



Women's International League for Peace and Freedom

United States Section

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CAPE COD BRANCH NEWSLETTER FOR FEBRUARY 2006

FIRST INTERNATIONAL

PRESIDENT

Jane Addams

Nobel Peace Prize 1931

FIRST INTERNATIONAL

SECRETARY

Emily Greene Balch

Nobel Peace Prize 1946

Dear WILPFers,

I was thinking we've had a winter-that-wasn't, until the recent cold- a "polar vortex", said the weatherman- set in. It feels like a metaphor for the political times we live in- sucked into cold, violent spirals with which we're compliant unless we speak out- for ourselves and for those who are not willing to speak. In such times I gain strength from making connections: In early February Laurie Gates and I traveled to Washington D.C. for the National Conference on Organized Resistance. It was heartening to be among several thousand young, aware people, who are willing to act for peace, and social and ecological justice. Another source of nurturance was our WILPF breakfast-thanks to Carolyn McDade!!- where a dozen of us shared stories of what inspires and sustains us.

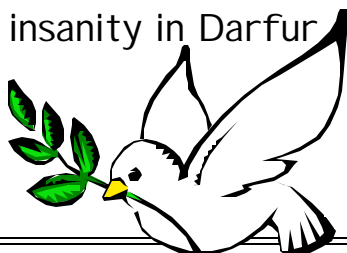
And now the Equinox- a psychological if not physical coming of spring- is in sight, and is book-ended by two important dates: March 19, the 3rd anniversary of the start of the Iraq War, and March 22, UN World Water Day. What's the connection? Some hypothesize that the war on Iraq is about the control of water, as well as oil. The money spent on war, occupation, and reconstruction could have more than financed clean drinking water and wastewater treatment systems for EVERY PERSON ON OUR PLANET. Instead, people continue to die from this war, in addition to the 25 million a year who die from preventable water-borne diseases.

So every day, we -as individuals and collectively- make choices. With whom do we build relationships and community? How and what do we consume? How do we use our energy to reshape the world we live in?

The right to water and health care are two issues that most people think are human rights- not subject to commodification and privatization- and over which we should have authority. Everyone is invited to participate in our World Water Day activities (see details on page 8), and to get involved in the exciting first step in making single payer health care a reality on Cape Cod, by working for the Cape Care resolutions on our upcoming town meeting warrants.

Here's to peace and lengthening days,

The Program Topic for the March 14, 2006 meeting will be "Rape and Genocide in Darfur, Africa". Please see page 2 for information and a petition to stop the insanity in Darfur



WILPF CAPE COD MEETINGS ARE HELD ON THE SECOND TUESDAY OF THE MONTH AT THE HARWICH COMMUNITY CENTER AND BEGIN WITH A POT-LUCK SUPPER AT 6 PM. FROM 7 TO 8:30 THERE IS A PROGRAM AND POLITICAL DISCUSSION. GUESTS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME!

DIRECTIONS: From Route 6: take exit 10 toward South Harwich. Go left at the first traffic light onto Queen Anne Rd. Go right on Oak Street and follow that one mile to the Harwich Community Center on the left. For information call Convener Nancy Munger at 508-255-6869





400,000 Signatures to Stop Genocide in Darfur



You Have the Power to Protect

Your signature on this petition can help stop the genocide in Darfur, Sudan. We are seeking at least 400,000 voices of conscience to represent those who have died in Darfur.

Dear President Bush,

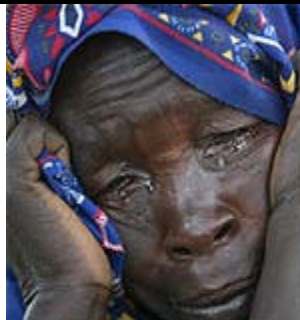
Genocide is taking place in Darfur, Sudan. On September 9, 2004 your Administration rightfully acknowledged this fact, but the U.S. has failed to take sufficient action to stop the violence. Up to 400,000 people have died and 2.5 million have been displaced, their livelihoods and villages destroyed by Sudanese government forces and their proxy militias. **We call on you to assert U.S. leadership by taking every step necessary through the United Nations to:**

