

JUSTICE SPEAKS

BLACK WORKERS FOR JUSTICE

VOL. 24 NO. 1

JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2009

50c

Stop the Criminal and Immoral Massacre of Palestinians!

The Black Workers for Justice joins the tens of millions of people around the world who are outraged by the vicious assault and killings by the Israeli Defense Force of the Palestinians living in Gaza. Innocent men, women and children in the densely populated city of 1.5 million people continue to face conditions of genocide from the bombings and the blockade that prohibits fuel, food, equipment, medical supplies and other humanitarian goods from coming into the city.

The destruction of the infrastructure in Gaza, including schools, factories, hospitals, electricity, crops and water systems, are designed to destroy the Palestinian Nation and their right to self-determination, including the right of return, and to democratically elect their own government representatives.

The Occupation of the Palestinian territory is classic colonialism with apartheid features including a wall that restricts people's movement for work, business, culture and family life. This Occupation continues to be supported by the US government. The US provides Israel \$3 billion a year of taxpayer money in weapons of mass destruction, used to attack, destroy, and deny Palestine the right of self-determination.

This blatant and extreme violation of human rights and international law must end immediately. We call on all legislators and the Obama administration to use its political and financial influence to make Israel cease the bombings and end the blockade. Politics and the strength of the Israeli lobby in the US cannot continue to put the lives of millions of people at risk

in what is becoming one of the worst humanitarian crises of this era.

Black People Know the Pain of Racist Oppression

Our history of oppression and recent experiences remind us of how white supremacist and imperialist regimes cause and respond to misery and suffering. The legacy of slavery and Jim Crow segregation should be a constant reminder to us that a real democracy cannot exist when it

oppresses and commits acts of genocide against its own and peoples of other nations. Make the victims look like the villains is part of the white supremacist culture of colonialism. The victims of Katrina, our most recent experience with inhumane policies and treatment, including the denial of the right to return of the African American majority more than three years after the flood, should move us to determined and immediate support for the Palestinians.

Human Rights and Self-Determination For the Palestinian People!

JOIN US VALENTINE'S DAY

IT'S TIME FOR 2009 HK ON J³



**Historic Thousands on Jones St.
Saturday, February 14 at 9:30 a.m.**

Thousands of us will meet at Chavis Park in Raleigh and march back to Jones Street at 10:30 a.m. demanding that state leaders complete action on ALL 14 points of its People's Agenda.

A MOVEMENT, NOT A MOMENT! MAKE CHANGE A REALITY

Republic Workers Carry Forth Lessons of Struggle: Promoting a Campaign of Resistance and Recovery!

The six day occupation of the Republic Windows and Doors plant by the UE Local 1110 workers in Chicago, Ill in December 2008, brought a new spirit of struggle to the US national labor movement, which has been demoralized and weakened by its divisions and by the business unionism that denies the rank-and-file democratic control and power.

The Republic struggle was also a victory for labor solidarity, as the national and international support of the labor movement sent the message to US government and corporate rulers that this struggle began a new tactic of worker resistance.

The Republic workers helped expose the government bailout of the banks as having little to do with addressing the needs of workers. Their occupation became an important part of the class struggle against bailing out banks and corporations on the backs of working people and points out why any economic stimulus needs provisions that protects and empowers workers.

Part of the struggle to build and deepen the spirit of worker fight-back and build rank-and-file democratic unionism beyond the UE during this major economic crisis is to carry forward the lessons of the Republic and other militant worker struggles for discussion among the rank-and-file throughout the labor movement.

In this spirit, the UE is sponsoring a national tour of the Republic workers to promote a campaign of Resistance and Recovery starting January 30. The campaign will promote the importance of passage of the Employee Free Choice Act and collective bargaining rights for all public sector workers as key elements of labor's program.

The workers will be speaking in Raleigh on February 14 at the 3 Historical Thousands on Jones St March and Rally and at a reception and forum at the NC Justice Center. For more information call 252-977-1419.



