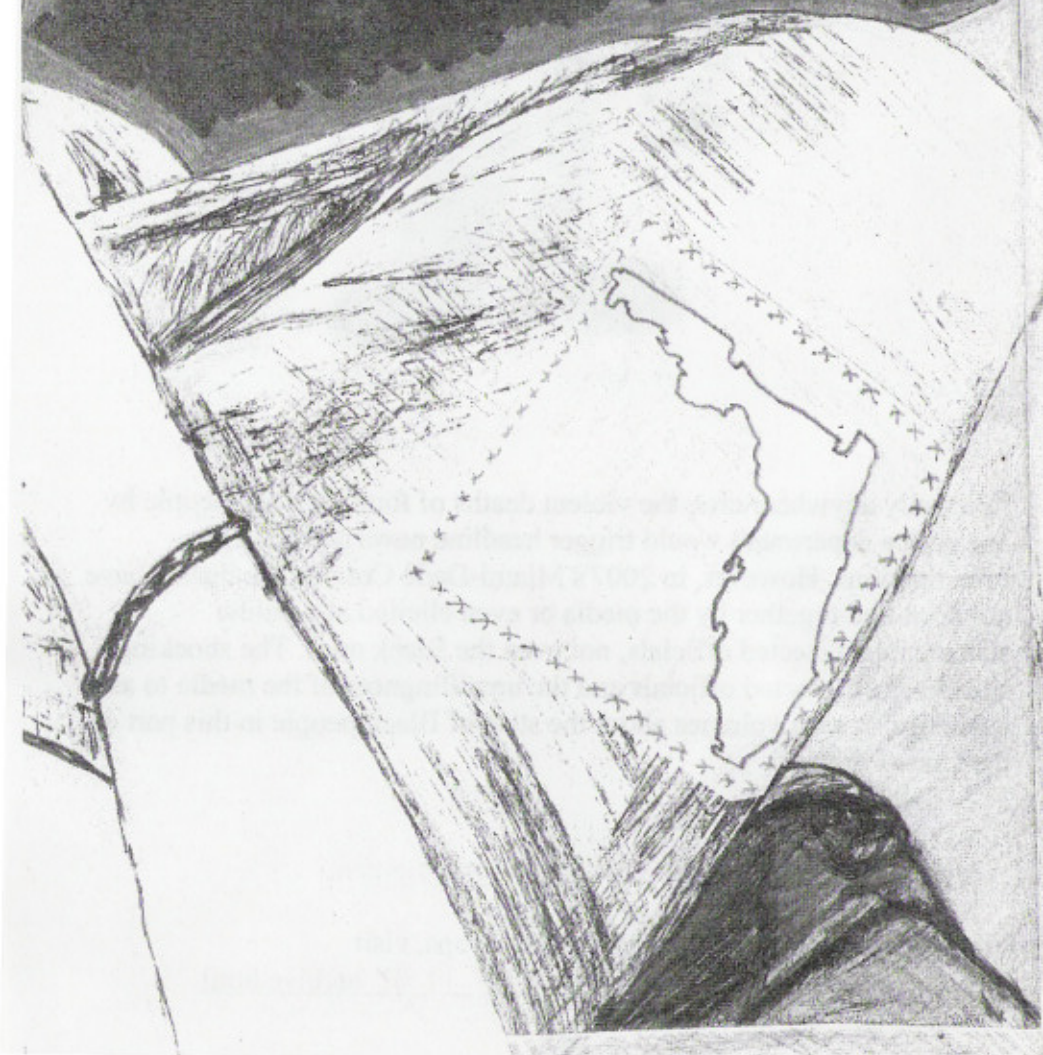


Brushfire!

Florida Radical/Anarchist Networking and News zine
April 2008



FREE!





Brushfire!

A Florida Anarchist Newsletter

We are members of Orlando Food Not Bombs and we want to tell you about an exciting new project that has originated with our collective. We have decided to start a monthly newsletter for the Florida anarchist movement. It will be called BRUSHFIRE!, and we would like your community to be part of it. Our hope is that this newsletter will promote information sharing between anarchists across the state of Florida, helping our movement grow and create the

connections that will make it possible for us to work collectively on other regional and statewide projects. Hopefully, BRUSHFIRE! will fill the void left by the demise of the newsletter published by FRAN (the Florida Radical Activist Network) in the late '90s. It would be the responsibility not of one city, but of comrades around the state, with production of each issue shifting to a different city. This is a project that would require cooperation between all the anti-authoritarian communities in Florida, which would help us get to know each other better and gain experience working with other groups.

Here is how it would work:

We here in Orlando hope to put out the first issue on November 1. After that, we would shift responsibility for publishing the next issue to another community in the state. The idea is to have each issue published by a different community in Florida. We are trying to get a publishing schedule set up for the next year or so. Would you all like to sign up for a month or two?

