Build solidarity with shipyard workers strike in Bath, Maine

BY JOHN STUDER

The strike by over 4,300 shipbuilders, members of Machinists Union Local S6, against the bosses at the Bath Iron Works in Maine is the most important labor battle in the U.S. today. Workers there deserve the solidarity of working people everywhere.

The unionists voted overwhelmingly to go on strike June 22 against the refusal of the shipyard bosses, a division of giant military contractor General Dynamics, to back off from their “last, best and final” concession contract offer. At issue is the company’s intention to bring in more contract labor, threatening workers’ jobs; to cut back seniority protection on jobs and shifts; and to force workers to pay more for health care.

The union organized a “delay their ride home” reception for strikebreakers, Jamie Bellefleur, one of the striking union members, told the Militant. She described how some 40 strikers were working 12-hour shifts. “Please help me fight out there,” he wrote.

When Goldstein contacted Diana Woodside, the Pennsylvania Department of Corrections official responsible for reviewing literature bans in state prisons, she said Camp Hill hadn’t sent her a notice of impoundment. She told Goldstein to send the impoundment.

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Workers need a labor party, control of production, safety

BY TERRY EVANS

In an important victory for the rights of workers behind bars and of the press, Pennsylvania state prison officials overturned Camp Hill State Correctional Institution’s ban on issue no. 28 of the Militant on Aug. 3. The paper’s attorney, David Goldstein, had informed prison officials that the Militant was prepared to appeal the impoundment.

The reversal of the ban was made possible because an inmate who subscribes to the paper mailed the Militant to report his issue had been impounded and he was challenging the ban. “Please help me fight out there,” he wrote.

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‘A labor party can organize workers in their millions’

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SOCIALIST WORKERS PARTY STATEMENT

Working people need to build our own party, a labor party, to use to organize us in our millions to stand up to the efforts of the bosses, their parties and their government to push the burden of the crisis of their dog-eat-dog capitalist class program to build the union movement to defend our jobs, wages and working conditions.

Intervention by capitalist rivals is disaster for toilers in Libya

BY TERRY EVANS

Nine years after Washington — with the aid of its imperialist rivals in London and Paris — intervened in Libya’s civil war, launching massive airstrikes that helped overthrow the regime of Moammar Gadhafi in 2011, there is still no stable government there. The country has become a battleground for foreign capitalist powers seeking oil — Libya has the largest oil reserves in Africa — and jockeying for influence throughout the region.

Working people in Libya are caught in the middle, facing unending foreign intervention and battles by rival capitalist forces.

Prison officials in Pennsylvania revoke ban on the ‘Militant’

BY TERRY EVANS

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The percentage decrease in GDP this quarter is by far the biggest on record

BY ROY LANDERSEN

Working people from the U.S. to China, Germany to Iran face ongoing efforts of the bosses, their parties and their governments seek to solve the deepening crisis of the capitalist system on our backs. This crisis is greatly exacerbated by the continuing coronavirus epidemic.

Workers are looking for ways to battle against bosses’ attacks on wages, working conditions and jobs. And for ways to build and strengthen unions and to find a working-class political road forward.

The most important labor battle in the U.S. is the strike by 4,300 shipbuilding workers against a union-busting attack by the bosses at the Bath Iron Works. Fights like this, as well as thousands of daily on-the-job skirmishes in factories, warehouses and retail outlets like Walmart, are crucial to the development of a broader working-class movement and rebuilding our unions.

One important new workers’ battle is a strike by thousands of Iranian oil workers in the South Pars gas field de-
Court backs Nevada govt’s attack on right to worship

BY BRIAN WILLIAMS

In a serious attack on the constitutional right of freedom to worship, the U.S. Supreme Court voted July 24 to refuse to suspend a public health order imposed by Nevada Gov. Steve Sisolak limiting attendance at church services. It was part of a series of edicts issued under the guise of stopping the spread of coronavirus.

This is the second such ruling by the black-robed arbiters of “justice” in the past two months restricting the First Amendment’s blanket protection for the right to worship. These are rights working people need today to defend oursevles against government interference in our lives and struggles.

In both cases the four so-called liberal justices — Ruth Bader Ginsburg, Stephen Breyer, Sonia Sotomayor and Elena Kagan — were joined by Chief Justice John Roberts, an appointee of George W. Bush, in the majority. In the earlier case in May, the Supreme Court rejected a similar challenge to the orders restricting gatherings of 50 or fewer people.

