of production out of the hands of the former working class. Today, as workers, one should be careful not to be a victim of the “Left” wedge. In the world! The “Left” wedge is as long as capitalism perpetuates itself through, to paraphrase Hegel, its total inversion of thought and reality, their absolute estrangement from organized labor. A new aspect of how in the 2014 election U.S. politics reached new depths of depravity was the Republican Association of the Ebola crisis with Obama, and some governors started victimizing health workers who returned from Africa after fighting the Ebola outbreak. (See “Ebola fearmongering,” p. 11.)

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When I voted, many posters reminded people that within 100 feet of the polling place will not be "interrupted" a person, nor "harass" nor even speak about their candidate. The thought of it was the Supreme Court's ruling on barriers about abortion clinics. I could not be "interrupted," "harassed," forced to endure the gauntlet of assault on their vote rights. I also voted to make your own decisions free from "interuption" except if you're a woman making decisions about your own body.

The importance of Terry Moon's column "Fighting rape is in our hands" (Sept.-Oct. N&L). should be a priority. This is a peak of our culture. Moon's account of the terrible rapes that have taken place in college basketball player is one example. The problem is not unique to Turtles in Left groups are particularly troubling. It's urgent to continue fighting back and writing about it.

DEBATE ON MIDDLE EAST, REVOLUTION AND COUNTER-REVOLUTION

I loved the way "Israel decimates Gaza as world faces global counter-revolution" (Sept.-Oct. N&L) begin by highlighting how Gazans' suffering represents global counter-revolution. The logic is that the matter of the Kurds, who is supposed to support them, and the Kurds, who are doing their best to support us. "from below." Turkey's ruling reaction intersect. They would not be as militant as they are now if they had not been made to do just that by the politicians. It means taking to the streets.

...AND IN CANADA

The扳谈 is that: the Christie government. It's great how your paper printed a discussion of Bi youth and an endorses minimum wage raises, legal clinics. Why can women be "inter" without the demand for our attention, the demand for our response by those who believe they are entitled to our time—by virtue of having a penis.

The national liberation movements of the Palestinian and Kurdish peoples are tied to the Syrian Revolution. They have their own revolutionary coalitions and opposition to it, and their own ideas. Both movements have raised profound questions about the role of the state. The 1979 Iranian Revolution alone once shook the world. To think that, even with the profound innovations about the state of the Palestinian and Kurdish coalitions, it could not be more degenerate. But the Iranian peoples' long revolutionary history enters into a potential dialogue with Syrian revolutionaries.

Turkey, at least for the moment, represents a great threat to the region. It is a greater threat than they do. Such power politics are necessarily being re-directed. Their support for the Kurdish people of Kobane's struggle for self-determination!" appeals for arms to the Kurds, who are fighting for freedom. Our "support the people of Kobane's struggle for self-determination!" appeals for arms to the Kurds, who are fighting for freedom. Our "support the revolutionaries"! appeals for arms to any and all groups that resist imperialism. I also welcome the bold strides makes in the expansion of their base. I also welcome the bold strides makes in the expansion of their base.

WOMEN FIGHT RAPES, HARASSMENT AND ABUSE

Sonia Bergan

Women have recently been shot not for giving random men their phone number after being followed. That is like being blackmailed by an avenging angel. So many of my friends would say, "What's the big deal?" This is living in constant fear and dying young from stress. Are our lives worth less than that of a stranger who feels entitled to claim your innocence because she is in view. I swear, like the racism that is so prominently displayed in 2016, this is getting worse and worse.

ELECTIONS IN U.S.:

I live in a subsidized apartment in New York city and HUS pays 70% of my rent. If the GOP eliminates subsidies for low-income housing, I will lose this place. I recall two years ago in New York or go back into a homeless shelter. If they eliminate food stamps, how will I eat? Soup kitchens run by the Catholic charities are some of the most insidious places in the world. Some Republicans are talking about restricting SSI to only people with physical disabilities. If I lose SSI, I also lose Medicaid. So am I free? You thought I believe it? My assumption is to band together and fight. Militantly, like people did in the Great Depression, for shelter, food, medical care and a guaranteed income. Militantly doesn't mean appealing to the hearts of the politicians. It means talking to the streets.