Every month communities and individuals from around the state would submit material to be published in BRUSHFIRE! Submissions will be sent to the e-mail address brushfiresubmissions@gmail.com.

Killer Cops



“Virtually anywhere else, the violent deaths of four unarmed people by one police department would trigger headline news and federal investigations. However, in 2007's Miami-Dade County, the deaths have not been tied together by the media or even elicited any public statements by elected officials, not even the Black ones. The shocking silence of the elected officials and the unwillingness of the media to ask questions, speaks volumes about the state of Black people in this part of the United States.”

Max Rameau

CopWatch

A project of the Center for Pan-African Development

For More information on Miami's Killer cops, visit:

http://takebacktheland.blogspot.com/2007_11_01_archive.html

I Don't Want Nor Do I Need Masters Yet I Keep Them

How long will you sit there and hope change will come and in the same breath let hope escape through empty actions fueled by ominous words and syllabic banter? The intellectuals prop up brutal dictatorships and talk and talk and talk because they know the words but don't have the heart. The anarchists' practice their victory-dance because they have the heart but can't wait till it's over and all the "Marxists" have to show for anything is the making of a martyr who's likeness is a capitalist corporation.

Who among us never chanted "cops and donuts" or suggested to their racist neighbor where they can put that finger? REACTION. We let our guard down one by one. From decorating trees with furniture to waking up with some pigs' hand in our pockets because the dope was too good and the whiskey tasted like peanuts and dog-sweat. Everything brakes and someone's got to get up to get the glue. I am born into the hands of the "wiser" to be let loose into the world of the intangible. I was raised to behave like this. I have had to unlearn so many things and accept the ones that still haunt me. It is a daily struggle to keep my wrists from sharper objects than that. Because you know we sold out the moment we were born. Because my mother had a choice but I sure as fuck didn't. They don't make that kind of parachute.

And all your flags look like blankets to me

-Alice Gurott

Control of this e-mail will be transferred to the publishing community each month and the password changed. We have also set up this website for BRUSHFIRE! so that people have a main site to go to for information about the newsletter. This website will have a link to a message board we have set up as well. This message board will be used for general discussion and organization among the people organizing the newsletter, and also as a forum to field general questions. For example, if Tallahassee signed up to put out the January issue, but they aren't going to be able to do it, they would post to the message board to work out the problem. Also, if someone wants to ask a question, it also can be posted to the message board.

For distribution we are hoping to find a person in each community to whom the publishing community can send a master copy through the mail. This person would then be responsible for scamming or "acquiring" copies and distributing them to the other members of the community.

The submission deadline for material to be published would be the 15th of the previous month. This means that items submitted on Dec. 8th would be published in the January issue of BRUSHFIRE!, which would have a deadline of being in the mail by the 1st of January. What to publish and what to turn down would be up to the discretion of the publishing community for that month. We are thinking that things to be submitted could include announcements for events (like the South Florida Radical Activist Conference), community reports (very awesome), poetry, stories, interesting news articles, action reports, etc., etc...

The first of each month the publishing community would transfer responsibility to the next community that is publishing and pass on the contacts for the distributors in each community, the password to the email address and whatever else needs to be transferred to allow the next community to put out the next issue.

Therefore, if you can, would you all like to sign up for one of the empty spots on the following schedule? (If you could at least sign up for one for the upcoming months that would be the best) Also please provide us with a phone number and email for your community. We do plan to publish the e-mail of the contact for each community in each issue and also on the main Brushfire! website.

Which community is going to publish which month:

We are currently looking for host cities, contact us to sign up

November '07: Orlando	December '07: Orlando	January '08: Orlando
February '08: St. Augustine	March '08: Broward/Impact Collective	April '08: Miami
May '08: Gainesville	June '08: West Palm Beach Food Not Bombs	July '08: ?
August '08: Jacksonville	September '08: ?	October '08: ?

Also, if you are interested in being a part of this project, could you please give us the name, e-mail and physical address of someone in your community who will be responsible for receiving the master copy in the mail and distributing copies. This information will of course be kept confidential and only used by those sending the master copies.

Thanks so much! Any questions, comments, or suggestions on our ideas please e-mail us at OrlandoFNB@orlandofoodnotbombs.org