Workers in cafeteria of occupied Republic plant
Photo: UE



Subscribe to Justice Speaks

- One year individual\$10
 - One year organization/institutions...\$16
 - Two year individual\$16
 - One-year sustainer monthly pledge: \$10__ \$25__ \$50__
- ___ I'm interested I distributing JUSTICE SPEAKS

NAME/ORG _____
 ADDRESS _____
 ADDRESS _____
 PHONE _____ EMAIL _____

Please make checks or money orders payable to **Justice Speaks**
Mail this coupon to PL Box 26774, Raleigh NC 27611

.....
Vol. 24 No. 1, Jan/Feb 2009
Justice Speaks is published bi-monthly by the
Black Workers for Justice

Send all newspaper correspondence to
Justice Speaks, PO Box 1339, Rocky Mount, NC 27802
Phone (252) 977-8162, Fax (252) 446-8163
fruitoflaborwcc@netscape.com

Smithfield Foods workers win!

Tar Heel, NC

Workers at the world's largest packing-house, a hog-processing facility in Tar Heel, NC, won their 15-year struggle to organize this Smithfield plant. They voted 2,041-1,879 to certify the United Food and Commercial Workers in the NLRB election conducted in early December. This was the third election held at the plant since it opened in 1992. The NLRB contested the two others, held in 1994 and 1997, finding that Smithfield carried out illegal intimidation and attacks on workers, and these were finally thrown out. The bargaining unit was over 4,600 workers, of whom more than 4,000 voted in the two-day election. The plant has about 3,300 African-American and about 1,300 Latina/o workers, with a few Native American and white workers. The plant was majority of Latin American origin until last year, when Immigration and Customs Enforcement raids scared away many workers.

In 2006, Smithfield finally lost its last appeal from the 1997 election and asked for a new election. The workers demanded that the company recognize the union. For two years workers and community supporters around the U.S. picketed stores carrying Smithfield products and demanded that the company respect the Smithfield workers' basic rights. The company responded by refusing to negotiate and by trying to intimidate the union and their supporters with a racketeering lawsuit, claiming that workers exercising their basic rights and using some of their power amounted to extortion.

In October, the union and the company agreed to a new election in exchange for Smithfield dropping its lawsuit. The agreement included major concessions that ensured the workers a fair election. Union organizers were allowed access to the plant itself, to talk to workers and distribute literature in the cafeteria and break rooms. This was the first time in the 15-year struggle to organize the plant that organizers were on a more equal footing with the bosses. The agreement also required the company to discontinue its

attacks on the union. Beginning in November, more than a hundred organizers came to Tar Heel, from the UFCW, SEIU, and other unions in the Change to Win coalition.

Throughout the final days of the campaign, workers took inspiration from President-elect Obama's historic victory. As one Smithfield worker stated, "We changed the White House. We can change the Hog-House." The victorious union election also came on the heels of the in

spiring Republic workers' victory in Chicago.

The workers now have a year where the company must negotiate with them, but the company is not required by law to sign a contract. Smithfield and the UFCW do have contracts at 26 other plants outside North Carolina. How good this contract will be depends on the workers' continued unity and militancy, and will require continued support and solidarity from workers and communities around the U.S.



Moncure strikers second community rally, held in Pittsboro, NC in December.

Moncure Plywood IAM Local 369 still on strike!

Moncure Plywood workers voted overwhelmingly to strike in July after bosses gave a take-it-or-leave-it final contract offer that mandated 60-hour work weeks; weakened the seniority clause in a way that lends itself to favoritism, discrimination and racism; increased health insurance premiums by more than 300 percent; and reduced holidays off.

Workers also raised concerns about unfair labor practices and safety violations. There had been seven serious injuries in the previous year and workers were off work recovering from repetitive motion injury surgery. Many are forced to work sick. Moncure bosses used racism to divide the workers in a plant that was 60% African American and 30% Latin@ before the strike, maintaining they would no longer hire African Americans and trying to isolate Latin@ workers from the union.

Help Support NC Drivers Fired for Union Organizing

[This letter to *Justice Speaks* was written by Tom Levy, a volunteer organizer for the IWW's Freight Truckers Organizing Committee and a Raleigh-Wake People's Assemblies participant.]

Dear *Justice Speaks*,

For the past year the Freight Truckers Organizing Committee has been organizing truckers in eastern North Carolina. All our drivers work for subcontractors of the giant paper and lumber company Weyerhaeuser, but are intentionally mislabeled "independent contractors." This inaccurate, exploitative designation means they do not have a legal right to organize or collectively bargain. Also, NC is one of many southern "right-to-work" states and is the least unionized state in the nation. The campaign has been an uphill battle

the whole way. Despite such obstacles, we've had some major successes – two short work stoppages and an organizing/negotiating committee. Recently, the FTOC, our organizers, and rank-and-file drivers were preparing to hold the founding convention for the IWW-affiliated United Truckers Union. In response to our growing power and organization, the bosses that week fired 17 drivers. They deny the firings had anything to do with union activity, but it is clear the union leadership was their target. Since then, drivers have been called into private meetings with management and told they better not join the Union.

