

# THE MILITANT

INSIDE

**Court ruling against transgender, gay job bias marred by 'poison pill'**  
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A SOCIALIST NEWSWEEKLY PUBLISHED IN THE INTERESTS OF WORKING PEOPLE

VOL. 84/NO. 26 JULY 6, 2020

## Beijing, New Delhi tensions escalate after border clash

BY ROY LANDERSEN

In their deadliest clash in almost six decades, Indian and Chinese troops, using improvised hand weapons, battled over a disputed border region high in the Himalayan mountains June 15. Tensions between the rulers of the world's two most populous countries are increasing, with both looking to defend and expand their interests as the crisis of world capitalism deepens.

Washington hopes that in the face of regional assertiveness by the Chinese regime, the Indian rulers will be drawn more deeply into an alliance with U.S. imperialism.

In the latest clash in the Galwan Valley, some 600 soldiers fought hand to hand on a mountainside for several hours. By a 1996 agreement, neither side carries firearms in the area, so the weapons used included rocks, barbed wire wrapped sticks and nail-studded steel bars. In recent weeks, both sides have increased the number of troops along their 2,170 mile border. Each side blames the other for initiating the violence.

Some 20 Indian soldiers were killed. Chinese officials have admitted to casualties, but not to any deaths. The Indian news media and U.S. intelligence sources claim even more Chinese soldiers died. Beijing

Continued on page 8

## Solidarity with striking Bath shipyard workers!



AP Photo/Robert F. Bukaty

Shipbuilding workers on strike at Bath Iron Works in Maine June 22. Thousands of Machinists union members rejected company demands to contract out work, attack seniority, health care.

### Join the 2020 SWP campaign! Back Bath strike, fight for jobs

June 24 statement by Alyson Kennedy, Socialist Workers Party candidate for president. Malcolm Jarrett is the party's candidate for vice president.

### SOCIALIST WORKERS PARTY STATEMENT

Join the Socialist Workers Party 2020 campaign — the working-class alternative to the bosses' Democrat-Continued on page 8

### Strikers fight boss move to pit generations against each other

BY VED DOOKUN

BATH, Maine — Thousands of Machinist union members went on strike here June 22 against concession demands at Bath Iron Works. They are fighting moves by the bosses to extend

### MASS UNEMPLOYMENT SPURS RESISTANCE

— article page 6

the use of subcontractors to further attack their jobs, wages and working conditions. This is the first walkout at this shipyard since a 55-day strike in 2000. Continued on page 6

## Juneteenth actions across the US protest police brutality

BY EMMA JOHNSON

Amid national — and worldwide — protests against police brutality since the cop killing of George Floyd on May 25, this year's Juneteenth celebrations took on new life. As a result, they were bigger and more numerous than previously, becoming rallying points to press forward the fight.

Juneteenth street rallies, marches, festivals, church services and other commemorations mark June 19, 1865, when Union soldiers told a group of slaves in Galveston, Texas, that they were free — over two years after the Emancipation Proclamation took effect — ending slavery in the U.S. once and for all.

Juneteenth has been celebrated as a state holiday in Texas since 1980. Activities this year featured demands for "Justice for Mike Ramos," a 42-year-old man killed by Austin police April 24.

That day cops descended on the parking lot outside the apartment Ramos shared with his girlfriend. They were sitting in his car. Cops jumped out with guns raised demanding they get out. What follows was caught on video by a neighbor. Ramos, who is Black and Latino, emerged with both arms raised. They demanded he step forward, and Ramos asked, "What for?" One cop shot him with a bean bag round, knocking him back into his car.

Ramos then started to drive away. Continued on page 3

## As 2020 election nears, interest grows in Socialist Workers Party campaign



Militant/Paul Pederson

SWP Minnesota U.S. Senate candidate David Rosenfeld, at table near where cops killed George Floyd. Party supporters are finding great interest in campaign, Militant and literature.

BY TERRY EVANS

With just four and a half months left before the 2020 elections, Democrats and Republicans are trying to crank up their down and dirty fight for the White House and to win at-

tention from working people. But neither self-described "progressive" Joe Biden nor incumbent President Donald Trump present any road forward for workers and farmers. Both have a Continued on page 4

## Court grants reprieve for 'Dreamers,' White House to refile to end program

BY BRIAN WILLIAMS

The U.S. Supreme Court issued a ruling June 18 rejecting on procedural grounds the way the administration of President Donald Trump reached its decision to dismantle the "Dreamers" program. This Barack Obama-era program protects from deportation some 700,000 undocumented immigrants who came to the U.S. as children.

There have been widespread protests against ending the program.

The reprieve won by DACA participants is a gain for the working class as a whole, but the program's future is far from settled.

The 5-4 ruling sent the issue back to the Department of Homeland Security "so that it may consider the problem anew." The next day President Trump said his administration will be submitting "enhanced papers shortly"

seeking to speed up further court deliberation on the president's right to end the program.

Know as Deferred Action for Child-Continued on page 5

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Donations to SWP 'stimulus' appeal keep rising 5

—On the picket line, p. 7—

New Zealand factory workers fight to get back stolen pay



# How can I build up a library about working-class struggle?

BY SETH GALINSKY

“What book do you recommend?”

That’s a question heard many times over the last several weeks as fellow protesters against police brutality looked at the wide range of titles by Socialist Workers Party leaders and other revolutionary fighters on party literature tables.

If you are reading this article, perhaps you are one of the many new *Militant* subscribers who had never been to a protest before cops brutally killed George Floyd in Minneapolis. But the cruelty of those eight minutes plus that cop Derek Chauvin pressed his knee against Floyd’s neck spurred you to action.

For those who have decided that you can no longer just accept “that’s the way it is” — whether it’s police brutality and racism or the attempts of the capitalist rulers to put their crisis on our backs — here’s some suggestions for beginning to put together a

library that will help you understand the roots of the oppressive conditions and exploitation we face and what can be done to end them.

*Malcolm X, Black Liberation, and the Road to Workers Power* by Socialist Workers Party National Secretary Jack Barnes should be near the top of your list. And don’t skip the introduction! That’s where Barnes explains that we live under the dictatorship of capital and that the ruling families will use “whatever degree of state power is necessary to defend and advance their own class interests.”

That’s why, Barnes says, “the revolutionary conquest of state power by a politically class-conscious and organized vanguard of the working class — millions strong — is necessary.”

*Is Socialist Revolution in the US Possible?* by SWP leader Mary-Alice Waters. Possible, she says, but not inevitable. That depends on *us*.

*Are They Rich Because They’re Smart? Class, Privilege, and Learning Under Capitalism*, also by Barnes. How the capitalist class utilizes a layer of well-paid professionals, and their “education” system, to convince us that we can’t be trusted to know what’s in our own interests and to follow orders. And how in the coming battles working people will begin to see what we are capable of as we transform ourselves and our attitudes toward life, work and each other.

*The Turn to Industry: Forging a Proletarian Party* by Barnes explains “the working-class program, composition, and course of conduct

## ‘Prosecute cops who killed Andres Guardado’



Militant/Norton Sandler

GARDENA, Calif. — “I got here at 6 p.m., just after he was shot. They didn’t move his body out until nine or 10 hours later. They wouldn’t let the family see him. The cops took all the cameras, cleaned up the evidence,” Jackson Romero told the *Militant* about the June 18 killing of his 18-year-old cousin, Andres Guardado, by a Los Angeles County sheriff’s deputy.