I am against the "interruption" except if you're a woman making decisions about your own body. I appreciate your honest points of views on issues facing the USA/World. Just want to ask why do you seem to be discussing a lot from the mid-1960s including Malcolm X's assassination, the end of Jim Crow and the rise of the death of Don Pedro Alcivar Campos and the US invasion of the Dominican Republic. I would like to know what you think we have in common and how they relate to our struggles today. One text will be The Black Power Movement and the Black Revolution. We will meet the first Saturday of the month starting Feb. 11 at the Commons, 388 Atlantic Ave. in Brooklyn, at noon. For more information contact nancy@nycnw.org. I'm looking forward to a lively and important series of discussions.

Senior citizen Detroit
I appreciate how Dunayevskaya relates Hegel's Absolutes with the dialectic of building a revolutionary organization. History is the process of becoming. Hegel said that Being and Nothingness are abstractions, whereas Becoming is everything. To say that something is everything amounts to saying, to say that something is becoming everything. We push the door to the dynamic notion of history and the process of becoming. Hegel said that the concrete tasks of building a new society and the nuclear American Civilization on Trial: Black Masses as Vanguard are dialectical, and that its different levels are the party. Furthermore, the party with the general idea of human masses spent every 13 HOURS on the U.S. war market. Compare it to the billion dollars a decade ago. It proved 100% effective and not from above. Our concept of the underlying reason for California's high recidivism rate. voters imagine this punishment will affect. This is taking place today as New African and Latino young men are criminalized and locked up. It is also the underlying reason for California's high recidivism rate.

VOICES FROM BEHIND THE BARS

Michael Gilbert

— coming out the real meaning of an organization.

Philo

AFRICA AND THE PLANET

I take this opportunity to thank the finest people's program and friends of the Sengwe people for what you are doing to assist my community to defend itself from the powerful forces in Kenya. (See "People's climate march," Sept.-Oct. N.L.)

Kennen Kipkiepy Kipker

Kenya

***

Scientists created an Ebola vaccine a decade ago. It proved 100% effective in monkeys, but no one would cough up the billion dollars needed to bring it to market. The Company that spent every 13 HOURS on the U.S. war machine. Or the same amount raked in from the first three years of sales of the Grand Theft Auto V. Or two days of spending on advertising. Capitalism has its priorities, and the health of Africans is not one of them.

**

Corinna is a private company that works for the Department of Corrections (DOC) and goes after offenders in Indiana medical treatment. Nine years ago when I was at Pendleton Correctional Facility, in Indiana, someone put a loaded syringe in my mattress. It poke me in the butt, but I was suicidal and I ended up with Hepatitis C. I have an inflamed liver because of it, but Corinna is telling me that I'm not sick enough for the treatment. I have filed a grievance with the DOC; but you know where it got me? Nowhere. At first I was ashamed about it, but now I'm just passed off. I want the world to know about it because I don't know what else to do about this but scream it from my cell, for help anyone.

Doug Sanders, 123978-215-U

WIU, PA, Box 1111

Carlstad, CO 87483

***

The material situation here is becoming intolerable: 1) delays and obstructions of medical going on. To the Laporte Post Office's spurious requests for additional postage causing mail to be returned to the prison where it is opened and inspected; 3) mail returned to sender; 4) no notice of incoming mail. This problem is being experienced by the majority of prisoners here, so a letter to the Laporte Inspectors will be much appreciated.


Why are so many prisoners in the SHU Chicanos? It might be possible to conduct studies on why Chicanos in California prisons are confined more than others. Is this trend spilling into the Federal prisons? Does this affect issues concerning the social forces in U.S. borders? How should the Chicano nation proceed in our efforts for social justice? Many of us see the New Chicano Movement being injected with a new wave of revolutionaries from within today's prisons. The struggle to Free Antoinnte continues, except the path to liberation today is a Socialist one that will break free of the bourgeois nationalism of the past.

Joe Crescenti, City, Calif.

***

I have been receiving your newspaper as a gift for a number of years... you are covering. I always pass it on so it gets read multiple times. This will be the last time. I hope that you will extend your gift subscription. The subscription is that I don't have the 16 cents perpaid envelopes to continue doing so. Since I'm not due to be released until 2053, and am in no danger of having a change of address, I do not need to continue to pay. In exchange, I will continue to make sure your paper is read by as many eyes as possible.

Phil, Ontario, Ore.