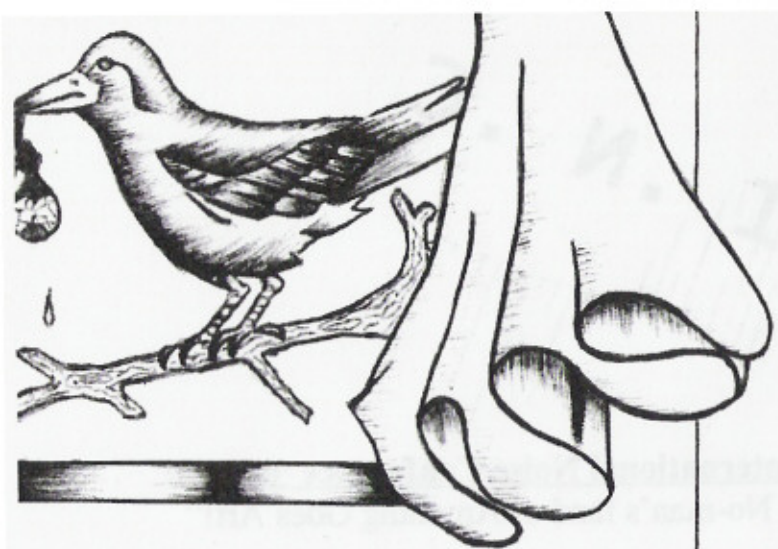


Image donated by Cristy Road from the book: Indestructible. visit: www.croad.org

How I lost my eyesight

Herein lies a trail of fishsticks
from the ocean to the boardwalk
crispy, oven baked fishsticks
transverse the street and enter my highrise
criss cross the lobby and
crawl up the outside walls to my balcony
a mosaic of flour enriched slices of gray fillets
a path up to my balcony
where my window is open and
these morsels of factory farmed
fish portions trail to the
place on my pillow where I rest
Seagulls, pelicans and even pigeons
have swarmed in on the feast
feeding frenzy each competing
for the next piece
But my eyesight wasn't supposed to be
part of the bargain
as the birds peck, peck away at my eyes

- Loreana



HOW I LOST MY EYESIGHT



art by : Frank

Table of Contents

C.I.W's Current Plan of Action against Burger King	2
West Palm Beach Food Not Bombs Update	3-4
Defend a Choice for Women	5-8
Small poems by Rob	9
Political Prisoner- Jeff Luers Update	10-11
The Black Mangrove Collective	12
The Firefly	13-15
Comic	16
Southern Girls Convention	17
Cool Stuff to do in Miami	18
International Noise Conference	19
How I Lost My Eyesight -Poem	20-21
I Don't nor Do I Need Masters yet I Keep Them	22
Killer Cops	23

The C.I.W.'s Current Plan of Action against Burger King



What do we want? Justice! When do we want it? Now!!

Or we'll keep protesting 'till we get it. Which seems to be the case.

Even after the unforgettable 9-Mile March to the Burger King Headquarters back in November, Burger King still won't budge, so we continue the fight.

Last year's **2007 March on Burger King** campaign gained plenty of attention and awareness from the media and the public as well.

The C.I.W. has a new tactic this time, the **2008 Petition Campaign**.

The C.I.W. has created a national petition to demand "Burger King and other food industry leaders work with the CIW to improve the wages and working conditions of the workers who pick their tomatoes, and join with the CIW in an industry-wide effort to eliminate modern-day slavery and human rights abuses from Florida's fields."

If you would like to sign the petition via the web or if you want to start the petition in your community visit this link: www.ciw-online.org/2008_Petitions

A little bit of history.

This campaign came with perfecting timing, marking the 200th anniversary of the US ban against the importation of slaves.

In 1787, more than 10,000 petitions were obtained by the people in Manchester, England. The petition demanded from the British government to outlaw the Transatlantic Slave Trade. In 1807, the British Slave Trade was abolished. This influential event represented the beginning of the human rights movement.

Today we are following the steps of the British and using their organizing strategies to help us stop modern-day slavery here in our very own fields.

This is all happening only less than 2 hours away from where I live, here in Miami!

Let's get this petition signed from everybody we know!

Ask your parents, your roommates, your teachers, your friends,

Let's make a difference!

Remember,
Fair Food Tastes Better.
-Stephanie J. (USAS)

I . N . C

International Noise Conference '08

"The No-man's land of Anything Goes Art!"

The legendary Churchill's Pub was in charge for holding the 2008 I.N.C. It was a three day long event which hosted bands from all over United States that specialize in "experimental musical forms." Never come into a noise conference with expectations. Come with an open mind and prepared to be surprised.

I was able to attend the Conference, and boy was that something. There was a big white bus parked in front of Churchill's for the entire weekend. There was people dancing inside the bus, hanging on top of the roof, or just people sprawled out on the floor in their sleeping bags.

There were musicians from all over The United States who each had their own way of expressing themselves through music.

And of course we had our local bunch of noise musicians there as well, from Hahahelp, to Dino Felipe, to TV.

Our own local noise musicians play every first Tuesday of the month, **The Night of Weirds**. Very appropriate name! They will be performing their last Night of Weirds April 1st at Churchill's, so I suggest you attend! They claim it is their very last show! Although it could all very well be an April Fools Joke.

Cool Stuff to Do in Miami!

If you like eating...