- establish a mandate for an international force to protect civilians
- deploy such a force in support of existing African Union efforts in Darfur

The United States has a unique capacity and clear obligation to take immediate action. **Unless there is an urgent international intervention in Darfur, up to a million people may be dead by the end of this year.**

SIGNATURE	PRINTED NAME	CITY & STATE	EMAIL

*Please return this petition to Africa Action, 1634 Eye Street, NW, Suite 810, Washington, DC 20006
or fax it to 202-546-1545
www.africaaction.org*



Cape Cod WILPF'S Mission/Vision Statement

Cape Cod's Women's International League for Peace & Freedom (WILPF) is a group of women and men who work to create justice and peace locally, nationally and internationally. WILPF envisions a transformed world at peace, where there is racial, social and economic justice for all people everywhere -- a world in which the inter-connecting web of life is acknowledged and celebrated, and human societies are designed and organized for self-governance and sustainable existence. In pursuit of these goals we educate ourselves and others, take action against injustice, and nourish one another.

CORPORATIONS 'R' US? - Part 2 by Rachel Crosby

In the last issue of this newsletter, I wrote an opinion/editorial on why I thought it was too "broad brush" for liberals to label all corporations as evil or to say that corporations were to blame for just about every conceivable social or environmental ill. I suggested that an alternative way to get the truly bad corporations to change their destructive behavior was to educate them, primarily via the power of the pocketbook. Working to get legislation passed to reduce or revert corporate rights to pre 1886 status is an admirable goal, but one that is likely to take a relatively long time to achieve, especially as the corporations are likely to fight such a move fiercely with their armies of lawyers and lobbyists.

For-profit corporations are ultimately only motivated by money, but that truth also reveals their biggest flaw. Hitting corporations in their most sensitive spot (think about David hitting Goliath in the forehead with the rock), namely their bottom line, will certainly get their attention. But a corporation cannot fight consumer preferences and purchasing choices with lawyers. What does a corporation do when sales are slumping? It endeavors to find out why and if that why is discovered to be because of its reprehensible business practices, then the corporation is left with really only one choice - to change those practices.

There are many guides available to help us avoid spending our money on the products or services of corporations with bad track records in human rights, environmental issues, etc. One such guide is called "Buying for Equality" and is put out by the Human Rights Campaign (go to <http://www.hrc.org/> and click on Publications) and it is a guide to companies and products that support Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgenderist equality. Did you know that Whirlpool scores a 100 on the Equality scale, while Maytag gets a miserable 29? Or that BP oil company (Amoco, Arco) and Chevron (Texaco) get a 100 and Exxon Mobil can only scrape up a 14? Or that General Mills (Pillsbury, Progresso, Betty Crocker, etc) and Kraft get a 100, while H J Heinz and Nestle Purina are way down at 29?

Another good source of information on corporations is the Business for Social Responsibility website (<http://www.bsr.org/index.cfm>) where corporate practices in areas such as environment, community investment, human rights, business ethics, governance, etc. are discussed and individual corporations noted for having good practices. For example, on the issue of water, leadership examples include Intel (computer chips), Fetzer Vineyards, BP, Proctor & Gamble and McDonald's - all corporations that I think most of us would assume were money-grubbing and unethical. Even more interesting is that the descriptions make it clear that these corporations have often made changes based upon societal preferences and cultural ideals, which the corporations understand will influence consumer choices.

So, do your own research and make your buying choices accordingly. And, to be even more effective, let the corporations that you approve of and, perhaps more importantly, the corporations you think stink, know why you are making your choices. Corporations are capable of changing on their own and it is up to us to educate them in how we want them to change.

Dear WILPFers,

An opinion piece in the January newsletter questions how we define a corporation. Indeed municipalities and many non-profit organizations are corporations. However, the giant multi-national for-profit corporation is the entity that concerns a growing number of people.