We're writing you to request support of two dollars per week for three months to

support our fired drivers. This will allow the fired drivers a small organizing stipend so that they can continue the important organizing work still taking place. We are requesting contributions, especially from IWW GMB, Job Shop, and IUB members, asking you and them to offer what they can to help our drivers pay their bills and support their families.

To make support easy, a PayPal account through www.truckers.iww.org is set up. Checks may be made out to: IWW FTOC, PO Box 274, Waukegan, IL 60079.

Please forward this appeal to anyone sympathetic to the plight of our drivers.

Thank you for your time and generosity.

Tom Levy
FTOC Volunteer

State's Labor Department Chief Selling Out Workers

An investigation by North Carolina newspapers has uncovered special treatment for companies whose executives and managers donated to state Labor Commissioner Cherie Berry's campaign for re-election. For Berry's contributors, half of OSHA fines were reduced more than 70 percent, an amount far less common than for most other companies. The newspapers found that half of Berry's receipts came from executives and managers at companies investigated during her tenure.

In one example, a poultry company whose executives were Berry contributors has been cited by OSHA for more than 60 serious violations and had \$117,000 in fines proposed by investigators reduced to \$26,500. North Carolina ranked 47th in average fines levied by states against employers that violate health and safety laws.

Another state worker protection makes it illegal for employers to punish employees for filing workers' compensation claims

or for reporting unsafe working conditions.

Of the roughly 800 people who file complaints each year, about 1 percent get their jobs back – that's just nine workers, on average – out of 800 complaints filed *each year*. North Carolina has not taken an employer to court on behalf of a worker in seven years under this act. And investigators sometimes dismiss cases without interviewing workers.

WHERE WE STAND

- ✓ **FOR** workers control of the wealth from their labor and for fighting, democratic unions of rank and file workers
- ✗ **AGAINST** the exploitation of all workers
- ✓ **FOR** democratic rights and equality of all races, nationalities and sexes
- ✗ **AGAINST** racism, white supremacy, homophobia and sexism
- ✓ **FOR** social programs for working people, youth, women and physically challenged workers
- ✗ **AGAINST** unemployment, plant closings, and "runaway shops"

Black Workers For Justice

is an organization of

Black Workers organizing to build the African American workers' movement

as a central force in the struggle

for Black Liberation and Worker Power.

- ✓ **FOR** health and safety on the job and in the community
- ✓ **AGAINST** wars and military spending to make the rich richer

- ✓ **FOR** jobs, income, training for the unemployed, affirmative action for Blacks, oppressed nationalities, the elderly, physically challenged and poor
- ✓ **AGAINST** dangerous conditions and "killer shops"
- ✓ **FOR** the political empowerment of all working people, and the freedom and national liberation of Blacks and oppressed nationalities
- ✗ **AGAINST** political powerlessness of all working people and against racist national oppression of Blacks and all oppressed nationalities

Raleigh Supports People of Gaza

Palestinian flags flew amid a sea of red, black, white and green, as people in Raleigh, NC, came together in early January to support the people of Palestine amidst the horrendous bombardment of Gaza by the Israeli armed forces. "With the atrocities occurring to our brothers and sisters in Gaza, we must let our local government hear our voices. With protests going on all over the world, there is no reason why we here in North Carolina should not show our passion and care for our land and people as well," said Feras Abdelquader, a demonstration organizer.

Durham Turns Out for Palestine

In early January, more than 200 people gathered in downtown Durham to express outrage at the Israeli massacre then under way in Gaza. The event was organized by sisters in UBUNTU, a women-of-color, survivor-led organization based in Durham that was formed in response to the Duke Lacrosse rape case. Raleigh FIST, Black Workers for Justice, Al-Awda NC, and many organizations and people throughout the Durham/Raleigh/Chapel Hill area helped to build the rally.