The Honey Tree: 5138 Biscayne Blvd

Garden Of Eatin': 136 NW 62nd St

Beehive: 5750 Bird Rd

Jugos Naturales - 100% Natural Juices: 115B SW 107th Ave

Coconut Grove Farmer's Market: 3300 Grand Ave, Miami, Florida, Saturday 10am-dark

But hate paying for it...

Miami Food not Bombs: Contact foodnotbombsmiami@gmail.com

"The Docks" - Stop by between NW 12-17th Ave. and 20th-24th St. early in the morning to find lots of produce just ripe for the diggin'.

Get in touch with awesome community groups and DIY spaces...

Miami Worker's Center: 6127 NW 7th Ave,

www.miamiworkerscenter.org/

Power U Center for Social Change: 1633 NW 3rd Ave, www.poweru.org/

The Firefly Library: For hours and event information visit thefirefly.info.
219 NE 20th St.

Black Mangrove Collective: Check for events at

www.myspace.com/blackmangrove

Pridelines Youth Services: 180 NE 19th St, www.pridelines.org

Miami Art Co-Op: 3404 north miami avenue, www.co-opmiami.com/

We hope you don't get sick, but if you do...

Good News Care Center: 101 S Redland Rd, Florida City

Hep-C Alert: 660 NE 125th St.

Health Clinic @ Toussaint L'Ouverture School 120 NE 59th Street

Harrington Community Health Center @ Center for Haitian Studies

And once you feel better, here are some cool parks to hang out...

Oleta State Park: 3400 N.E. 163rd St

Bicentennial Park: 1075 Biscayne Blvd, Miami, FL

Omni Park: Just off the Omni stop on the metromover

And suddenly, BIKES...

Bell's Bicycles & Repair: 1951 NE 163rd St

Broken Spoke: 10451 Nw 7th Ave

-Will, shoot me an email at wmayo002@fiu.edu.

West Palm Beach Food Not Bombs

Update

Greetings all! I am happy to say that our Food Not Bombs is going splendidly. We have come a long, long way from our small beginnings a year ago this month. We have had a lot of interesting things happen and a few adventures and misadventures along the way. But with a bit of tenacity, a lot can be accomplished even with a little. To date, we have an all time high in numbers of people coming out to support and help share food with the hungry.



Perhaps I might in part have that to thank our delightful mayor for. Ever since the city made it illegal and we were forced into the media spotlight, we have had overwhelmingly positive feedback from throughout the community with hardly any negative.

The local governments of this city and of Palm Beach County are extremely insensitive and unjust in their dealings with the poverty stricken as well as workers rights and environmental issues. But a lot of attention has been given in local and even some national media to the underhanded and unfair decisions being made.

Our Food Not Bombs chapter is currently in a lawsuit against the city over the ordinance banning food distribution in downtown parks. Along with us in the lawsuit against the city is a group called Art and Compassion which shares food with the homeless in the same park as we do on Wednesday nights. We have an awesome civil rights attorney taking our case pro bono, Rabbi Barry Silver. Barry has a great record of standing up for environmental issues, workers rights, animal rights, gay rights, and poverty issues. He is also defending Westgate Tabernacle Church in a battle with the county over it allowing homeless to sleep in its chapel. This sad little church is the closest thing to a homeless shelter the rich and glamorous Palm Beach County has, and it has been trying for years to shut it down. Since our inception we have always brought any leftover food from our sharing to the homeless here. On December 23rd we marched with them from their church to the county commission and city hall in downtown in protest of their treatment of the poverty stricken in their community and to announce to the media the filing of our lawsuit against the city. As anarchists we stand in solidarity with these religious groups in their defense of the defenseless and in the fight for the rights of the poor. More people working together for the betterment of the community is

Other news: We have tabled at a couple of local music festivals: Opengrass and the Fifth of State Benefit show. We spread our cause and views as well as some good anarchist literature to a lot of people. Because of these we have received donations and further help from people we've met there and making good community contacts. Along with the Broward, Miami, and Orlando chapters, we helped provide the food for the Earth First Rendezvous which was an amazing event. It was a great opportunity to meet people from all over helping to fight the good fight for the environment and all other worthwhile causes. Back in November, we marched with the CIW farm workers against the Burger King headquarters.

I would personally like to give a huge thanks to everyone that has helped make all of this possible, I certainly could not have done any of it alone. Things are getting better and there are more plans in the works. People from all over are starting to get involved and connected and helping each other with their causes. It really gives me a great deal of hope for things to come. Indeed there is a lot of horrible things going on in this world, but people are starting to come to the realization that together we can help each other solve our problems. If we continue to strive for a brighter tomorrow, then there is no telling how much can be accomplished in our lifetime. We need to get people to see the world as a place where people should work together instead of against each other. That is the only way we are ever going to get to a point where everyone has a bed to sleep in and food to eat, clean drinking water and proper health care - a world where all people are safe and free. I wish for all of you peace and love, but most of all *justice*.