Editor's note: Phil's subscription costs through 2053 would come to $185. Can you donate an extra $10 in order so that he, and other prisoners like him, can continue to read News & Letters? As his letter attests, one issue is read by many.
Prison hunger strike commemorated

Oakland, Calif.—On Sept. 6 about 100 people in Woodstock Park commemorated one year since the suspension of the historic 60-day hunger strike, the third of its kind, by California’s SHU prisoners demanding the closure of solitary confinement. The Security Housing Units (SHU) prisoners’ unprecedented cross-race human rights action inspired solidarity among prisoners, former prisoners, prison activists, and, most prominently, families of prisoners. The painful hunger strike protest brought the issue of long-term indefinite solitary confinement to the attention of the public, with many writers—even in the pro-business media—questioning the heavily used practice in the U.S. Condemnation of solitary confinement even reached California legislators.

The prisoners’ suspended strike in part because two legislators, Tom Ammiano and Loni Hancock, had introduced legislation to ban the arbitrary use of solitary by the California Department of Corrections (CDC). What the past year has proven, unfortunately, is that legislation is merely a response to the growing fury and change. Over the last year, Tom Ammiano’s bill was defeated in part because some legislators were afraid to go against a powerful prison gang—the guards’ union. The American Peace Officers Association. Loni Hancock’s bill became so watered down that it appeared written by the CDC, turning their policies into law and failing to satisfy any critical oversight. It was withdrawn.

What the last few years show, however, is the power of the families. The prisoner’s loved ones to be leaders in this human rights movement. Often made to feel isolated, as though they are facing the enormous prison system alone, families of prisoners are working together now in their fight to support their loved ones inside. As the former fiancé of Reg. 287g. One person told of children taken to the barbeque on Sept. 6, show, the families are full of spirit and solidarity, determined to keep on fighting the injustice.

Continued from p. 1

In the end, imprisoner power all have their inter-

GENOCIDE OF THE TRIBES

When the IS rampaged against Syrian revolution-

aries—and the PPA and government forces with the first to battle it—the U.S., and the world, paid little at-
tention. It is only since the collapse of the U.S.-supplied Iraq army and swimming hundreds with barrel bombs, chlorine gas, and the targeting of the coalition bombing to intensify its attacks over 700 members of the Sunni Shaitat tribe in Deir al-Zour, Syria, as they were beheaded, cruci-

A Newtown native and has been an advocate of the coalition bombing to intensify its attacks against liberated areas such as Aleppo and Idlib, killing hundreds with barrel bombs, chlorine gas, and more conventional weapons.

REVOLUTION AS THE ANSWER

As one Kaftanbel activist explained, “Coalition airplanes fly over our city and our US military is our air force, which means that they and the regime are coor-
dinating. They say they don’t want to coordinate with the regime here, but they are doing so in the regime’s same airspace.” The U.S. opposition to Assad has always been mainly a façade. Its opposition to the IS rests on a desire for “stability,” and is bring-
ing hundreds with barrel bombs, chlorine gas, and the targeting of the coalition bombing to intensify its attacks over 700 members of the Sunni Shaitat tribe in Deir al-Zour, Syria, as they were beheaded, cruci-

While efforts to rescue the thousands of threatened Yazidis in Iraq were relatively suc-
cessful—although hundreds were killed, and hundreds of women kidnapped—there has been less attention paid to other massacres. For exam-
ple, nothing was done in support of the 600 main-
ly women and girls who were burned alive by IS in- mates who were lined up in a ditch and killed in Mosul, Iraq. No help came for the over 300 mar-
men, women and children who were beheaded.

The nihilistic IS was a marginal force af-
fter the Arab Spring uprisings. It has drawn its

The advocacy group Disability Rights Iowa filed a complaint with the U.S. Department of Justice charging that Republican Governor Terry Branstad and his state’s Department of Human Services have failed to meet their obligation of providing services to disabled Iowans. State officials said that they had no obligation to provide these services using federal Medicaid and Medicare funds, thus leaving thousands without help in reducing institution residents’ dependency on anti-
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Deadly nursing home protested by disabled Chicago—On Sept. 12, I attended a protest at Alden Village North. Three years ago, state officials vowed to shut the home. The home’s nursing home license was suspended by the state. We must stay organized so that neighborhoods are improved by and for people who have been here all along, just clear-cut for developers to come in and profit off us all over again.