Romero was part of the crowd of 600 who marched over 3 miles from where Guardado was killed to the sheriffs’ station in neighboring Compton.

Two deputies chased Guardado as he was working as a security guard at a friend’s auto body shop and one fired six shots at him. The cops claim Guardado had a gun and was running away from them. His family says he didn’t have a gun and was shot in the back.

“You don’t want your kids, so young and with their whole lives ahead of them, to have their life unfairly destroyed,” Guardado’s father Christopher said, coming forward to speak to those at the demonstration.

“It’s been four days and nothing has happened,” protester Amalia Soto, who lives a few blocks from where the killing took place, told the *Militant*. “We don’t have the names of the cops who shot him, or anything else.” The cops say the deputies weren’t equipped with body cameras.

— NORTON SANDLER

of the only kind of party worthy of the name ‘revolutionary’ in the imperialist epoch.”

*Tribunes of the People and the Trade Unions* with articles by Karl Marx, V.I. Lenin, Leon Trotsky, Farrell Dobbs, and Barnes. This book takes up why strengthening and transforming the unions so that they aid every social and political movement in the interest of the complete emancipation of the working class is central to building a revolutionary party.

*Red Zone: Cuba and the Battle Against Ebola in West Africa* by Enrique Ubieta Gómez. A lively account of the actions of more than 250 volunteer Cuban health workers in fighting the Ebola epidemic in 2014-15. The

book describes the actions by the kind of men and women only a deep-going socialist revolution can produce.

After you read these you will want to check out more books published by Pathfinder Press, such as *Cosmetics, Fashions, and the Exploitation of Women* by Joseph Hansen, Evelyn Reed and Mary-Alice Waters; *Cuba and the Coming American Revolution*, by Barnes; and the new edition of *The Jewish Question* by Abram Leon, on the historical roots of the fight to end anti-Semitism once and for all.

Visit [www.pathfinderpress.com](http://www.pathfinderpress.com) or see page 4 for the distributor nearest you — or look for our book table at the next protest you go to.

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# THE MILITANT

## Defend women’s right to choose abortion!

Supporters of abortion rights registered a victory when state officials failed in efforts to close down Missouri’s only abortion clinic.

The ‘Militant’ backs women’s right to choose abortion, a central fight for women’s emancipation and for the unity of the working class.

Robert Cohen/St. Louis Post-Dispatch via AP  
St. Louis Planned Parenthood hangs banner after state efforts to close it down failed.

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# Actions protest police brutality

Continued from front page

Officer Christopher Taylor raised his rifle, as neighbors yelled, “Don’t shoot, don’t shoot.” He opened fire, hitting Ramos three times, killing him. Ramos was found to have had no weapon.

The cops say they have a video of the shooting, but have so far stalled on releasing it. No action has been taken against the cops.

Protests demanding charges against the cops involved in the killing of Ramos have been organized in Austin and across Texas. His name was one of 239 names of victims of cop killings displayed on yellow umbrellas at a rally of hundreds outside City Hall in Dallas on Juneteenth, as the city entered its third week of daily demonstrations.

## Killing of Tony Timpa covered up

At one of the actions Dallas Police Chief U. Renee Hall had taken a knee along with the protesters.

“When you see the chief take a knee, and she still employs officers who took a knee on Tony Timpa’s neck, it’s just performance art,” Sara Mokuria, co-founder of Mothers Against Police Brutality, told the City Hall rally.

Timpa was killed by Dallas cops in 2016 after he called 911 to tell them he was schizophrenic, depressed and off his meds, and needed help. They came and put him down on the ground, handcuffed, zip-tied his legs together, and pressed on his body, arms and neck for nearly 14 minutes. Timpa cried out more than 30 times, saying, “You’re gonna kill me!” before he stopped moving.

After he passed out, the cops made fun of him. He died.

The cops were indicted by a grand jury, but the district attorney dropped the charges. The facts only became public this year after city officials lost a three-year-long fight to keep hidden the cops’ body camera videos of the killing.

In many other cities across the country, protests that began after George Floyd was killed have provided a voice for local fights against new and some longstanding cases of cop brutality. Calls for the prosecution of the cops who killed Breonna Taylor, an African

American shot dead in a “no knock” late night cop raid on her apartment in Louisville, Kentucky, March 13, are increasingly being heard at protests.

In Atlanta, protests that started after the killing of Floyd expanded when cops killed Rayshard Brooks there June 12, continuing to draw thousands over the Juneteenth weekend.

Since the cops who killed Floyd have been fired, arrested and serious charges filed against them, many continuing protests have taken place under generalized slogans, like “Black Lives Matter,” “No justice, no peace” and “No time to hate,” as opposed to concrete demands for action against brutal cops.

Many have become the occasion for discussion and debate over various liberal schemes for reforming the police. These include calls to “Defund the police,” and for “Police service, not police forces.” Or they focus on efforts to elect Democratic presidential candidate Joe Biden to get rid of President Donald Trump.

But there is no way to “improve” the conduct of the cops, whose function under capitalism is to mete out punishment to working people to protect the profits, property and power of the ruling capitalist class. The only road to get rid of police brutality once and for all is to organize working people in their millions to take political power into their own hands. Socialist Workers Party campaigners at the actions explain how this can be seen today in the revolution made by Cuban workers and farmers.

## Protests spread into the countryside

During the recent wave of protests, hundreds of actions have been organized nationwide in smaller cities and towns, often initiated by high school students. And many have taken place in communities with a majority Caucasian population in rural areas.

These are the places liberal politicians and media denigrate as “flyover country,” inhabited by working people Hillary Clinton dismissed in 2016 as “deplorables,” racists, sexists and xenophobes.

Day after day working people and youth in these communities have taken to the streets helping to protest police



Militant/Hilda Cuzzo

Participants in Juneteenth march and rally in Dallas display umbrellas with names of 239 people killed by cops. One of them is Mike Ramos, an unarmed man shot by Austin police April 24.

violence, putting a lie to the contempt that liberal politicians and commentators hold them in.

Louise Goodman reported to the *Militant* from Central Oregon that actions against police brutality have continued there since the killing of George Floyd. In Prineville, a city of 11,000, almost 400 people marched and rallied at the courthouse June 20. A counterprotest a quarter of the size gathered across the street to support local cops.

In Bend, the biggest city in the area, with less than 500 Blacks out of a population of 100,000, there have been a number of protests of over 1,000. This was the first Juneteenth celebration in the city. Some 800 protesters joined a “Take Back the Butte March” to Pilot Butte, the site of two 1923 cross burnings by the Ku Klux Klan.

“Security monitors and medics were there to help keep the actions

safe and peaceful,” Goodman wrote.

These protests in smaller towns and villages all across the country are an important reflection of the powerful impact on workers’ thinking of the Black-led mass movement that overthrew Jim Crow segregation in the 1950s and ’60s and protests since.