In the past decade or so -- due in some measure to WILPF's national campaign to Challenge Corporate Power, Assert the People's Rights -- many folks have learned a lot more useful US history than we were taught in school (or that I peddled as a teacher!). The nutshell version: It was largely through England's chartered corporations, like the British East India Company and the Massachusetts Bay Colony, that the colonists felt the power of the Crown. So after the American Revolution, the few corporations that existed were put on a short leash through well-defined state-issued charters, which were revoked when their conditions were violated. These were publicly created entities, created to serve a specific purpose. So what happened?

Throughout the 19th century and continuing today, the Supreme Court (and lesser courts) has interpreted the Constitution to grant the corporate form many of the rights originally intended for people. An especially far-reaching decision was in 1886, when the Court declared the corporation a legal person with the equal rights and due process protections of the mighty 14th Amendment -- passed to protect newly freed slaves. Thus the WILPF bumper sticker and t-shirt: Slavery is the legal fiction that a person is property, and corporate personhood is the legal fiction that property is a person!

What's the matter with this picture? Corporations (the entity, as distinct from the shareholders and executives) have thus accumulated not only the 14th Amendment, but also some of our hard-won Bill of Rights protections. For example, corporate freedom of speech has limited citizens' ability to keep the deep pockets of corporations from virtually governing us: financing candidates and lobbyists, and actually writing legislation.

So it isn't really a question of bad behavior, but of power, of who governs. The editorial suggested that we educate corporations, but that isn't the proper relationship between a supposedly sovereign people and an institution we create to serve us. Neither is it about being "anti-corporate." We the People need to claim our promised right of self-governance, eliminate corporate constitutional rights, and return the corporate form to its original subordinate role of serving our needs, of being instructed -- not educated -- by us.

Mary Zpernick

The Barnstable County Human Rights Commission, as part of its mandate to do community education, is holding a series of public forums in the Cape's towns to introduce the Commission to the public and to hear concerns. The dates, so far:

- ◆ Sunday, March 5: Yarmouth - 2: 00 PM
- ◆ Monday, March 6: Barnstable - 7: 00 PM
- ◆ Friday, March 10 Mashpee - 2:30 PM
- ◆ Thursday March 16 Orleans - 7 :00M
- ◆ Thursday, March 23: Harwich/Chatham - 7:00 PM

In recognition of the **Peace Corps 45th anniversary**, Cape Cod Community College will hold a forum on **Monday, March 6 at noon**, featuring talks by former Peace Corps volunteers. The panel will include State Representative Matthew Patrick, Jordan McCarron, and Earl Springer, and Jeanie Yaroch, whose daughter is serving in Bolivia, will share her daughter's experience and what it's like being the parent of a Peace Corps volunteer. A question and answer period will follow.

The event will be held in **Lecture Hall C in the Science Building**. It is free and sponsored by 4C's Office of International Studies. For more information: Christine Jacques at (508) 362-2131 ext. 4455.

International Women's Day (8 March) is an occasion marked by women's groups around the world. This date is also commemorated at the United Nations and is designated in many countries as a national holiday. When women on all continents, often divided by national boundaries and by ethnic, linguistic, cultural, economic and political differences, come together to celebrate their Day, they can look back to a tradition that represents at least nine decades of struggle for equality, justice, peace and development.

International Women's Day is the story of ordinary women as makers of history; it is rooted in the centuries-old struggle of women to participate in society on an equal footing with men.

Few causes promoted by the United Nations have generated more intense and widespread support than the campaign to promote and protect the equal rights of women. The Charter of the United Nations, signed in San Francisco in 1945, was the first international agreement to proclaim gender equality as a fundamental human right.

Over the years, United Nations action for the advancement of women has taken four clear directions: promotion of legal measures; mobilization of public opinion and international action; training and research, including the compilation of gender desegregated statistics; and direct assistance to disadvantaged groups. Today a central organizing principle of the work of the United Nations is that no enduring solution to society's most threatening social, economic and political problems can be found without the full participation, and the full empowerment, of the world's women.