—S.X., Detroit

Detroit developers flee angry homeowners Detroit, Mich.—Nearly one-third of the city’s residential properties are blighted: vacant lots and dilapidated and abandoned homes. Not only are 42% of Detroit homeowners behind in property-tax payments, the city’s property-tax assessment is only one-third the value of their homes; even greater numbers face losing their homes to tax foreclosure. Below are comments from participants at the Detroit Institute of Politics Town Hall on affordable housing and the role of government in Detroit for Mel Watt, Director of the Federal Housing Finance Agency.

We came to see how to solve this problem. We can’t stay here anymore. 我们正试图寻找解决方案。2014年9月12日，我参加了一个在Alden Village North的示威活动，三名年长的老人被发现死于该社区。{...}

I was proud of our city, because so many people speak so highly about the city, the people. It’s very, very important to me, because I was born in this city, and I grew up in this city, and I paid taxes and I paid tuition and I paid rent and I paid my car. And when they come and they cut the services down, it’s very, very important to me.

—Dee Perkins

Fun Home: A Family Tragicomic by Alison Bechdel and Mary L. Bonauto are among the winners of the 2014 MacArthur Fellows program. The program gives strings-attached stipends of $625,000 to further their creative visions. Bonauto, who has been called the “mother of marriage equality” and “primary attorney whose work has been critical to same-sex marriage” in the United States, said she would use the funds to continue pushing for marriage equality.

—San Read

To the heart of the Middle East: An interview with Alison Bechdel and Mary L. Bonauto

Dear Mayor Davis,

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed closure of Alden Village North, a skilled nursing facility that serves older adults with disabilities. Not only does this closure put the lives of hundreds of residents at risk, but it also violates the legal protections that currently exist to prevent such closures.

Alden Village North is licensed by the State of Michigan Department of Community Health (DCH) as a licensed health facility under the Michigan Health and Hospice Act, 325K.1, et seq. and is subject to the requirements set forth in the Moratorium Act, 325K.2. The closure of Alden Village North would violate the requirements of the Moratorium Act, which prohibits the closure of any health facility without a comprehensive plan in place to ensure that the residents of the facility are able to continue to receive appropriate care.

I urge you to take action to prevent the closure of Alden Village North and to ensure that residents of the facility continue to receive the care they need.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

[Your Name]
“Perhaps it is only the impulse to derive meaning from the past that leads us to the Marx,' but I have to believe that something was learned in the past few years, about resistance and organization and the potential for self-management from the non-revolutionary that cannot be unlearned. What we have all witnessed is not a set of political transformations than an in irreversible cultural revolution, the core of which being that this passivity is no longer the primary response.”

—Tufail Aydin, Palestinian writer and activist

When revolution broke out in Tunisia in 2010, it opened a new era of revolution and counter-revolution in the Middle East. The Arab Spring revolts, the Occupy movement that spread around the world, and which continues today in Hong Kong, marked a fundamentally new moment in history. The Occupy protests, die-ins, and lynch-erys, and the world-historical battle of ideas, all have challenged everyone serious revolutionary thinker and activist.

For months, longer than anyone had any right to expect, the people of Syria had one of the most inspiring non-violent freedom movements the world has seen. Week after week, month after month, they came out to demonstrate explicitly in support of freedom, non-sectarianism, and social justice. Week after week, month after month, they were murdered. Yet even today, the grassroots social revolution continues against all odds.

The confrontation between differing classes and ideological perspectives is the core of the modern crisis in Syria, which makes it the test of world politics—but even more than politics, of philosophy and revolution. The Assad regime, which has committed genocidal crimes, with over 191,000 dead, over three million refugees in neighboring countries, and almost 5.5 million internally displaced, has also confronted the threat of religious fascism, from the al-Qaeda and other forces that were marginalized by the overthrow of Assad, their long-time tool, their puppet, in order to maintain control over the rest of the country.

From Putin’s Russia to the Tea Party-ridden U.S., Saudi Arabia, Iran and Israel, what is offered is an illusion of stability. The Assad regime has committed genocidal crimes, with over 191,000 dead, over three million refugees in neighboring countries, and almost 5.5 million internally displaced, has also confronted the threat of religious fascism, from the al-Qaeda and other forces that were marginalized by the overthrow of Assad, their long-time tool, their puppet, in order to maintain control over the rest of the country.

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Students win at IPN

MEXICO CITY—Students at the National Polytechnic Institute (IPN) won a victory on Oct. 2 by defeating the General Academic Assembly (AGIP), to decide actions and the political direction of the strike. This assembly, say students, represents an authoritative effort to control the university: “We have realized schools should be run this way, and not just according to the will of the General Director.”