To try to counter this fact, the liberal press focused on a small number of mobilizations by armed right-wing groups. “Militia activity has marked protests in places across the country,” claimed Isaac Stanley-Becker in the *Washington Post*. He alleges activity by militias in rural areas and small towns is widespread, intimidating organizers to call off actions there.

In reality the breadth of demonstrations across the country over three weeks has been unprecedented. The *Post*’s real intent is to tar working people in rural areas as deplorable.

## Calif. protest says, ‘Arrest the cops who killed Steven Taylor’

BY ERIC SIMPSON

SAN LEANDRO, Calif. — Some 100 people gathered at a candlelight vigil in the Hesperian Blvd. Walmart parking lot here June 18 with Sharon Taylor to remember the life of her son, Steven Taylor. He was gunned down by cops inside the store April 18.

The protest took place outside the

store’s garden center, where a table was set up with bouquets of flowers and candles. Among the participants were students and graduates from San Leandro High School, Taylor’s friends, people who live nearby, opponents of police brutality and several workers from the store.

“What I want is for the officers to be held accountable because they could have done anything else but shoot my son,” Sharon Taylor told the press.

“Why haven’t they released the names of the cops who killed Steven Taylor?” said Carole Lesnick, one of the Walmart workers. “They should be arrested, prosecuted, tried and convicted for the crime they have committed.”

“This stuff is not going to be hidden anymore,” Taylor said, concluding the vigil. “Remember, young people, you are somebody. Stand up for your rights.”



Militant/Eric Simpson

Sharon Taylor, mother of Steven Taylor, speaks at June 18 vigil in San Leandro.

## 25, 50, AND 75 YEARS AGO



July 3, 1995

NEWARK, New Jersey — Drawing the line on the inhuman conditions under which they were forced to live, hundreds of immigrant men and women, originating from more than 40 countries, seized and held for almost six hours the Esmor detention center in Elizabeth, New Jersey, June 18. The 300 immigrants held there are awaiting hearings on deportation or political asylum claims. More than 200 cops were sent in to smash the rebellion.

Detention at Esmor meant a diet of bread, corn chips, potato chips, and minced meat macaroni — orange juice and Jell-O if you were sick — according to former inmates. Dormitories crawled with bugs, detainees were barred from practicing their religion, and money was stolen from them by the prison guards.

“In the seven months I was there I was never outside, not once,” said Suzanne Kideni, a Sudanese refugee.



July 10, 1970

MONTREAL — The women’s liberation movement here is rallying to the support of Dr. Henry Morgentaler, an outspoken advocate of legalized abortion who was arrested recently.

Morgentaler has been charged with conspiring to commit, and the performance of, abortion. He has pleaded not guilty, although he has not denied he does abortions.

The response by the movement was immediate. In less than two days, supporters of legalized abortions organized a demonstration of 200-300 outside Morgentaler’s preliminary hearing.

Montreal doctors are circulating a petition in favor of abortion law repeal among doctors in the province. In two days they obtained the signatures of 187 doctors and published the petition as a full-page ad in the *Montreal Star*.

Montreal Women’s Liberation is planning a public protest meeting for July 3.



July 7, 1945

The no-strike policy, which since Pearl Harbor has placed American labor at the mercies of the war profiteers and union-busters, is being trampled into the dust on picket lines throughout the nation.

A wave of strikes, greatest since the days of the sit-down struggles of 1937, has been sweeping the country. Hundreds of thousands of workers, defying strike-breaking ultimatums of the government and in most instances their own top union leaders, have snatched up their most effective weapon, strike action.

During the past week this mounting tide reached a new peak. Over a hundred thousand workers in key industrial centers broke asunder the shackles of the no-strike pledge and gave the arrogant employers the only answer they understand — cutting off their profits by strike shutdowns. American labor is once more on the march.



# Interest in SWP campaign

**Continued from front page**  
proven record of shoring up the rule of the capitalist class who profit off our backs.

Socialist Workers Party campaign supporters are finding widening interest in the party's working-class program and presidential ticket — Alyson Kennedy for president and Malcolm Jarrett for vice president. They are joining working people protesting against cop brutality, at Juneteenth commemorations, and on strike picket lines and protests against the bosses' attacks on the job, and discussing the working-class alternative on doorsteps in cities, small towns and rural areas across the country.

This hunger for an alternative road forward grows as workers and youth look for ways to fight effectively today. This has led a growing number to get subscriptions to the *Militant* and books on revolutionary working-class politics by SWP leaders to dig deeper into the invaluable lessons from previous struggles to end capitalist rule. Some are joining in campaigning for the party.

"I always see postings on the internet about how bad capitalism is, but there are never any ideas about what to do about it," Jay Preutsker told Edwin Fruit at an SWP campaign table after a Juneteenth celebration in Seattle. Fruit explained the SWP campaign focuses on what it is *for*, not what it's against.

Preutsker said she had been thinking of voting for the Green Party, but got an SWP campaign flyer, a subscription to the *Militant* and *In Defense of the US Working Class* by SWP leader Mary-Alice Waters.

Waters describes why she joined the SWP, as "the mass Black proletarian movement fighting Jim Crow segregation in the U.S., combined with the example set by the workers and farmers of Cuba, instilled our generation with an unshakable confidence in the revolutionary capacities of working people."

Candidates of the Democratic, Republican and other capitalist parties have disdain for our capacities. Liberals like Joe Biden especially pour scorn on the "backwardness" of workers and farmers who they claim are saturated with racist and reactionary politics.

Earlier this month Biden said he's convinced up to 15% of all Americans — some 49 million — are "just not very good people." But the scope of the recent protests shows the capacities of working people to engage in struggle in our own class interests, regardless of what Biden or Trump say or do.

## A fighting road forward

Democrats seek to channel the widespread outrage felt by millions of working people over the cop killings of George Floyd, Breonna Taylor and many others off the streets and into the voting booth, to put their hopes on Biden getting into the White House.

SWP candidates point in the opposite direction — building on workers' struggles to improve wages and working conditions and protests against the effects of capitalist exploitation. These fights deepen workers' understanding of our common class interests against those of the bosses. More become open to seeing the need for a course of revolutionary struggle to end the oppressive social system that the rulers' criminal "justice" system is organized to defend.

The party's 2020 election platform advances proposals to strengthen the

unity of working people as we combine together to resist the bosses' attacks. The party calls for a fight to win amnesty for all workers in the U.S. without papers, to put *all* workers in a stronger position to fight together.

The party's platform points toward workers fighting to wrest more and more control of production out of the bosses' hands, to prevent their incessant efforts to profit by jacking up line speeds, endangering our lives and limbs, and their utter disregard for the shoddy and often dangerous character of the products they churn out.

Amanda Allen, a social work student and former nurse, discussed with SWP member Hilda Cuzco what it will take to eliminate racism at a Juneteenth event in Dallas. Allen picked up four books on revolutionary politics and a *Militant* subscription.

"Don't start with Blacks as an oppressed nationality. Start with the vanguard place and weight of workers who are Black in broad proletarian-led social and political struggles in the United States," SWP National Secretary Jack Barnes writes in one of the titles she bought, *Malcolm X, Black Liberation, and the Road to Workers Power*. "It's the strength and resilience, not the oppression that bowls you over."