In solidarity,

Jordan a.k.a. Rhadaghast

foodnotbombswpb@yahoo.com
www.myspace.com/fnbpalmbeach



Gainesville, FL July 25-27th

The Southern Girls Convention is an annual grassroots meeting of social justice activists devoted to empowering women and girls in the South, and discussing Southern culture, views and stereotypes of the South, and the struggle for social justice. Each year's convention is hosted by a different Southern Community and facilitated by local organizers who manage fundraising, facilities, entertainment, the website, and more. The participants themselves facilitate workshops and discussion, and share ideas, learn new skills, and have fun as a community.

Email sgc_org@yahoo.com or cladd@riseup.net
for more information!
southerngirlsconvention.org
myspace.com/southerngirlsconvention

You mean to say, punk is about responsibility
and holding people accountable for their actions?



No what I'm saying is that if I wanted to hang out
with a bunch of frat kids I would have gone to college.

DEFEND



A CHOICE

FOR

WOMEN!

Protect Women's Choices! Join MCAP to

defend reproductive rights!

Ultra-conservative religious fanatics
have publicly vowed to close down

A Choice for Women clinic in Kendall.

Every Saturday morning they bring insulting, misleading
signs to harass and intimidate women
who come to the clinic.

MCAP stands up to the fanatics!

Miami Clinic Access Project's pro-choice activists have defended access to abortion
clinics in Miami-Dade County since 1994

BECOME A CLINIC
DEFENDER!!!

WHEN: Every Saturday morning !!!!!

TIME: Shift 1 - 6:00 am Shift 2 - 9:00 am

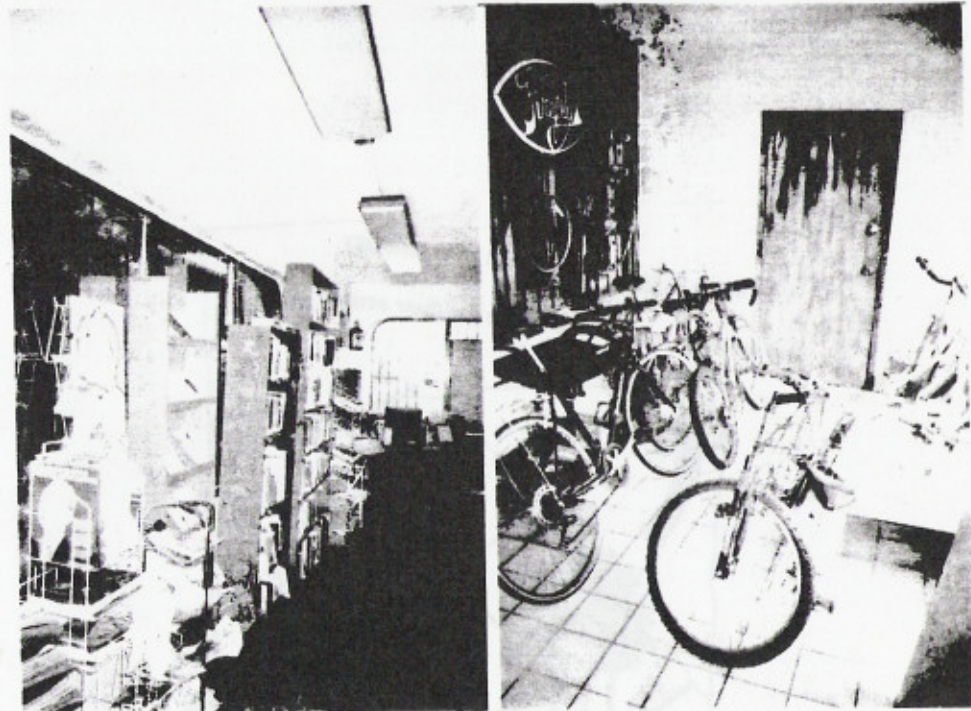
WHERE: A Choice for Women clinic 6660 SW 117th Avenue

CONTACT: Julia 305-215-5255 or juliamiami2@gmail.com

☺ Hope 2 see you there!!!

Directions: US-1 or 826/Palmetto to Sunset, west from US-1 or east from
826/Palmetto on Sunset to 117th Ave, north on 117th to clinic on west side of 117th
right before Tire Kingdom, 1 story brown building with wall around it. No name on
the building, just the address.