Calvary Chapel Dayton Valley, a small church in rural Nevada, about 45 miles east of Reno, had filed a lawsuit against the Democratic governor, saying his order limiting to 50 people the number who could attend indoor religious services discriminated against churches, violating First Amendment rights. The governor has allowed casinos and other businesses to admit up to 50% of their capacity.

The church said it wanted to conduct services with 100 people present, a figure amounting to 50% of their fire code capacity. Church officials made clear this would be done with appropriate social distancing and other measures to counter the spread of COVID-19.

Lawyers for the church wrote, “If the governor deems it acceptable for secular assemblies to occur at 50 percent capacity at casinos, restaurants, bars, gyms and fitness facilities, indoor and outdoor theme parks, bowling alleys, water parks, pools, arcades and more, he must apply the 50 percent capacity rule to constitutionally protected worship services.”

Justice Neil Gorsuch wrote a succinct and pointed dissenting opinion in defense of the Constitution. “This is a simple case,” he said. “Under the Governor’s edict, a 10-screen ‘multiplex’ may host 500 moviegoers at any time. A casino, too, may cater to hundreds at once.

“Large numbers and close quarters are fine in such places. But churches, synagogues, and mosques are banned from admitting more than 50 worshippers. But the First Amendment prohibits such obvious discrimination against the exercise of religion. The world we inhabit today, with a pandemic upon us, poses unusual challenges. But there is no world in which the Constitution permits Nevada to favor Caesars Palace over Calvary Chapel.”

In contrast, Linda Greenhouse, in a July 30 New York Times op-ed column hailed the decision, claiming the justices who voted against disproportionately restricting attendance at church services were “seeking to elevate religious interests over those of secular society.” She denounced them for seeking to “turn a public health issue into a religious crusade.”

These rulings come down as there are increasing attacks on Jews, Catholics, Muslims and others over their religion. Jews in New York, New Jersey and elsewhere have been scapegotized as responsible for the spread of coronavirus.

Synagogues have been targeted for police raids, Jewish-owned stores have been shot up and Hasidic Jews in Brooklyn have been attacked on the street.

In the earlier case in May, the Supreme Court rejected a similar challenge by the South Bay United Pentecostal Church in Chula Vista, California, which sought to overturn an executive order by Gov. Gavin Newsom.

In defending the court’s ruling in that case, Roberts wrote, “Although California’s guidelines place restrictions on places of worship, these restrictions appear consistent with the free exercise clause of the First Amendment.”

EVENTS CELEBRATE 67TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE OPENING OF THE CUBAN REVOLUTION

Events worldwide celebrated the 67th anniversary of the opening of the Cuban Revolution. Today, 30,000 Cuban health care workers serve in 60 countries in an act of solidarity. “They don’t see health care as a business, but a human right,” said Cuban Ambassador Edgardo Valdés.

Latvia, America, Caribbean: For one year send $85 down on a U.S. bank to above address.

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Workers reject both federal cops and disruption by antifa

BY SETH GALINSKY

Working people in Portland and else-
where welcome the announcement that the administration of Donald Trump is withdrawing its use of federal cops — including a Border Patrol SWAT team that is trained to act like special forces — around the U.S. courthouse and other government buildings in Portland.

When the federal government deploys heavily armed cops on city streets, it’s almost never good for the working class. There just isn’t enough support from the people who are being arrested, arrested in the same way, as they would if the cops were local. They can’t do their stuff.

Not to mention the local cops act much differ-
tently than the federal ones. Portland’s cops have also indiscriminately fired tear gas at protestors and brutalized those who got in their way. On July 30 they drove protestors from camps they had set up in downtown city parks.

Oregon state troopers have re-
acted the federal cops’ “protection” of federal buildings.

For participants in the various protest actions in Portland over the last several months, it’s been no secret that there are two separate and competing actions in the city every night.

The editors of the New York Times whose policy is to blame Trump for everything they think is wrong in hopes of driving him from office and other liberal and middle-class radical media like what is going on in Portland. A good example is the July 29 Times piece by senior columnist Nicholas Kristof, entitled “Help Me Find Trump’s ‘Anarchists’ in Port-
land — and Other Liberal and Middle-Class Apologists,” in which Kristof writes of various groups at the federal building.

“Two different things” These media insist on calling all those on those streets just “protesters.” But the antifa are “terrorists.” They describe themselves as opposition to everything.

“Violence is coming: may as well have fun while we wait,” one wrote on their website, “It’s Going Down,” describing how they set fires and insti-
tiated other mayhem. They denounce the police violence.

But for broadening out the fight is the only way more powerful, united working-class movement that can win more victories.