The capitalist rulers organize the schools, all production and the media to try and make us believe we aren't capable of running anything important ourselves. In contrast, when Malcolm X was asked by an interviewer if his goal was to wake Black people up to their exploitation, he replied, "No to their humanity, to their own worth and to their heritage," Barnes says.

## Fight for jobs

"When SWP campaigners said that the fight against cop brutality goes hand in hand with the fight for jobs, we found real interest," Willie Cotton, the party's candidate for Congress in the 9th District in New York, told the *Militant* after campaign supporters there sold 72 books, 46 copies of the *Militant* and 27 subscriptions to the paper at two Juneteenth events.

Titles included books on the origins of women's oppression and how to end it, books by leaders of the Cuban Revolution, and *Teamster Rebellion*, part of a four-book series by Farrell Dobbs.



Militant/Tony Lane

**SWP campaigners joined march of hundreds against police brutality in Canonsburg, Pennsylvania, June 20. SWP congressional candidate Dave Ferguson speaks at rally.**

Dobbs was a leader of the strikes and organizing drives that transformed the Teamsters union in Minneapolis and across the Midwest in the 1930s, showing in life what workers and their allies can achieve when they have the leadership they deserve.

Central to building a fighting labor movement today is combating the impact on workers of the massive loss of jobs caused by the government shutdowns and efforts by the employers to restart production with fewer workers doing more for less. That's why the SWP's platform urges workers and our

unions to fight for a government-funded public works program to put millions back to work at union-scale pay, to strengthen the unity of the working class and our ability to fight. This is the road to gain class-struggle experience and self-confidence.

## Chicago campaign tour

The fight for jobs was at the center of many of the discussions Kennedy and Jarrett, the SWP's candidates for president and vice president, had on a five-day tour stop in Illinois. They met

**Continued on page 8**

## Vote Socialist Workers Party in 2020! Alyson Kennedy for president Malcolm Jarrett for vice president

### SWP candidates coast to coast:

#### New York/New Jersey

Lea Sherman, US Senate, New Jersey  
Willie Cotton, 9th CD, New York  
Seth Galinsky, 10th CD, New York  
Abby Tilsner, 20th CD, Albany  
Jacob Perasso, 21st CD, Albany  
Candace Wagner, 8th CD, Union City, NJ

#### Mid-Atlantic Region

Omari Musa, delegate to Congress, D.C.  
Osborne Hart, 3rd CD, Philadelphia  
Ruth Robinett, 14th CD, Washington, PA  
Dave Ferguson, 18th CD, Pittsburgh

#### South

Rachele Fruit, US Senate, Georgia  
Anthony Dutrow, 27th CD, Miami

#### Midwest

Naomi Craine, US Senate, Illinois  
Maggie Trowe, US Senate, Kentucky  
David Rosenfeld, US Senate, Minnesota  
Samir Hazboun, 3rd CD, Louisville  
Helen Meyers, 4th CD, St. Paul

#### Southwest and West Coast

Henry Dennison, Governor, Washington  
Rebecca Williamson, 9th CD, Seattle  
Gerardo Sánchez, US Senate, Texas  
Joel Britton, 13th CD, Oakland  
Dennis Richter, 37th CD, Los Angeles  
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# Oberlin College appeal tries to turn criminal into the victim

BY SETH GALINSKY

Perpetuating their smear campaign against the Gibson family who own a small bakery, Oberlin College asked the Ohio Court of Appeals June 5 to overturn a 2019 jury verdict finding the college and Dean of Students Meredith Raimondo guilty of libel for slandering the Gibsons as racists.

The college falsely portrays the guilty verdict and \$32 million award for damages and fees as an attack on the constitutional right to free speech and on students' right to protest. It is getting support from some organizations who have filed "friend of the court" briefs to support their argument. This includes the NAACP, a historic civil rights group, and the Reporters Committee for Freedom of the Press and Freedom to Read Foundation, organizations that have defended constitutional rights in the past.

But working people, opponents of racism and all defenders of constitutional rights who look at the facts will find a big capitalist institution, Oberlin College, waging a protracted and costly legal battle to drive the Gibson family and its bakery out of business. Or as the Gibsons put it in their brief, "to Bully Anyone in the Oberlin Community." The college has assets of more than \$1.4 billion and is the largest property owner in the city of Oberlin.

The college's attorneys in their filing note that the incident that sparked the conflict began when an African American student was caught "concealing two bottles of wine and trying to buy a third with a false ID" at Gibson's convenience store and bakery in downtown Oberlin on Nov. 9, 2016.

Allyn Gibson Jr., a store employee and son of co-owner David Gibson, tried to detain the student. According to the police, the student and two women friends had Gibson Jr. on the ground and were pummeling him. The cops arrested the three students.

Oberlin College attorneys claim uni-

versity officials had nothing to do with organizing or directing two days of student protests outside the bakery that followed the arrests.

## Dean 'organized' to promote slander

But that's not what the facts show or the Lorain County jury found.

Witnesses testified that they saw Dean Raimondo passing out flyers at the protest calling for a boycott of the store and accusing it of being "a RACIST establishment with a LONG ACCOUNT of RACIAL PROFILING and DISCRIMINATION." She addressed the crowd with a bullhorn. The college allowed its copy machines to be used to reproduce the flyers. Yet the administration continues to insist that Raimondo was only there "to make sure the protest remained safe and lawful."

An email invitation from Raimondo sent out Nov. 10, 2016, shows otherwise. "A staff group will meet at 9:30 in Wilder 105 to talk about how to support students who are protesting," she wrote.

On Nov. 14 Raimondo ordered the company that runs the campus dining commons to cancel its contract with Gibson's — ending a 100-year-old business partnership with the college — dealing a big financial blow to the small business.

Responding to a letter titled "Gibson's Boycott Denies Due Process" by Roger Copeland, an emeritus professor of theater and dance at the college, published later in the *Oberlin Review*, Raimondo sent out an email saying, "F---k him. I'd say unleash the students if I wasn't convinced this needs to be put behind us."

Does that sound like "neutrality?"

In one egregious section of the college's appeal, the college's attorneys float an accusation that Allyn Gibson Jr. — who was not a party to the lawsuit — is biased against Blacks. They print a heavily redacted excerpt from a sealed deposition by Gibson Jr. But the deposition was never used in the lawsuit trial,



Allyn Gibson Sr. talking with children outside his Oberlin, Ohio, store. Appeal of court decision against Oberlin College officials deepens race-baiting smear campaign against Gibsons family.

nor was he called to testify. They intimate that the Gibsons have something to hide. More mud slung at the family.

## Gibsons refused to bow down

Soon after the protests, college administrators tried to get the Gibsons to request that charges against the students be dropped and in the future to call college officials, instead of the cops, whenever students are caught shoplifting. The Gibsons refused, saying they would treat students exactly as they treated anyone else in town, no special treatment. Their stand resonates with working people in the area who have faced decades of declining wages and working conditions.

The three students involved in the shoplifting pled guilty on lesser misdemeanor charges and stated expressly that there was no racial profiling involved in their arrest and prosecution.

From the courtroom where the students were pleading guilty, Assistant Dean Toni Myers texted Raimondo, "I hope we rain fire and brimstone on that store." This was *nine months after* their arrest!