Speakers included Manju Rajendran, Alexis Pauline Gumbs, Dannette Sharpley and Beth Brunch from UBUNTU, Rev. Carl Kenney founder of Compassion Ministries in Durham, Ajamu Dillahunt from Black Workers for Justice, and Feras Abdelquader, a Palestinian youth at NC State University. Chants included "1, we are the people; 2, a little bit louder; 3, we want justice; FOUR, all Gaza!" and "Free, Free Palestine, End the Occupation!"

Workers Rights are Human Rights!
Organize the South!
Free Palestine!

ACTIVISTS & ORGANIZERS CONVENE AT JANUARY FIGHTBACK CONFERENCE

New York City: In mid-January, Black Workers for Justice joined more than 300 working class fighters of several labor unions, community and fightback efforts to rally and unite the many struggles in a FIGHTBACK CONFERENCE. The theme – *Bail out the People – Not the Bankers*. The Fightback Conference was convened to commemorate the 80th Anniversary of Martin Luther King, Jr.'s Birthday.

The many activists and organizers present resolved to encourage and organize many more local fightback/people's assembly forums for oppressed and working people to share their struggles, raise political consciousness, and plan future actions around King Day, May Day, and other occasions. Those present will consider convening a Poor People's March and National People's Assembly in the future.

Speakers said that in many ways, the genocidal bombings of Gaza (that many of us have been demonstrating against) in recent weeks are part of the widening war against workers and oppressed peoples. In 2009, more and more lives are going to be devastated by the biggest global economic crisis since the depression of the 1930s. So far it's only the biggest banks that have been bailed out. This crisis is the challenge of a lifetime to those of us who have made a commitment to fighting for justice and the rights of people. What we do or fail to do will prove decisive in the upcoming battle over whose social interest shall prevail; the needs of the people or the greed of the few who insist that their profits always come first.

The Bail Out the People Movement brought struggles together and helped to plan the fightback in the days ahead. Barack Obama becoming president on Jan. 20 realizes a measure of King's dream. But depression level joblessness, evictions and foreclosures made worse by cutbacks, war, bigotry and racism are a nightmare instead. We are in a contradictory time: Many people feel that the new president will bring progressive change yet Black youth are summarily executed by police in Oakland and around the country; Proposition 8 strips rights away; reproductive justice is newly attacked; and the prospect grows that wars in Afghanistan and the Middle East will forever widen. Dr. King's legacy includes an understanding that no election or president – however historic and inspiring – can substitute for massive struggles against war or for social and economic rights. The conference gave birth to a desperately needed united fightback.

Some of the questions, challenges and actions taken up at the conference included: Gaza Bombings– its meaning for the global struggle for justice; Analysis of Obama's stimulus proposal – why it's not enough; Uniting behind an alternative program putting people before profits; A strategy for mass organization, mobilization and action; Next phase of fighting foreclosures, evictions, layoffs and cutbacks; Dr. King's last dream: the fight for jobs or income now; Need for many more People's Assemblies now; May 1, International Workers Day 2009: a turning point?; 6th Anniversary Iraq War March on Pentagon, March 21; Organizing workers, Solidarity with immigrant workers – Towards a radicalized labor movement.

Panel and workshop participants included Al-AWDA--Palestinian Right To Return Coalition, BAYAN USA, Black Workers For Justice, NYC Council Member Charles Barron, Fight Imperialism Stand Together (FIST), Guyanese Workers Association, Harlem Tenants Council, Health Care NOW, Iraq Veterans Against the War, Labor/Community Coalition to Stop Foreclosures and Evictions, May 1st Coalition for Worker and Immigrant Rights, Million Worker March Movement, Moratorium Now!, Coalition to Stop Foreclosures and Evictions, National Network Against Foreclosures and Evictions, NYC Labor Against The War, North Carolina Public Service Workers Union-UE Local 150, Pakistan-USA Freedom Forum, Striking Stella Doro Workers, Stonewall Warriors, Students for a Democratic Society, Take Back Our Union, United Students Against Sweatshops, and Women's Fightback Network.