CALENDAR

Monday, March 6, 7-8pm

Greenpeace Presentation: Greenland's Melting Glaciers. Scientists from the University of Maine will be presenting the dramatic discoveries they made on the rate at which Greenland's glaciers are being impacted by Global Warming. Cape Cod Community College, 508-362-2131 or yestowind@wdc.greenpeace.org

Saturday, March 11, 9:30 AM - 12:30 PM

Cape Care Forum at the Harwich Community Center, featuring Alan Sager, a single payer expert and advocate at the Boston University School of Public Health. Both Dr. Sager and former governor and presidential candidate Michael Dukakis have expressed the belief that Cape Cod is well suited to the development of such a health insurance plan, with the regional level the most likely and advantageous launching arena for universal health care. This forum is designed to help all of us advocate in our towns for passage of the Cape Care non-binding resolution (see pages 5 & 6). Call Mary Zep for more information: 398-1023 or 398-1145.

Tuesday, March 14, 6 PM

Cape Cod WILPF Program Meeting, Harwich Community Center, 100 Oak Street, Harwich. The Program topic will be Darfur. Contact Nancy Munger 508-255-6869 or mungbean54@hotmail.com

Wednesday, March 22, 7:00 PM

Water Celebration in honor of United Nations Water Day (see page 8). Join a free information and community discussion on Cape Cod's water problems and solutions at the Wellfleet Library. Contact Nancy Munger at 508-255-6869 or mungbean54@hotmail.com.

Sunday, March 25, 1 - 9 PM

Cape Cod Community Dare'
Everyone is once again invited to the monthly community dare' to be held at Chuck Madansky's and Wilderness Sarchild's. Dare' is an African Shona word meaning a sacred gathering for healing purposes. All ages are welcome and there is no charge. Bring food and drink (no alcohol, please) to share, a towel and appropriate clothing for the sauna, warm clothes for outdoors, light clothes for indoors, and musical instruments. Come or leave anytime between 1pm and 9pm. For more info and directions, go to www.capecoddare.org or call 508-896-9489.

Tuesday, March 28, 6:00 PM

WILPF planning meeting and pot-luck at Laurie Gate's home, South Chatham, 508-432-4245

Town Resolution on “Cape Care” Universal Health Care Proposal

Whereas,

Health care coverage has become less affordable and less available to growing numbers of people in our community, despite all efforts to date at both the state and federal level; and

Each person who lacks adequate health care coverage faces increased risks of illness, disability, and premature death. Our region has well above state-average rates of uninsured- and underinsured- people; and

The families of such individuals are faced with growing out-of-pocket costs. These families must now confront the soaring expenses of health coverage, and the worry about bankruptcy or impoverishment in the event of serious illness. Their caregiver stress increases with the need to provide more and more uncovered care; and

Small businesses face the soaring expenses of covering their employees' health premiums, passing some of these costs along to employees in the form of rising premiums and out-of-pocket payments. Our regional predominance of small businesses and self-employed individuals is, understandably, a key factor in the low rates of health care coverage; and

Our Town governments struggle with the costs of health coverage for town employees. We the people are regularly forced to choose among other important and accustomed community services for budget cuts; and

Our community health care providers and institutions are caught in the inescapable financial squeeze of rising administrative costs and declining reimbursements. They are forced to reduce staffing, cut services, or close. Access to care for all they serve is diminished.

And whereas,

These consequences represent losses in quality of life for many (if not all) members of the Cape and Islands community, and a threat to our collective welfare.

Now Therefore:

We petition our County Government to support the development of a proposed regional universal health care program, known as Cape Care, which would, at a minimum, meet these criteria:

- provide broad health care coverage for ALL residents of the Cape and Islands, to improve individual and community health; and
- control health care cost inflation by reducing excessive administrative expenses, as well as through bulk discount purchasing of necessary medications and medical supplies; and
- shape health care delivery to meet community needs for appropriate care, through a representative policy-making board of community members and health care providers; and
- strengthen the ability of our existing network of health care providers and institutions to provide high-quality care, by assuring adequate funding for necessary services.

We call for a public hearing process in Barnstable County, to include analysis of the proposed plan's organization and governance, its expected effects on community health, and its financial modeling, to be initiated by the end of the year 2006 .

The Clerk of the Town is instructed to give Notice of Passage of this Resolution to the town's representative to the County Assembly of Delegates, the County Commissioners, and the state and federal Representatives and Senators, within 30 days.