Gibsons' attorneys are arguing that the judge's decision to reduce the original award by \$13 million because of a state law capping damages infringed on the constitutional right to a jury trial and to due process. They are demanding the

full damages be reinstated.

By twisting the facts, the college tries to portray itself as the victim and the victim as the criminal. But the Gibsons refused to submit. They have widespread support from working people across the area for standing up to the college during the trial and afterward.

## Amicus briefs miss the point

Among the briefs filed to buttress the college's campaign is one from the Reporters Committee for Freedom of the Press, Freedom to Read Foundation, American Booksellers Association, the *Washington Post* and other media groups. It claims the jury's unanimous verdict against the college is a threat to news media, booksellers, and libraries because they cannot "vet every piece of externally-generated information they redistribute."

But Oberlin College was not sued by Gibson's for "redistributing" material. Raimondo and other school administrators were centrally involved in promoting the slander against the Gibsons and years later are still using the university's substantial clout to try to drive the bakery owners out of business.

The brief by the NAACP ignores the facts in the case and takes for good coin Oberlin College's slander about the "bakery's historically discriminatory treatment of African-Americans" and then raises concern that the verdict undermines the right to boycott, "a core First Amendment-protected activity" — like those carried out against racist practices during the civil rights movement.

The boycott promoted by Oberlin College, based entirely on a smear and directed at a family-owned business, is the polar opposite of boycotts that were part of the mighty battles that uprooted

**Continued on page 6**

# Supreme Court grants reprieve for 'Dreamers'

Continued from front page

hood Arrivals, or DACA, the program was created by Obama in 2012 by executive order. It provides temporary legal status for those who arrived in the U.S. before they were 16 and prior to June 2007, and had completed high school or were still studying or were military veterans. Individuals must renew their permit every two years.

Trump announced plans in 2017 to end the program, arguing that continuing it or not should be in the hands of Congress. Since then lower court rulings have blocked attempts to cancel DACA.

The Supreme Court majority opinion was written by Chief Justice John Roberts, who was joined by the court's four self-proclaimed liberal members — Ruth Bader Ginsburg, Stephen Breyer, Sonia Sotomayor and Elena Kagan.

The administration also failed to consider how ending DACA would affect those who rely on its protections against deportation as well as their right to work and receive benefits, Roberts said.

"We do not decide whether DACA or its rescission are sound policies," Roberts wrote. "We address only

whether the agency [Department of Homeland Security] complied with the procedural requirement that it provide a reasoned explanation for its action. Here the agency failed to consider the conspicuous issues of ... what if anything to do about the hardship to DACA recipients."

The high court held that the Trump administration's attempt to revoke the "Dreamers" program also violated the equal protection guarantee of the Fifth Amendment, which says no one shall be "deprived of life, liberty or property without due process of law."

"The dispute before the Court is not whether DHS may rescind DACA," wrote Roberts. "All parties agree that it may. The dispute is instead primarily about the procedure the agency followed in doing so."

More than 90% of DACA recipients are employed and 45% are in school, the government says. Nearly 30,000 work in health care. Families of DACA recipients now include some 200,000 U.S.-citizen children.

"The fight of the 'Dreamers' to be able to remain in the U.S. is important," Socialist Workers Party presidential candidate Alyson Kennedy told the *Militant*

June 22. "The fight to win amnesty for all 11 million undocumented workers in the U.S. is an issue of vital importance to the working class.

"This is a life-and-death question to unite the working class and to cut across divisions the bosses use to drive down wages and working conditions for all workers," Kennedy said.

## Donations to SWP 'stimulus' appeal keep rising

A growing number of contributors to the SWP "stimulus" appeal keep the total going up. The appeal this week has reached \$127,500, from 115 contributors!

Osborne Hart, a Walmart worker and SWP congressional candidate from Philadelphia, writes: "Finally, one of us got the 'stimulus' payment. Enclosed is a check for Ellen Berman. It came in the form of a debit card! They really want you to spend it right away! Mine will follow soon."

The enthusiastic and generous response of contributors is resulting in a big expansion to the SWP's long-term resources.

The contributions go toward a political and financial endowment dedicated to building a proletarian party as the crisis of capitalism and the class struggle unfolds. A party that will organize workers in their millions to end capitalist exploitation and rule, and join hands with toilers worldwide to build a new social order based on human solidarity.

If you'd like to donate from your government payout, send a check to the Socialist Workers Party at 306 W. 37th Street, 13th Floor, New York, NY 10018, earmarked "Special Fund."

— EMMA JOHNSON



# Joblessness soars worldwide, spurs working-class resistance

BY ROY LANDERSEN

The key for working people today is the fight for jobs, to provide income for workers and their families, to rebuild the ranks of the working class, and help workers prepare for class-struggle battles today and to come.

Hundreds of millions worldwide are out of work, some getting paltry government handouts while many get nothing. Governments everywhere have dished out massive subsidies to big business. In the U.S. over 20 million workers rely on special government “benefits” that are set to run out at the end of July. Officials in Washington say these payments are an incentive to stay out of work!

The Socialist Workers Party calls for workers and their unions to fight for a government-funded public works program to provide jobs at union-scale pay, building things working people need — hospitals, housing, day care centers, schools, and to repair the crumbling infrastructure.

Corporate giants, like Amazon, Walmart, Microsoft and Apple, have profited handsomely during the lockdown, as their “essential” stores, warehouses, factories and online sales have raked in money. Highly paid professionals and top managers feign “working from home,” while millions of workers have been locked out of work or, for those deemed “essential,” face speedup and dangerous working conditions.

## Bosses lay off workers

The hotel chain Hilton Worldwide says they will cut 2,100 jobs. AT&T plans to eliminate at least 3,400 jobs in the U.S. and permanently close more than 250 stores. Nokia bosses announced plans to cut 1,233 jobs from their French subsidiary, Alcatel-Lucent.

Auto bosses worldwide have announced sizable job cuts, as they seek to get “lean and mean,” leading to ongoing strikes by thousands of workers at Renault in France and Nissan in Spain.

The number of new applications for jobless benefits in the U.S. has been in the millions each week for three months. Total filings for unemploy-

ment claims has topped 45 million. The government crowed when new claims came in at “only” 1.5 million June 13. Millions more aren’t covered at all.

In the U.S., individuals have been forced to skip more than 100 million payments on student loans, auto loans and other forms of debt. A wave of apartment and home evictions loom, threatening millions with homelessness. In New York City alone, some 50,000 eviction notices are expected as a statewide moratorium is lifted.