Park: in the BJ's Warehouse lot on the N E corner of 117th Ave and Sunset. Walk
North up 117th to clinic on West side of 117th Ave



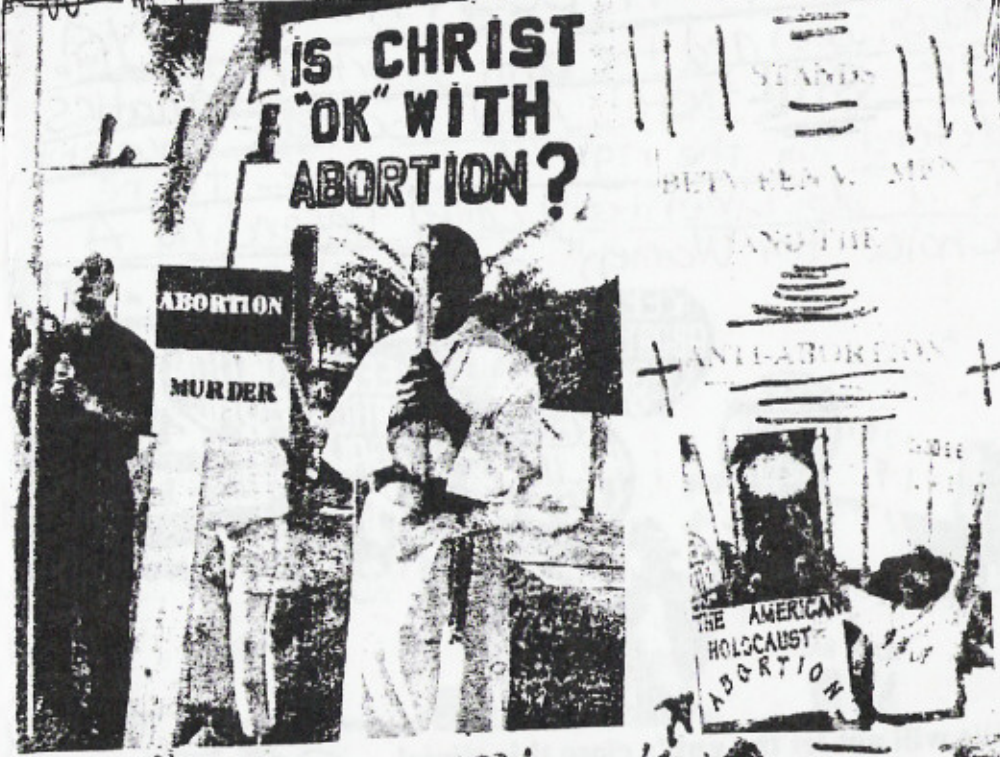
It was, at some point before the Fuck Warped Tour! Fest (which featured all kinds of Florida bands playing all day and some drool worthy barbecue) that we received our first threat concerning noise from a disgruntled neighbor. We have always been respectful with our neighbors, always discussed any upcoming event, invited them to it, and never went on later than the noise ordinance allows. A healthy dialogue with your neighbors, when running a place like this, is necessary for everyone to be able to get along with each other in your area. This person, who was treated respectfully and responded with hostility, was not into that sort of thing and decided to get the local law enforcement involved. Now anyone that has dealt with Florida cops knows that they are a special breed, perhaps a type of legal engineer that can invent laws on the spot to allow them to have their way right then and there. So sure enough, we are currently not having anymore plugged in shows at the house for the time being, but there is a remedy currently being hatched out to get us back on track. Though the ability to do these kinds of events is at a standstill, we are still doing all kinds of other events much like the ones mentioned above.

A project that has really gained some serious momentum is the Bike Collective which has been catering to the recent upswing in bike riding in Miami. People have been donating so many bikes and parts to the point where we built a nice little shack out of wooden pallets in the backyard to keep it all. This was constructed with the help of volunteers that came by and swung many a hammer. The collective has been helping people fix and build bikes now for a few months and has only gotten more organized.

As of the last three months, we've been having a monthly film night in the backyard. These usually entail a serious documentary followed by a METAL movie and occasionally a foosball tournament. Educational? Yes. Fun? Fuck yeah! There has also been some great acoustic shows including the "It's Like, Acoustic Man...Fest" that may have been our biggest show yet. Also, we did a sneaky little generator show out in a certain park near a certain downtown of a certain city with a few certain bands, which certainly kicked ass and received no porcine attention. Also, a recent plugged in show that we put on behind an apartment complex in little Havana went off smooth as silk.

So that's some of the bits and pieces without all of the dirty laundry. Keep in mind that we are always open to any ideas for events or benefits so please drop us a line at us@thefirefly.info and let's hear those ideas. We also need to get more people volunteering or just coming by to check books out at the Lending Library. We are located at 219 Ne 20th street in Miami 33137 and the Library hours are Tuesdays and Thursdays 4-7 and Saturdays 2-6. If you have any interest in working with the Bike Collective please write to the email address above.