What is Cape Care? – A General Overview

DESCRIPTION: A not-for-profit Community Health Insurance program, covering all Barnstable county residents; formulated and operated as a social insurance system based on health care as a basic human right, regardless of means - similar to Medicare and Social Security, or to municipal services such as Police, Fire & Rescue, Libraries, Schools, etc.

ADMINISTRATION & STANDARDS: Professionally administered, and governed by a community Health Policy Board, with the advice of a Medical Advisory Board of health care providers. Its policies and universal benefit package will be developed through a transparent public process to provide all appropriate preventive health services; acute care including out- and in-patient, as well as home; rehabilitation; mental health care; and prescription medicines. There will be free choice from among all affiliated providers.

COST ARRANGEMENTS: Re-directs most current health expenditures to a Community Health Insurance Fund, through a system of progressive premiums; the exact reverse of current financing where the poorest rate payers pay the highest percentage of personal disposable income. For individuals covered under Medicare, Mass Health, etc., their program “capitation” fees will go to the Community Health Insurance Fund. There will be few if any cost barriers to care.

EMPLOYERS’ FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY: None (for employees who are covered County residents.)

RATE SETTING: Coverage and reimbursement rates are set by the Health Policy Board so that health care services to meet residents’ appropriate medical services needs are readily available.

COSTS SAVINGS: Substantial cost savings are generated though a) reducing the high administrative overhead of commercial insurance plans b) eliminating most corporate insurance profits c) controlling the soaring costs of health care delivery through budgeting and improved coordination of care and d) volume purchasing of pharmaceuticals and medical supplies.

LONGER-TERM BENEFITS AND SAVINGS: The plan generates human benefits and financial savings through improvements in health. Preventing illness, disability and premature death represent real savings in our community health.

HEALTH CARE PROVIDER BENEFITS: a) All providers who are certified to receive Medicare, Mass Health (and other) insurances are eligible, b) Providers will experience cost reductions and improved income, because most patients are covered by a single, administratively straightforward insurance program with a standard package of covered services and benefits and a less complex direct claims processing system, c) Providers will receive prompter payments with direct payment from the Community Health Insurance Fund, screened through a simple fraud control process, d) No cost-shifting to cover the cost of medical services for the un-insured and e) No change in provider ownership or governance.

PLAN FEASIBILITY: This type of plan has been validated by studies in many states and demonstrated in health care systems around the world where this kind of plan generates more health care for all - at a cost less than what we now spend and with much greater control over the content and quality of that care.

Cape Care, the proposed single-payer community owned health insurance program for everyone on the Cape, has evolved over several years through a working group of health and human service providers and public officials. Cape Cod WILPF and Cape Codders for Peace & Justice created the Cape Care Resolution Campaign in order to generate enough public awareness and support to petition the county government to further develop the proposal. The non-binding resolution will be on most spring town meeting warrants and before the Barnstable Town Council. Please copy the resolution and overview, and pass it along to people you know. Many WILPFers are already organizing in their towns; to help in your town, visit www.capecare.info or call me, Mary Zepernick, campaign coordinator: 508-398-1023 or 398-1145. This may be a once-in-our-lifetime opportunity and we need everyone's participation.

Please come to the next planning meeting: Saturday, March 25, 9:30 AM, Harwich Community Center.

**Water...The Earth is largely made up of it. As are we...
And yet about it we know significantly little.**

The groundbreaking work of a pioneer Japanese researcher whose astonishing discovery about water, documented photographically, changed most of what we didn't know...and led to a new consciousness of Earth's most precious resource.

Dr. Masaru Emoto was born in Japan and is a graduate of the Yokohama Municipal University and the Open International University as a Doctor of Alternative Medicine. His photographs were first featured in his self-published books *Messages from Water 1 and 2*. His new book, *The Hidden Messages in Water*, was first published in Japan, with over 400,000 copies sold internationally.

What has put Dr. Emoto at the forefront of the study of water is his proof that thoughts and feelings affect physical reality. By producing different focused intentions through written and spoken words and music and literally presenting it to the same water samples, the water appears to "change its expression".