## Garment workers laid off worldwide

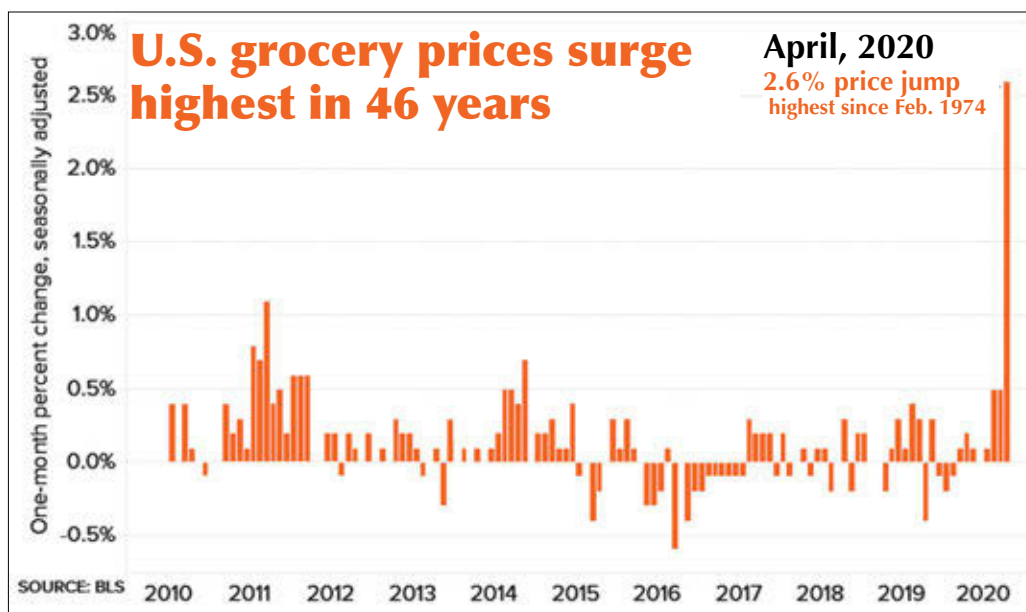
Millions of garment workers, many of them women, from Central Africa to South Asia, Cambodia and the Philippines, have been hit by layoffs and loss of wages as capitalist production and trade worldwide plummeted. Bosses closed plants as orders dried up and governments declared shutdowns.

Workers lost their jobs, pay and places to live. Millions in India and elsewhere tried to return to rural villages where their families live, but

many were blocked by government transportation shutdowns and police. Others protested outside plants, demanding jobs and back pay.

Over 1,300 women garment workers staged a dayslong sit-in at the Euro Clothing factory in Srirangapatna in the Indian state of Karnataka after being laid off June 8. A week earlier, workers had stopped management from removing machines from the factory by blocking the gates.

Over 2,000 workers in Tanzania, 90% of them women, picketed outside Mazava Fabrics over the sports jersey factory’s closure for three months while the bosses cut their wages in half. In



# Solidarity with striking Bath shipyard workers!

## Continued from front page

The day before, members of Machinists Local S6, which represents 4,350 of the company’s 6,700 workers, voted by 87% to reject the bosses’ “take it or leave it” three-year contract. In addition to expanding the use of subcontractors, the bosses seek to undermine union seniority and increase health care costs. Hundreds set up picket lines as the strike began.

“This is not about money, it’s about respect,” Jamie Bellefleur, a younger worker in the paint shop who has been at the shipyard for seven years, told the *Militant*. “They underestimated my generation.” A third of the workforce is newer, younger workers. The bosses are attempting to pit these workers against those with more seniority. The company hired close to 1,000 workers in the last

year. “They thought they had this in the bag, but we surprised them,” she said.

“We ‘put the hammer down,’” she added, describing how workers showed their support for the union. “Every hour on the hour for one minute we banged on scrap metal” for two weeks straight leading up to the contract vote.

The company tried to discipline workers — and suspended a few — but were forced to allow them to return to work with back pay.

“They want to get rid of people with seniority and top pay,” Laurie Door, a

Myanmar, more than 400 leather workers blocked the plant gates of Jia Hao Fashion Industry June 11 after they were locked out for protesting the dismissal of 79 fellow workers.

The deepening capitalist crisis reveals how “globalized” world production supply lines of everything from semiconductors to vital medicines are highly vulnerable to disruption. Governments have closed borders and raised other barriers to international commerce, while trying to whip up patriotic frenzy in the name of national security.

As government frictions and capitalist competition sharpens, working class solidarity and resistance is crucial.

preservation tech who has worked at the plant for 32 years, told the *Militant*. “We explained to the younger workers that there will be no job security if we lose seniority.”

“If you had asked me three years ago if I would go on strike, I would have said no because I could not afford it. Now I understand what it means to stand for something,” said Max Snell, a shipfitter for the last three years.

The shipyard, a subsidiary of General Dynamics, builds warships, mainly destroyers, for the Navy. Production continued through the government-imposed shutdown, as war preparedness is deemed an essential industry.

The strike comes as the company is six months behind in its contracts, due to retirements, training bottlenecks and a slowing of production caused by coronavirus-related conditions.

This strike, which is against Maine’s largest employer, takes place as capitalist bosses across the country are trying to place the burden of today’s capitalist crisis on the backs of working people. “All over this state and country the essential people are rising up to demand respect, justice and a fair share of the wealth we create,” Cynthia Phinney, president of the Maine AFL-CIO, said June 21.

In Bath — a city of a little over 8,000 people — there have been at least three Black Lives Matter demonstrations prior to the strike.

“Around the country you are seeing more people standing up and fighting for their rights, we are doing the same,” said Tyler Cardillo, a tin knocker who is on strike for the first time.

Help get the word out about the strike at Bath Iron Works. Join their picket lines. Get messages of support from your union, church or your co-workers. Send messages and contributions to IAM Local S6, 722 Washington St., Bath, ME 04530.

## New edition from Pathfinder: The Jewish Question: A Marxist Interpretation

by Abram Leon

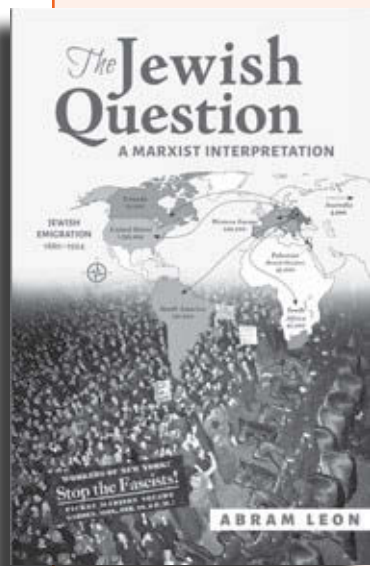
At the opening of the 21st century, incidents of violent assault on Jews and anti-Semitism have begun spreading, fueled by today’s capitalist crises. From antiquity to feudalism, to capitalism’s rise and death throes of the past century — Jews have been targets of persecution.

Why is Jew-hatred still raising its ugly head? What are its class roots? Why is there no solution to the Jewish question without revolutionary struggles that transform working people as we fight to transform our world?

The 2020 edition includes a new introduction by Dave Prince, 32 pages of photos and illustrations, 7 pages of maps, a glossary, an expanded index and a revised translation.

Abram Leon was killed in October 1944, at age 26, in the Nazi gas chambers at Auschwitz.

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# Supreme Court: Job discrimination for being gay, transgender is illegal

## Ruling includes ‘poison pill’ against women’s rights fight

BY EMMA JOHNSON

The U.S. Supreme Court ruled June 15 that “An employer who fires an individual merely for being gay or transgender defies the law.” This ruling, like their 2015 decision striking down state government restrictions barring gay people from getting married, registers rapidly changing attitudes among working people and others against denial of equal rights.

Since 1964 there have been several proposals in Congress to have sexual orientation and gender added as a protected class like sex or nationality under existing civil rights legislation. Because of the deepening crisis of the capitalist rulers’ two-party system today, all such attempts have failed, despite the far-reaching changes in public sentiment. The court here took it upon itself to relieve the legislature of its responsibility, essentially making new law itself in the guise of a court decision.