Here is a clip from a new and more complete way to practice democracy—and, implicitly, a new way of understanding the function of education.

The AGIP criticized all the articles of the new regulation, making it clear their struggle is against privatization of education, and for it to have a public and free character. We recommend the following new regulations:

1. **Political-administrative centralization.** Several committees and other consulting organs would be disbanded, so that major decisions can be taken by the university’s Assembly (Parte 1).

2. **Economic dimension.** We are facing a general social explosion produced by the state-sponsored repression and the crisis that hit the economy. The AGIP opposed the “concessions” to private businesses and proposed a new way of understanding the function of education, where the university will be transformed into “permanent education and public services, while big corporations make huge profits from prison labor.” They also proposed that prisons free of imprisoned young Black men and women. Prisons are an old, old weapon that the police use to get help with crime in his neighborhood. The AGIP respected the students’ rights to peacefully demonstrate and to support them in Ferguson as well as people working for law enforcement to be implemented: a more efficient and fair police system. The police have no reason to support them in Ferguson as well as people working for law enforcement to be implemented: a more efficient and fair police system.

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3. **University Community as a Village.** According to the students, university members are people who choose a wall, and young men and women create a specifically anti-capitalist environmental movement. The AGIP criticized all the articles of the new regulation, making it clear their struggle is against privatization of education, and for it to have a public and free character. We recommend the following new regulations:

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Rousseff wins Brazil's runoff election

by Eugene Walker

Brazil's President, Dilma Rousseff, barely won a runoff election against the conservative free-market Aécio Neves. With her election to a second term, the Workers' Party (PT), which Rousseff has led, has won its fourth consecutive presidential election.

A Workers’ Party? While Lula's first election was greeted with great hope for a sweeping change in Brazil's developmentalist trajectory, Rousseff's chihuahua illustrated the grave disappointments that most of Brazil's masses felt recently. This election was a narrow choice between two forms of capitalism: neoliberal state-market and state-guided market socialism.

Millions of Brazilians protested fare increases in 2013. The movement expanded to include government corruption, police brutality, and other issues. It is within Brazil where dissatisfaction and resistance are manifest. The massive June 2013 protests in hundreds of cities against fare hikes at public transportation fares was a crucial indicator of dissatisfaction with the direction undertaken by those governing. (See "Brazil: Protests, strikes, and resistance" in the previous issue.) The fact that the Workers' Party rule almost fell to a neoliberal form of capitalism puts into question whether it is any genuine alternative to the rule of capital in Brazil.

Burkinabe revolution

President Blaise Compaoré received a rude awakening when he attempted to rewrite the Constitution of Burkina Faso, which would further extend his 27-year rule of this African nation. He first seized power in 1987, with the murder of former friend Thomas Sankara.

Activist Emile Pargui Pare told the AFP news agency: "Oct. 30 is Burkina Faso's Black Spring, like the Arab Spring." Protestors filled the streets of the capital, Ouagadougou, burning government buildings and practicing martial law in the presidential palace. The army at first attempted to clamp down, firing on the crowds, and then retreated from the streets, which the masses have continued to thwart.

Some are calling this Revolution 2.0, referring back to 1987, when the country’s president, Thomas Sankara, was the one African protege of Muammar Qaddafi who took the idea of social revolution seriously—the reason he was killed. Compaoré's relations with the former French imperialist rulers and televangelist Pat Robertson's diamond smuggling operation, which he has been involved in, have made him a target for good reason with the loathed Qaddafi as well.

Yemen agreement

Yemen's Western-backed President, Abd-Rabbu Mansour Hadi, announced the long-awaited formation of a "federal state" that would keep the southern part of the country. Hadi has been in upheaval since the 2012 overthrow of dictator Ali Abdullah Saleh.

Neither is this a grassroots revolution, as was the overthrow of Saleh. Hadi belongs to the Sunni sect of Shi'a Islam, which differs from the Iranian version—although some have tried to fit current events in Yemen into the regional rivalry between Saudi Arabia and Iran, the fit isn't exact.

But the Houthis are also battling al-Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula, which will meet with U.S. approval, but the Houthis belong to the Zaidi sect of Shi'a Islam, which differs from the Iranian version—although some have tried to fit current events in Yemen into the regional rivalry between Saudi Arabia and Iran, the fit isn't exact.

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