He developed a technique using a very powerful microscope in a very cold room along with high-speed photography, to photograph newly formed crystals of frozen water samples. Not all water samples crystallize however. Water samples from extremely polluted rivers directly seem to express the 'state' the water is in.

Dr. Masaru Emoto discovered that crystals formed in frozen water reveal changes when specific, concentrated thoughts are directed toward them. He found that water from clear springs and water that has been exposed to loving words shows brilliant, complex, and colorful snowflake patterns. In contrast, polluted water, or water exposed to negative thoughts, forms incomplete, asymmetrical patterns with dull colors.

The implications of this research create a new awareness of how we can positively impact the earth and our personal health. **Source:** <http://www.whatthebleep.com/crystals/>



Water exposed to
"You Make Me Sick"



Water crystal exposed to
"Love and Gratitude"

SAY NO TO BOTTLED WATER

FROM EARTH POLICY - The global consumption of bottled water reached 154 billion liters (41 billion gallons) in 2004, up 57 percent from the 98 billion liters consumed five years earlier. Even in areas where tap water is safe to drink, demand for bottled water is increasing-producing unnecessary garbage and consuming vast quantities of energy. Although in the industrial world bottled water is often no healthier than tap water, it can cost up to 10,000 times more. At as much as \$2.50 per liter (\$10 per gallon), bottled water costs more than gasoline.

The United States is the world's leading consumer of bottled water, with Americans drinking 26 billion liters in 2004, or approximately one 8-ounce glass per person every day. Mexico has the second highest consumption, at 18 billion liters. China and Brazil follow, at close to 12 billion liters each. Ranking fifth and sixth in consumption are Italy and Germany, using just over 10 billion liters of bottled water each.

In contrast to tap water, which is distributed through an energy-efficient infrastructure, transporting bottled water long distances involves burning massive quantities of fossil fuels. Nearly a quarter of all bottled water crosses national borders to reach consumers, transported by boat, train, and truck. In 2004, for example, Nord Water of Finland bottled and shipped 1.4 million bottles of Finnish tap water 4,300 kilometers (2,700 miles) from its bottling plant in Helsinki to Saudi Arabia.

Saudi Arabia can afford to import the water it needs, but bottled water is not just sold to water-scarce countries. While some 94 percent of the bottled water sold in the United States is produced domestically, Americans also import water shipped some 9,000 kilometers from Fiji and other faraway places to satisfy the demand for chic and exotic bottled water.

Source: <http://www.earth-policy.org/Updates/2006/Update51.htm>



Street Theatre/Demonstrations And Information & Discussion Meeting Planned For United Nations Water Day

The Water Women of WILPF are planning an afternoon series of street theatre and demonstrations in mid and outer Cape towns, and a public community information and discussion meeting that evening in Wellfleet. The theatre and meeting will have water as their focus in recognition of United Nations' World Day for Water.

On March 22, WILPF's Water Women will gather on street corners in appropriate "water-themed" costumes to hand out literature, engage in discussions about bottled water with passerbys and to perform a skit. A primary purpose of the WILPF Water Women is to inform the public about the misinformation disseminated and the frauds being perpetuated by the purveyors of bottled water.

The schedule for the street theatre is:

1. 12 Noon – 12:30 PM - Downtown Hyannis, public park next to Post Office on Main Street.
2. 1:00 – 1:30 PM – Cape Cod Mall
3. 2:00 – 2:30 PM – Chatham – corner of Main and Cross Streets
4. 3:00 – 3:30 PM – Orleans – Main Street (walking)
5. 4:00 – 4:30 PM – Wellfleet - Main Street (walking)

At 7:00 PM that evening at the Wellfleet Public Library, WILPF will sponsor a public community information and discussion meeting on water, including discussions with questions and answers on the following topics:

- The History and Meaning of United Nations' World Day for Water
- The Global Water Crisis, presented by WILPF
- Cape Cod's Wastewater Problems and Possible Solutions
- Cape Cod's Water Supply and Related Issues, presented by Tom Cambareri, Cape Cod Commission Geologist

The United Nations Association, Cape Cod Chapter, is co-sponsoring the free information and community discussion meeting

By resolution in December 1992, the United Nations General Assembly declared March 22 of each year to be World Day for Water. World Day for Water is an opportunity for individuals, groups, organizations and governments to raise awareness of the importance of conserving and managing our water resources by organizing initiatives and activities related to water. In addition, in resolution 58/217 of December 23, 2003, the General Assembly proclaimed the period from 2005 to 2015 the International Decade for Action, "Water for Life" to commence on World Water Day 2005.