Oakland Residents Say “No” to Police Murder

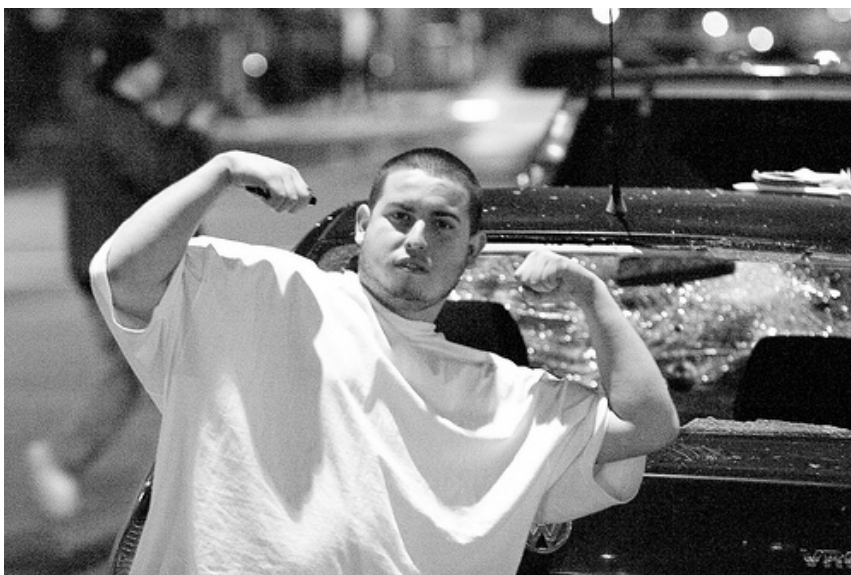
A 22-year-old unarmed African American youth named Oscar Grant was shot dead on New Year's Day on a subway platform in Oakland, Calif., by a Bay Area Rapid Transit police officer. Grant was among a group pulled off the train by police and was lying face down on the platform when he was shot in the back, according to witnesses. The shooting, captured on cell phone cameras and widely viewed on the Internet, inflamed long-running tensions between law enforcement authorities and many African-American residents.

Hundreds of people took to the streets calling for the prosecution of the officer. One rally spiraled into violence that resulted in more than 100 arrests and damage to dozens of businesses. There was widespread damage to automobiles and storefronts but little looting, according to bystanders. Crowds gathered around Oakland Mayor Ron Dellums on the City Hall steps as he pleaded for nonviolence, assuring the crowd that he would ensure justice would prevail. When Dellums left and the crowd moved up the street, police in riot gear surrounded the demonstrators. When the crowd started throwing bottles, some from balconies overhead, the police fired tear gas and people dispersed but kept moving and re-formed. Observers reported the people in the crowd to be very angry, taunting and swearing at the police. Service at many of the BART stations was suspended as the crowd moved around Oakland. Police maintained a heavy presence flying helicopters over the city throughout the night.

The transit officer involved had resigned but was later charged with murder, arrested in Nevada, and returned to California. The state Attorney General assigned a prosecutor to monitor the case and the U.S. Department of Justice sent mediators to help avert additional violent demonstrations.



Oakland protester holds bottle. Many were thrown at the police that night



Man in front of a burnt out car asked the photographer to take his photo

Stop the School to Prison Pipeline!

Remembering their Legacy— Odetta, Eartha, Miriam

By Nathanette Mayo

Anyway you want it baby,
keep on moving it on
If you can't fly, run to the folk –
tell them this is your nation
If you can't run, walk –
tell them it won't be no resignation
If you can't walk, crawl – to the poll
and vote your determination
Anyway you want it baby,
keep on moving it on

Odetta's strong alto voice singing those lyrics has been ringing, swirling, dancing and moving in my head. When I go to sleep at night, they lull me to sleep. When I wake in the morning, those same words challenge me to do more, to "move it on" today.

In the last two months of 2008 we mourned the deaths of three renowned, outspoken, multi-talented and strong African and African-American performers and cultural activists – Miriam Makeba, Odetta and Eartha Kitt. These women made their marks as artists and activists. Each understood how they could use their talent to move progressive struggles forward.



Odetta

Odetta Holmes, who died on December 2, 2008 at 77 years of age, was often called the "Voice of the Civil Rights Move-

ment." She was a multi-talented folk, writer; actress; guitarist; civil and human blues, jazz and spiritual singer; songrights activist. Born in Birmingham, Alabama and raised in Los Angeles, California, Odetta studied music at night and was a domestic worker during the day. While on tour with the musical "Finian's Rainbow" in 1949 she began concentrating on folk-singing and became known by performing around the U.S.