In doing so, the majority planted a poison pill in the ruling, mixing sex, sexual orientation and gender together as if they were the same thing.

A 6-3 majority of the court — Donald Trump appointee Neil Gorsuch, Chief Justice John Roberts and the four liberal justices — chose to base the decision on Title VII of the 1964 Civil Rights Act. This outlaws workplace discrimination on the basis of “race, color, religion, sex or national origin.”

Then Gorsuch spends much of the rest of the decision on attempts to justify squeezing “sexual orientation” and “gender” into being a kind of “sex.” He concedes that in 1964, when the law was

adopted, the reference to “sex” meant there could be no discrimination against women or men based on their sex. But he brushes that aside.

In a *Washington Post* op-ed backing the court majority’s argumentation, assistant law professor Daniel Hemel calls Gorsuch’s torturous line of reasoning “technically adroit” and “elegant.”

But the fact is, the court’s way of handling the case assures that years of litigation will follow. Reactionary forces that advance a gender-over-sex agenda will weaken the fight for women’s emancipation. They will seek to use the ruling to demand admittance to women’s bathrooms, sports competitions, locker rooms and other sex-separate spaces, and to attack freedom of speech and health care.

Hailing the court’s reasoning, Devin Michelle Buntin wrote June 23 in the *New York Times*, “Stop using ‘male’ and ‘female’ to refer to men and women.”

“Women with penises and prominent larynxes,” she said, “use the ladies’ restroom.”

### Not based on ‘equal protection’

The court could easily have avoided trying to turn sex into gender, and issued a far clearer and stronger decision by overturning discrimination in hiring and firing based on the 14th Amendment to the Constitution. This mighty product of the victory of the North in the Civil War, the overthrow of slavery, and Radical Reconstruction, says “No state shall make or enforce any law which shall ... deny any person within its jurisdiction equal protection

# New Zealand factory workers fight to get back stolen pay

BY JANET ROTH

AUCKLAND, New Zealand — “Management told us we had the option of using our paid leave or going without pay. That is, we could feed our families or not feed them. We could pay our bills or not. It was no option,” Pena Tamamasui, head union delegate at the Temperzone air-conditioning and ventilation factory, told some 200 co-workers and supporters rallying outside the plant here June 20. Workers are demanding the bosses reinstate their stolen vacation, sick day and other leave pay.

The factory closed for five weeks during the COVID-19 lockdown imposed by the government, and the company stopped paying wages. Instead, they paid workers by using up their accrued or future funds allocated for paid leaves.

The bosses delayed applying for the New Zealand government’s wage subsidy scheme, a “stimulus” hand-out to employers to cover workers’ pay while the factory was shut down. When the scheme was announced in late March, Finance Minister Grant Robertson said, “This is about helping business to adjust.”

The company has now received from



Militant/Terry Coggan

**June 20 protest at Temperzone factory. Owners kept government subsidy for workers’ wages, “paid” workers out of vacation, sick pay.**

the government’s wage subsidy just under 2.2 million New Zealand dollars (\$1.4 million) for 310 workers.

“They say they’ve paid us, but we haven’t been paid anything. We want our annual paid leave back,” union delegate Oriwa Morehu told the *Militant*. “We have no leave left for Christmas or if something crops up. A lot of us are Polynesians with big families. Bereavement leave only covers immediate family, so we use our annual leave for our wider family.”

The workers, members of the E tu

and FIRST unions, have held several pickets in front of the plant since they’ve been called back to work. “In the history of Temperzone there has never been anything like this,” Grant Chalmers told this worker-correspondent. He has worked there 24 years. “They keep telling us ‘we’re a Temperzone family,’ but it doesn’t feel like that.”

The company also just eliminated the jobs of 65 factory workers, a number of whom were at the picket.

Throughout the protest, young people circulated giving out food and drinks. Madila Palu, who was handing out cupcakes she had baked and decorated that morning, said they were from a local group of Pacific Islanders called Brown Pride Boot Camp who had come to give support.

The African-born organizers of the huge June 1 Black Lives Matter march here also came to show solidarity. A cheer went up when it was announced they were there.

The spirited protest continued for four hours, with passing cars tooting their support. Workers’ chants included “Union power!” and “Give me my leave, you dirty thieves.”

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*Class, Privilege, and Learning under Capitalism*  
by Jack Barnes  
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over sex and gender in the future.

The decision now moves to the state level for implementation. Workplace protection for gays and transgender people varies across the country. Sixteen states have no protections, others limit them to public employees. Some protect sexual orientation, but not gender. Others protect both.

### Similarities to Roe v Wade

The June 15 decision has striking similarities with the 1973 Roe v. Wade Supreme Court ruling that legalized abortion. That ruling cut short a growing fight by defenders of women’s rights to win legalization of abortion rights based on equal protection. It demobilized the movement for women’s rights and cut short the momentum towards winning overwhelming support to women’s right to choose to have an abortion.

The court majority refused to base Roe v. Wade on the 14th Amendment and its equal protection for women to control their own bodies and health care. Instead, it conditioned legalization on medical criteria, like the age of fetal viability and the need for a doctor’s consent. This opened the door to relentless decadeslong efforts by opponents of women’s rights to chip away at access to abortion. For many women, especially if you live in a rural area, access today is loaded with barriers.

The vast majority of counties in the U.S. have no abortion clinic. Six states have only one. Restrictions are manifold, including waiting times, compulsory counseling about “alternatives,” parental consent and many more. The latest attempt to bar women from being able to obtain an abortion came during the coronavirus outbreak, when some state governments tried to bar them as a “nonessential” medical procedure.

How working people organize to fight to win and defend their rights is crucial. Otherwise these rights are open to ongoing attacks. And, in the case of the June 15 Supreme Court decision, this can open the door to reactionary campaigns to erase the true history of women’s oppression and their ongoing fight for emancipation.



# Join SWP campaign! Back Bath strike!

Continued from front page

ic and Republican parties! Joe Biden and Donald Trump are both staunchly committed to defending the interests of the capitalist rulers, their never-ending assaults on jobs, wages and working conditions and the cop brutality and wars their system breeds.

Our campaign starts from the fact that workers and farmers have the capacity to fight to change these conditions, to build a movement of millions that can end them once and for all.

SWP candidates around the country are building solidarity with striking union machinists in Bath, Maine, who are standing up to the shipyard bosses' demands to replace them with more and cheaper subcontractors and for other concessions. Strikers told SWP campaigners who joined their picket lines June 23 that they are determined to stop the bosses from doing away with union jobs that area youth will need in the future. Join us in getting the word out about their struggle and help spread resistance to the bosses' attacks!

Every fight waged by workers is important, whether we have a union or not — from the Machinists strike in Maine and the many on-the-job actions at Walmart and elsewhere where workers come together to push back bosses' attacks, to the widespread protests against cop brutality.

SWP campaigners build actions to push forward the fight to win the prosecution of cops who brutalize working people, from George Floyd in Minneapolis to Breonna Taylor in Louisville, Kentucky, to Mike Ramos in Austin, Texas, and many others.