The United States section of WILPF announced in March 2005 that "Save the Water" would be one of the organization's national campaigns for the next three years. The campaign is aimed at educating and organizing communities to address the scarcity, misuse and rapid commoditization and privatization of water as corporations take private control of this vital resource around the world. These corporations are among those resisting the worldwide move to have adequate clean water declared a natural human right.

Anyone interested in participating in either the street theatre events or in the evening meeting should contact one of the following: **Until March 10** - Rachel Crosby, 508 432 3972 – rachelcrosby@comcast.net
After March 10 - Laurie Gates, 508-432-4245 or Nancy Munger, 508-255-6869 - mungbean54@hotmail.com

QUICK FACTS ON BOTTLED WATER

If the world took half of what it currently spends on bottled water (\$100 billion annually) and invested it in water infrastructure and treatment, everyone in the world could have access to clean drinking water.

But bottled water is cleaner, right? Actually, the U.S. EPA sets more stringent quality standards for tap water than the FDA does for bottled beverages, and roughly 40% of bottled water is actually just tap water.

According to the FDA, "Companies that market bottled water as being safer than tap water are defrauding the American public..."

1.5 million barrels of oil are consumed each year to produce the plastic for water bottles, enough to fuel 100,000 cars.

It takes 1.3 gallons of water to rinse the plastic dust from a newly made one gallon plastic water bottle.

Potentially carcinogenic chemicals and toxins leach from the plastic bottle into the water it contains. The NRDC found that one-fifth of the 103 waters tested contained synthetic organic chemicals such as the neurotoxins toluene and xylene and the possible carcinogen and neurotoxin styrene.

According to the Container Recycling Institute, only 14 percent of plastic water bottles are recycled and a water bottle in a landfill or lying around as litter will take over 1,000 years to biodegrade.

Over 95% of cost of bottled water is the bottle, label, lid and transportation.

Source: <http://www.organicconsumers.org/foodsafety/Bottled020606.cfm> and

Ellie Bluestein (geneb@csufresno.edu) and Nancy Munger (mungbean54@hotmail.com)