Articles in the Oregonian and by Reuters reveal the real story. They show how there are two distinctly differ-

“As midnight looms,” a small band goes into action, “trying to attack the courthouse through fireworks and ob-
jects at police and agents over a fence guarding the building,” Reuters reporter Deborah Bloom writes.

She then quotes from 22-year-old Black male nurse Najei Gow, who got active after Minneapolis cops killed George Floyd. “There are two differ-
tent kinds of peacefulness,” he told Bloom, “trying to send a message they will never forget,” posted someone called Hamelech.

“The police aren’t all peaceful, nor are they primarily violent,” writes Kristof, despite these facts. “They’re a complicated weave. We can’t do away with them.”

Neither antifa and self-proclaimed anarchist groupings, nor liberal apologists like Kristof are looking to build a move-
ment that can force the capitalist rul-
ers to rein in the police. They are not looking to broaden their fight against police brutality by organizing protests designed to reach out and involve the trade unions, churches and other orga-

nizations of working people.

But broadening out the fight is the only way more powerful, united working-class movement that can win more victories.

Build solidarity with Bath shipyard workers’ strike

Continued from front page

“Veterans from different generations — from the Vietnam War, from the post 9/11 generation, joined the protest,” Ariyanna Hunter, left, told the Militant in a phone interview the day after an Aug. 2 demonstration she organized in Pittsburgh of Veterans for Black Lives.

Many of those attending saw and experienced racism in the military,” she said. “And when you look at the number of people killed by the po-
lice, you’ll find many are named ‘federal forces,’ and this is often over-
looked in press coverage.”

Some 25 people attended the protest against cop brutality, including veterans from “the Marine Corps, the Air Force and the Army, Black and white, men and women,” Hunter said.

She had organized a several hundred-strong protest against cop brutality in the small town of Murrysville where she lives outside Pittsburgh in June. “The number of folks turning out all across rural Pennsylvania is amazing,” she told the Pittsburgh Tribune at that rally. “If we’re going to change anything we also have to show our neighbors that Black lives matter.”

As a 10 year old she had watched her own father, who is Black, “pinned down by police officers just like George Floyd was and put in the back of a police car on a minor marijuana charge.”

“It’s an atrocity that the officers who killed Breonna Taylor have not been arrested,” she said. Public actions have taken place around the country and internationally demanding the arrest and prosecution of the three cops who shot Taylor dead March 13. They used a “no-knock” warrant to break into her apartment, firing over 20 rounds and killing the emergency-room technician after her boyfriend had fired one bullet, suspecting a break-in at her home. The cops made no effort to get Taylor medical assistance in the five minutes that she lay dying.

“I joined the Army as an act of patriotism two months after 9/11,” Hunter said, serving in some of the first on-the-ground troop deployments to Iraq in 2003. “But even back then I didn’t support the Iraq War.”

— TERRY EVANS

BUILD SOLIDARITY WITH BATH SHIPYARD WORKERS’ STRIKE

The other thing the workers have — and need more of — is solidarity from fellow workers across the country. Salty Boyz Food Truck in Bath, with financial support from some other local small businesses, brought food for over 100 picketers on the line. And two area food banks are bringing provisions to the Bath Senior Center on Aug. 10 for strik-
ers to pick up when they come to get their weekly strike pay.

A local bar is organizing a solidarity event with a live band Aug. 7. You can help. Get the word out about their fight to your co-workers, your union, church or other groups.

Come to Bath and walk the picket line. Send messages and contributions to the strike fund at IAM Local S6, 722 Washington St., Bath, ME 04530, or donations through PayPal at www. paypal.me/LocalLodge56.

Ved Dookhan in Albany, New York, contributed to this article.
Help put SWP on the ballot!

Continued from front page

fight in our own interests and in the interests of all the exploited and oppressed: It can't be won as workers fight to wrest control of production from profit-hungry bosses, growing numbers can be won to replacing capitalist rule with a workers and farmers government.

The SWP's ticket has already been certified for the ballot in Colorado and Vermont, and campaigners have met all the requirements to get on in Louisiana.

"The unions were important, but they're pretty powerless now," Mike Larson, a machinist, said Kennedy as he signed the petition outside a Walmart here. He liked Kennedy "a lot" — is confident that workers needed a labor party, but wasn't confident it could be built.

"For decades officials have tied the unions to the Democratic Party, instead of organizing the ranks to fight in our own interests," Kennedy said. "That paralyzed us." A labor party that acts in the interests of all workers and seeks to unite us in struggle would find ready support from workers looking for ways to stand up to the bosses.