In 1961, Martin Luther King, Jr. anointed her "The Queen of American folk music". She performed the song "O Freedom" at the 1963 civil rights movement's March on Washington. Odetta often spoke of the importance of culture in the civil rights and anti-war movements when interviewed. Whenever people needed attention or funds raised, they called on her. "Put anything to music and it sinks in," she said.



Eartha Kitt

Eartha Kitt, who died on December 25, 2008 at age 81, was an actress, dancer, singer and writer. She was born Eartha Mae Keith in North, SC in 1927 to a mother who was a black Cherokee sharecropper and a white man. She was given to a local black family and was abused and made to work in the cotton fields as a young child. At eight she was sent to Harlem to live with her aunt. She was given dance and music lessons but also suffered abuse. She would be beaten, run away and return time and time again. When a friend dared her to audition for the Kathe-

rine Dunham Dance Company, she did so and passed the audition. Her toughness, willfulness, and outspoken manner benefited her career.

She later became an advocate, through the United Nations Children's Fund, on behalf of homeless children. In 1968 at a White House luncheon, she was asked by First Lady Lady Bird Johnson about the Vietnam War and replied: "You send the best of this country off to be shot and maimed. No wonder kids rebel and take pot." The remark ended Eartha's prospects for work in the US.

She worked in Europe for almost a decade until President Jimmy Carter invited her back to the White House in 1978. Although internationally known, Eartha never looked at life's realities through rose colored glasses. In an Ebony magazine interview she stated: "I'm a dirt person. I trust the dirt. I don't trust diamonds and gold."

Today's Worker Artists

The Fruit of Labor Singing Ensemble and other cultural activists must follow in the footsteps of these strong sisters and those of Miriam Makeba, who also died recently and whom we wrote about in the last *Justice Speaks*. Their lessons and insight help us, as worker-artists, to create a vision for others – a vision that another world is truly possible. In short - any way we want to, baby, we've got to keep on moving it on!



Miriam Makeba

JS COMMUNITY CALENDAR

February 14th, Saturday 8am - 3rd Historic Thousands on Jones Street (HKONJ) march, rally and cultural celebration in Raleigh, NC. Contact NAACP office in your county for more info.

February 22nd, Sunday 3pm - African-American History Month celebration at FOLWCC. Film, food, art, music & cultural presentations. Donations accepted. Call 919-876-7187 for additional info.

March 6th, Friday - Friday 5-7pm Wine and Cheese Social at the FOLWCC then from 7-10 all musicians, poets, singers are invited to step up to the mic at our 1st Friday's Justice Jams. This month's theme: Women Make the World Go Around! \$5 donation requested for the jams. Everyone is invited. Call Nathanette at 919-876-7187 for more info or e-mail Fruitoflaborwcc@netscape.com.

March 14th, Saturday noon-1pm - Community Legal Clinic at Wilson Chapel Baptist Church. Attorney Darryl G. Smith will discuss various legal rights and obligations and public policies. Come with questions about the legal system, how to select a lawyer, or dealing with consumer, criminal justice, employment, family, housing, personal injury, or other issues. Every second Saturday of the month at Wilson Chapel Baptist Church.

March 22nd, Sunday 3pm - FOLWCC celebrates International Working Women's Month. Film, discussion, food, trivia, music, art & fun. Donations accepted. Call Nathanette at 919-876-7187 for more info or e-mail Fruitoflaborwcc@netscape.com

April 3rd, Friday 5-7pm - Wine and Cheese Social at the FOLWCC then from 7-10 all musicians, poets, singers are invited to step up to the mic at our 1st Friday's Justice Jams. This month's theme: Environmental Justice! \$5 donation requested for the jams. Everyone is invited. Call Nathanette at 919-876-7187 for more info or e-mail Fruitoflaborwcc@netscape.com.

April 4th, Saturday 5pm - The Black Workers for Justice's 26th Annual Martin Luther King Support for Labor Banquet. Keynote Speaker: Jaribu Hill, Executive Director, Mississippi Workers Center for Human Rights. Fruit of Labor Singing Ensemble and friends perform. Awards, Cultural Presentations, Solidarity Statements. **Location:** North Carolina Association of Educators (NCAE) Building 700 S. Salisbury Street Raleigh, NC; \$30 Adults, \$15 youth under 10. **Contact:** Rukiya Dillahunt at rukiya@mindspring.com for more info.