Please join us - The anti's are still there
 AREN'T GOING AWAY!
 2007 2007 *2007* 2007 2007
 Last Saturday, May 19th, was our 52nd week defending
 A Choice for Women clinic in Kendall - one solid year of
standing between the anti-abortion fanatics and the
women who come to the clinic for an abortion as well as
all kinds of reproductive health care. During that year,
 more than 250 women and men have come to the clinic
 on a Saturday morning to stand up to the bullies and
 extremists as part of Miami Clinic Access Project
 (MCAP). We have been called names and vilified for
standing up for the right to choose. We've been pushed,
 shoved and hit by the extremists, including their priests.
 We've stood sweating in the blazing sun, dripping in the
 rain, and arrived long before daybreak to get the most
 strategic spot to protect women. We have always been
outnumbered, sometimes by crowds more than 6 times
our size. (2007) (2007)



↑ their big wooden CRUCIFIX that SAYS LIFE

**KEEP
ABORTION
LEGAL**

by Julia Dawson

Photos by Danny & Digital Grace

THE CATHOLIC PRIEST



THE WOMAN!

IT HAS NOW BEEN ALMOST 2 yrs!
(March, 2008) and the anti-abortion
are still there! And so are we still
defending the right to choose! there
is a documentary called "Defending A
Choice For Women" on Snakegirl.net



We will not let the anti's close this clinic!

Julia Dawson
Miami Clinic Access Project
305-215-5255

NO WAY!

EQUADITY



The Firefly is a house/venue/practice space/book & 'zine lending library/art space that resides in the belly of the beast that is the outskirts of Downtown Miami. The Following is a little history and information on our existence so far, as told from my humble perspective.

The Firefly got its wings in November of 2006, but they didn't really start flapping until the early quarter of 2007 when we kicked things off with a poorly planned art show that gave us the rough start we needed to avoid future "oops!"s. From then on our calendar began just exploding with all kinds of events that went off without any major hitches. There was a hummus making contest, some insane punk shows and eventually the big Lending Library opening on May 4th, featuring Lars Din performing as well as FUQT (Florida United Queers and Trannies) who did some sweet choreographed dancing .

As soon as the library became operational , thanks to the hard work of many volunteers and literature that was donated from various info shops, we began seeing small waves of visitors and folks from different communities coming by and checking stuff out and sometimes becoming volunteers themselves. Though we are hoping we do see some more activity during library hours these days and we are always looking for volunteers. So if you're in town and have the itch to read, please come by, the selection of books and zines at this point is daunting to say the least.

Throughout the rest of 2007 we began having more and more events such as craft fairs and bazaars (which for some reason attract rain), A film night and discussion by the Miami Clinic Access Project, Steak Tip Weasel Sundays (everyone brings an instrument and improvises), dinner parties, acoustic shows, hosted meetings for groups (Miami Anarchist and Radical Studies [M.A.R.S.] and the new Writers Collective ,to name a couple) and a few punk shows a month where everyone would just crawl out from every dusty corner of Miami and come and go fucking nuts. We've had the pleasure of having many a touring band come through and have met some real genuine people who have left us some really clever fare-thee-well letters on our kitchen wall. We do apologize if the mosquitoes prefer the taste of northerner blood.

The Black Mangrove Collective

The Black Mangrove Collective is a new organization dedicated to the task of nurturing a culture of activism, creativity and cooperation in Miami, Florida. We look to open up spaces, temporary or permanent, from which new institutions and new infrastructure can be built based on the principles of self-management, solidarity, and participatory democracy. By working closely with community members, students, activists, and

allied organizations, we help build from below the society in which we wish to live. We aim to prove that indeed, Another World is Possible.

Coffeehouse Project:

Our primary project is the establishment of Miami's first worker's collective coffeehouse and bookstore. Managed by its workers, The Black Mangrove Coffeehouse will serve as a political, creative and cultural resource center for activists, musicians, artists, and those who just enjoy a good cup of joe. Besides offering quality fairly traded coffees, teas and foods, space will be provided for activities ranging from meetings and book clubs to workshops and knitting circles. The Black Mangrove Bookstore will specialize in titles not commonly found at the local chain store, including everything from radical theory to underground music to organic gardening.

Book Distribution:

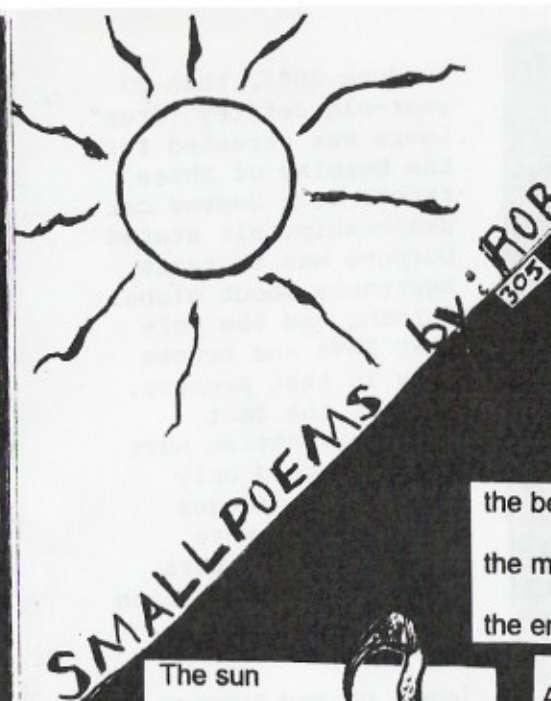
While our hope is to eventually find a permanent home for our books and pamphlets, we look for any opportunity to table at local conferences, concerts, or events. Beyond books we plan to also extend our merchandise to include buttons, patches, art, and fairly traded crafts from cooperatives within the Zapatista indigenous movement in Chiapas, Mexico.