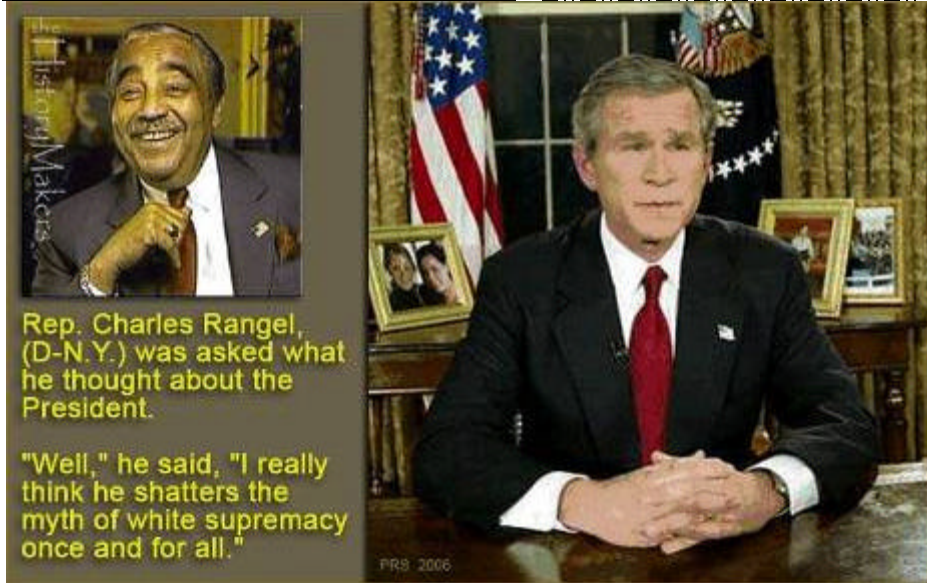
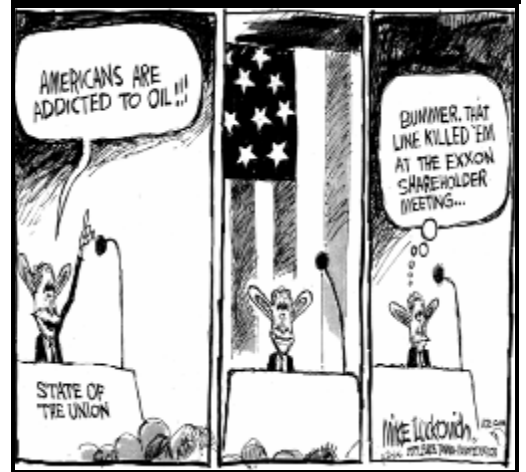
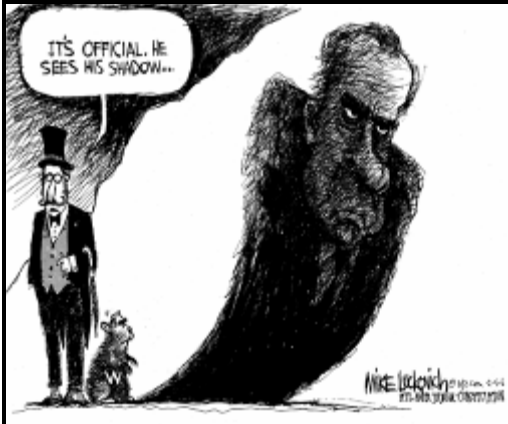
THE NOT-SO-FUNNY PAGE

BUSHISMS

Bush Explains Medicare Drug Bill

WOMAN IN AUDIENCE: "I don't really understand. How is the new plan going to fix the problem?"

Verbatim response ~ PRESIDENT BUSH: " Because the -- all which is on the table begins to address the big cost drivers. For example, how benefits are calculated, for example, is on the table. Whether or not benefits rise based upon wage increases or price increases. There's a series of parts of the formula that are being considered. And when you couple that, those different cost drivers, affecting those -- changing those with personal accounts, the idea is to get what has been promised more likely to be -- or closer delivered to that has been promised. Does that make any sense to you? It's kind of muddled. Look, there's a series of things that cause the -- like, for example, benefits are calculated based upon the increase of wages, as opposed to the increase of prices. Some have suggested that we calculate -- the benefits will rise based upon inflation, supposed to wage increases. There is a reform that would help solve the red if that were put into effect. In other words, how fast benefits grow, how fast the promised benefits grow, if those -- if that growth is affected, it will help on the red."



Rep. Charles Rangel, (D-N.Y.) was asked what he thought about the President.

"Well," he said, "I really think he shatters the myth of white supremacy once and for all."

For more Bushisms go to <http://www.slate.com/?id=76886>

Women's International League for Peace & Freedom, Cape Cod Branch

Make Peace, Freedom and Justice a Reality for All! Join WILPF!

www.wilpfcapecod.org

NAME _____ PHONE _____

ADDRESS _____

TOWN/STATE/ZIP _____ EMAIL _____

WILPF membership includes International, U.S. Section & Cape Cod Branch

_____ \$35 Individual _____ \$40 Household _____ \$15 Limited Income \$ _____

To receive the Cape Cod Branch Newsletter:

_____ Member: Sliding Scale \$5 - 50 _____ Non-Member \$25 \$ _____

Total Enclosed (Membership and/or newsletter) \$ _____

Send form & check, payable to WILPF,
c/o Laurie Gates
38 Dusty Miller Road
South Chatham, MA 02659



Women's International League
for Peace and Freedom

Cape Cod

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38 Dusty Miller Lane
South Chatham, MA 02659