April 11th, Saturday noon-1pm - Community Legal Clinic at Wilson Chapel Baptist Church. Attorney Darryl G. Smith will discuss various legal rights and obligations and public policies. Come with questions about the legal system, how to select a lawyer, or dealing with consumer, criminal justice, employment, family, housing, personal injury, or other issues. Every second Saturday of the month at Wilson Chapel Baptist Church.

April 19th, Sunday 3pm - Celebrate Earth Day at the FOLWCC. Film, food & fun! Call Nathanette at 919-876-7187 for more info or e-mail Fruitoflaborwcc@netscape.com

May 1st, Friday 5-7pm - Celebrate International Workers Day at the FOLWCC! Wine and Cheese Social at the FOLWCC then from 7-10 all musicians, poets, singers and filmmakers are invited to step up to the mic or present on the big screen at our 1st Friday's Justice Jams. This month's themes: Worker's Power! & Amandla - all Power to the People! \$5 donation requested for the jams. Everyone is invited. Call Nathanette at 919-876-7187 for more info or e-mail Fruitoflaborwcc@netscape.com.

June 5th, Friday 5-7pm - FOLWCC! Wine and Cheese Social at the FOLWCC then from 7-10 all musicians, poets, singers and filmmakers are invited to step up to the mic or present on the big screen at our 1st Friday's Justice Jams. This month's theme: Juneteenth - Are We Free?! \$5 donation requested for the jams. Everyone is invited. Call Nathanette at 919-876-7187 for more info or e-mail Fruitoflaborwcc@netscape.com.

June 14th, Sunday 3-6pm - 3rd Annual Spoons of Justice Cook-off & "Gettin' Ready for Juneteenth" Celebration. Challengers are lining up to take on last year's winner - Angaza Lauginghouse and his Timbuktu Chicken! Can you take the heat in the kitchen? If not, bring your friends, neighbors, co-workers to be the official judges. That's right - you taste the "chefs" dishes and your votes determine the 3rd, 2nd, and 1st place Spoons of Justice champions! Lots of fun, music, Juneteenth trivia, and prizes. \$5 donation requested. Call Nathanette at 919-876-7187 for more info or e-mail Fruitoflaborwcc@netscape.com for an application to enter the cook-off.

Join us Valentine's Day
**IT'S TIME FOR 2009
 HK ON J³**
 A MOVEMENT, NOT A MOMENT!

HISTORIC THOUSANDS ON JONES ST.
 FOUNDED 2007

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 14
 AT 9:30AM**
 Thousands of us will meet at Chavis Park in Raleigh & march back to Jones Street at 10:30 am demanding that state leaders complete action on ALL 14 points of its People's Agenda.

IF YOU LOVE JUSTICE, COME TO HKONJ.
"We must show North Carolina how to love."
 Rev. Dr. William J. Barber II

ONE HUNDRED YEARS OF FIGHTING FOR FREEDOM OF JUSTICE
 This year's HKONJ will be the same week as the 100th Anniversary of the NAACP. Come celebrate 100 years and a new beginning.

DON'T BALANCE THE STATE'S BUDGET ON THE BACKS OF THE POOR
 We must fight to ensure that, in the midst of anticipated budget shortfalls, the most needy and vulnerable in our state are not further marginalized

WE MUST MAKE CHANGE A REALITY
 We have elected a president committed to change but this does not mean we can rest. More than ever, this grassroots, anti-racist, anti-poverty, anti-war coalition must stay engaged and must keep the political system from going back to business as usual.

1. Health Care for All
 2. Reaffirm the 14th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution: The amendment which in 1868 declared that all persons born or naturalized in the United States, be they black or white, are citizens and the modification of race, birth, status, income, sex, etc.
 3. Stop the Kochs and Public Financing of Elections
 4. End Every Day's
 5. Repeal and Restore 289 years of State Discrimination in Housing and Lending
 6. Eliminate Military Spending and Stop Conscription Abroad
 7. Abolish Single Issue Death Penalty and Handcuffs
 8. Abolish Life, Death and Prison
 9. For Young People to Work to Save the Environment and Fight the Unemployment Crisis
 10. Campaign for Jobless No-Tax
 11. Protect the Rights of Immigrants from Latin America and the Caribbean
 12. End the War on Terror
 13. Oppose, Strengthen and Revitalize Funding for Our Civil Rights, Environment, Science and Health
 14. Closing the Gap

HK ON J
 A MOVEMENT NOT A MOMENT