Event Programming:

With our growing network of local, national and global friends and allies, we have a valuable opportunity to bring an array of perspectives to the South Florida region. The Black Mangrove will host lectures, performances, art shows and workshops that will be sure to entertain educate and inspire.

Grassroots Resource Center:

The Black Mangrove will work to develop a publicly accessible activism library and equipment rental program. Specifically designed for progressive organizations and individuals to utilize, the Grassroots Resource Center will seek to cultivate a cooperative system of resource, knowledge and skill sharing. We hope to make available valuable tools such as PA speakers, video projectors, podiums, Lexus Nexus services, and other items that can (and should) be shared for the benefit of all.



Light busting through
cracks in the curtain.
Hello. Good morning. How are you

A naked back
arching up
toward the midday sun

the beginning of spring
the melted ice will flood the river
the end of winter

The sun
bouncing off
the rigid white feathers
of a lone ibis
plunging its sloped beaked
into its rippling reflection,
and sipping away.



A glimmering mass
of tarpon gathers
at the base of a blue mangrove,
dazzled by the drying fluorescent pluma
of a roseate spoonbill.



The long, penetrating shadows.
The song of the crickets.
The gentle waves drawing the crabs onto the shore.

For more information contact us at
info@theblackmangrove.com
Coming Soon!
www.theblackmangrove.com

Free Jeff Luers!



Free the Land!

www.freefreenow.org

Jeffrey "Free" Luers Sentence
Reduced to 10 Years

This morning at 9:00 a.m. in Lane County Circuit Court the re-sentencing hearing for Jeffrey Luers took place in front of Judge Billings. This followed an Oregon court of appeals ruling in February 2007 that Luers original sentence of 22 years 8 months by Judge Lyle Velure was illegal, and the appeals court remanded the case back to Lane County Circuit Court for re-sentencing. Following the appeals court decision, negotiations have resulted in the decision today to reduce Luers sentence to 10 years, bringing his release date to late December 2009.

In June 2001, then 23 year-old Jeffrey "Free" Luers was arrested for the burning of three trucks at a Eugene car dealership. His stated purpose was to raise awareness about global warming and the role that SUVs and trucks play in that process. Despite the fact that this action hurt no one, caused only \$28,000 in damages and the cars were later resold, Luers received the draconian sentence imposed by Velure.

Luers gained support locally as well as all over the world as a political prisoner. It is widely believed that Luers received such a drastic sentence because of the political nature of the action he took. Following his original sentence, Amnesty International and the Eugene Human Rights Commission (EHRC) issued letters of support citing that the sentence appeared to be politically motivated. During the course of his trial, statements were made by the police and prosecuting attorney that indicated it was Luers' political views on trial, not merely his actions.

his actions successfully proved that evidence had been tampered with, officers had lied and that the prosecutor had manipulated evidence to get a legal search warrant at his residence. Luers was given a sentence that attempted to send the message to environmental and social justice activists that even a merely symbolic act of property destruction could be punished more harshly than many crimes against persons.

Prior to his imprisonment, Luers was a very well respected community activist in Eugene, Oregon involved with forest defense and cooking free food for the city's homeless population. He has remained active from prison, often writing news articles and monthly dispatches to his growing list of supporters. With a release date on the horizon, Luers future is bright and he plans to pursue courses and looks forward to sharing quality time with his family and loved ones.

Statement from Jeffrey Luers:

"Today I feel a great weight lifted off of me, and my loved ones. While I believe my new sentence is still more of a reflection of my activism and my dissent than my actual crimes; I am looking forward to my much closer release date.

I am proud of the many things I have accomplished while incarcerated, including reaching beyond oceans and borders to help raise awareness about global warming and to help combat social injustice.

I am thankful of my family, friends and the thousands of supporters and fellow activists from around the world who have stood by me since day one. And I'd especially like to thank my attorneys, and friends. Lauren Regan, Misha Dunlap and Shawn Wiley for never giving up on getting me out sooner than 22 years.

I am happy to say this journey is almost over and I'll be coming home soon."
2009.



Write to Jeff

Jeffrey Luers # 1306729
Lane County Adult Corrections
101 West 5th Ave
Eugene, OR 97401-2695