But deadly assaults by cops will not end under capitalism. Cops are an irreplaceable part of the capitalist rulers' "justice" system, with its frame-ups and plea-bargain railroad to prison that exist for only one reason — to protect those who profit from our exploitation. One of the main reasons the bosses and their government set up the cops beginning in the 1830s was to use them against the labor movement.

The same ruling class that relies on the cops' violence enforces life-threatening speedup on the job, leaves millions of workers without health care and sends us to fight and die in their wars.

As SWP campaigners talk with fellow working people in cities, towns and rural areas, and learn more about the conditions they face, we point to what can be done today to build a movement that workers and farmers will use to end capitalist rule.

We explain why workers need to build our own



Militant/Dan Fein

**Alyson Kennedy speaks at rally against police brutality in Millennium Park in Chicago June 20. Join the SWP campaign, the working-class alternative in November elections.**

party, a labor party, based on our struggles against attacks by the bosses and their government. A party that can unite and mobilize the immense power of all those exploited and oppressed and lead us to break from the capitalists' twin parties and chart our own course forward.

As we do so workers will fight to take more control of production out of the bosses' hands, so that we set line speeds and safety conditions, decide how many workers are hired, and ensure that the shoddy and dangerous goods they produce — like the Boeing 737 Max — are never made that way again.

Taking control over all aspects of production will be a school for our class and our allies to learn how to run the entire economy as we organize to take political power into our own hands.

"Only the conquest, and exercise, of state power by the working class and the expropriation of finance capital can lay the foundations for a world based not on exploitation, violence, racial discrimination, class-based pecking orders, and dog-eat-dog competition," SWP National Secretary Jack Barnes writes in *Malcolm X, Black Liberation, and the Road to Workers Power*, "but on solidarity among working people that encourages the creativity and recognition of the worth of every individual, regardless of sex, national origin, or skin color."

"A socialist world."

This is a life truly worth living! Join the SWP campaign!

## Interest growing in SWP election campaign

Continued from page 4

with workers at the shift change at Rochelle Foods, a meat processing plant in Rochelle, and at the big Ford assembly plant in Chicago. Two workers at Rochelle got subscriptions to the paper and 20 at the Ford plant bought single issues.

In Staunton, Illinois, one of many small towns where protests against police brutality have been organized, Jarrett discussed what can be done to reverse the weakening of our unions with Larry Hanstein, a retired member of the Machinists. Jarrett explained the only way to transform the unions comes out of our struggles. "And the wave of protests responding to the killing of George Floyd in big cities and small towns can give impetus for change in the unions," Jarrett said.

Hanstein agreed. "A true union has to depend on brother union members." He took some campaign literature and bought a copy of the *Militant*.

On June 20 Kennedy joined a march of 200 people in downtown Chicago against cop brutality and spoke at the rally. "The size of these marches combined with the fights in the workplace will help us build a powerful movement," she said. She described her visit

to bring solidarity to striking fruit packing workers in Washington state, and the impact their victory had on their view of themselves and their ability to fight and make gains.

Campaigners sold 28 subscriptions and some 27 books during the Chicago-area leg of the tour.

Get involved! Contact campaign supporters in the area nearest you, listed on page 4.

*Naomi Craine in Chicago contributed to this article.*

### Join the Socialist Workers Party campaign in 2020! Campaign for what you are *for*, not who you're against!

- ☐ I want to endorse the Socialist Workers Party ticket of Alyson Kennedy for president and Malcolm Jarrett for vice president.
- ☐ I want to join in campaigning or host a house meeting for the candidates. Please contact me.
- ☐ Here is my contribution of \$\_\_\_\_\_ to help spread the word. (Make checks to Socialist Workers National Campaign)
- ☐ I would like a 12-week subscription to the *Militant*, the campaign newspaper. (\$5 enclosed, checks payable to the *Militant*.)

**Send in along with your name, address, phone # and e-mail address to:**  
Socialist Workers Party 2020 Campaign, 306 W. 37th St., 13th Floor, NY, NY 10018. Tel: 347-871-0282 ☎ Email: socialistworkers2020@gmail.com

## India, China tensions

Continued from front page

said it was not releasing figures in order to avoid "stoking the public mood."

Chinese forces released 10 captured Indian soldiers June 18.

### Long-standing contention

Despite its remoteness, the frontier has been in contention since the 1800s when the rival rulers of Britain, Russia and China claimed various parts of the region. The bloody Pakistan-India war in 1947 left the border between China and India in dispute. The invasion and occupation of Tibet by Beijing in 1950 brought Chinese territory to the mountainous Indian border.

Beijing and New Delhi have rival claims over the Aksai Chin plateau that borders both China's Xinjiang province and Ladakh in northeast India. In 1962, the rulers of India and China fought a border war in which Indian troops suffered the most casualties.

Last year Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi formally separated Ladakh from occupied Jammu and Kashmir, after revoking the predominantly Muslim region's special status.

The latest conflict comes amid broader disputes between Beijing and other regimes in the region, as well as with Washington. Recent moves by the Chinese rulers to expand their reach and influence in South Asia, both economically and militarily, have raised alarm in the Indian ruling class.

Near the area of the clash, Beijing is building a transport corridor between China and Pakistan under its Belt and Road Initiative. The whole region is riven by ongoing disputes: Beijing's continued occupation of Tibet; the Chinese rulers' brutal oppression of the Uighurs, a Muslim people, in Xinjiang; and sharpening conflicts between the rulers in Pakistan and India over divided Kashmir.

The Indian rulers have deepened their appeal to economic nationalism in response to Beijing's growing influence. After the most recent frontier fight, protests broke out across India calling for a boycott of Chinese goods.

The Chinese economy has gone from equal in size in 1985 to that of India to nearly five times today. Beijing's military spending, on a par with New Delhi's in 1989, is now three times larger.

India-China trade has grown massively from \$3 billion in 2000 to more than \$95 billion in 2018, with the trade deficit heavily in Beijing's favor. But in 2019 the U.S. replaced China as India's largest trading partner.

### Steps to alliance with Washington

In April New Delhi tightened its foreign investment laws aimed at Chinese capital. In November last year, the Modi government pulled out of the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership, Beijing's Asian trade bloc. The Indian government said it also plans to cancel a huge railway contract with a Chinese company.

Like other U.S. allies, the Indian government is set to deny Chinese tech companies like Huawei access to construct the country's new 5G communications network.

The U.S. rulers and their allies in the region are looking to pull New Delhi into collaboration in confronting Beijing. The rulers in India and Australia have just signed a military agreement allowing Indian forces to use Australian bases and vice versa. The Australian navy is expected to participate in planned joint exercises by Indian, U.S. and Japanese forces.

This show of force is intended to serve as a warning to Beijing's increasing projection of sea power in the Indian Ocean.

Indian officials compared Beijing's new aggressiveness on the Himalayan border with their buildup of military installations on islets in the South China Sea.

### 'Militant' Prisoners' Fund

The fund makes it possible to send prisoners reduced rate subscriptions. Send a check or money order payable to the 'Militant' and earmarked "Prisoners' Fund" to 306 W. 37th St., 13th Floor, New York, NY 10018. Or donate online at [www.themilitant.com](http://www.themilitant.com)