"We need a labor party that would oppose capitalist rule with a workers and farmers government. We need a labor party that would oppose Washington's wars and lead millions to challenge the rule of the wealthy who run this country." When Kennedy knocked on her door, Maureen Carroll, who works at a mental health center, said she support- ed the protests against police killings and was against the violence of antifa and others attacking the federal building in Portland, Oregon.

"We need to defund the police and to use some of this money for mental health." Kennedy pointed to the need to fight for government-funded health care for all, including mental health. "But changing the nature of the police under capitalism isn't possible," she said. "The police are here to defend the ruling class, not the people." She's not just saying she hopes "it helps me see that we're not helpless." Sen. Elizabeth Warren has said she's "a labor leader" and another famously said "labor is socialism." Because we are in a new era of socialism, the label is not meant to make someone地区的区别, or even of a different region.

World War II, exposing islanders to dangerously high levels of radiation. Bikini Atoll remains contaminated to this day.

"Both the Democrats and Republicans were responsible for that crime," Kennedy said. "Workers need a labor party that would oppose Washing- ton's wars and lead millions to challenge the rule of the wealthy who run this country." When Kennedy knocked on her door, Maureen Carroll, who works at a mental health center, said she support- ed the protests against police killings and was against the violence of antifa and others attacking the federal building in Portland, Oregon.

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Workers need a labor party

by BETSEY STONE

SEATTLE — Supporters of the Socialist Workers Party presidential ticket campaigning here have collect- ed more than 2,000 signatures, way over the requirement to put the candi- dates on the ballot. They have spoken with hundreds of workers about the party's action program to confront the economic and social crisis.

Alyson Kennedy will join supporters in the state capital in Olympia Aug. 7 to deliver the petitions, along with a num- ber of letters, making clear the wide- spread support for the party's democrat- ic right to be on the ballot.

Mark Downs, a retired longshore worker and former member of the exec- utive board of International Longshore and Warehouse Union Local 19 in Sea- attle sent a letter to the secretary of state urging him to put the party on the ballot. "The more choices there are on the bal- lot, the better," he wrote.

During a tour stop here, Kennedy and supporters campaigned outside a Walmart near the Boeing jet plant in Renton. Boeing, the largest private employer in the Seattle area, has laid off thousands of workers since the start of the pandemic.

The Socialist Workers Party calls for a federally funded jobs program to put millions to work building things we need, like hospitals and schools and fixing the infrastructure," Kennedy told Sublille Sheldon, a retail worker who was recently laid off from his sec- ond job at the airport.

Sheldon was born and raised in the Marshall Islands and had friends from Bikini Atoll, the island where the U.S. rulers tested their nuclear bombs after

Join the Socialist Workers Party campaign in 2020!

Campaign for what you want, for who you want! — Alyson Kennedy

Tip: Join in the campaign at: https://www.militant.com

www.militant.com

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 meeting for the campaign.

Help spread the word.

(Make checks to Socialist Workers National Campaign)

Send a 12-week subscription to the Militant, a socialist newspaper. ($5 enclosed, checks payable to the Militant.)

Send in along with your name, address, phone # and e-mail address to:

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4 The Militant August 17, 2020
dangerous things can happen when the pressure is on to go faster and faster. We have to stand together to defend ourselves, fight for safety on the job.

Samir Hazboun and Karl Butts knocked on Clark Harris’ door in Lebanon, “I worked for 17 years in a chemical plant here,” Harris said. “We could tell the chemicals were hurting us but the company wouldn’t do anything. When I got sick and had to have liver surgery they let me go. We need to stand together and fight for safety.”

He signed to get the SWP ticket on the ballot and to become an elector and bought a copy of the Militant.

LaRissa Braden, a counselor for children’s services in Memphis, invited Jarrett and Tricia Mack, his sister-in-law, to a get-together at Braden’s home. Jarrett joined campaigners in Jersey City where they met Talicia Jackson. She asked, “What is your position on health care?”

“Health care is a social right,” Jarrett said. “The Cuban Revolution shows the kind of health care system we can have when working people are in control.” In Cuba, with a population of 11.3 million, 87 people have died from coronavirus over the last several months. In contrast, in New York City, with a population of almost 8.4 million at least 23,000 have died. After reading the section of the SWP platform about the alliance between workers and farmers, Jackson said, “A lot of Black farmers are losing land.”

“Yes, and Caucasian farmers as well,” Jarrett said. “While campaigning in Vermont I learned that 25 dairy farmers had lost their farms just since the shutdown.”

“Workers and farmers need to join together in struggle. We need to fight to stop the banks from foreclosing on farmers and taking their land. In Cuba after the revolution farmers won title to the land they worked.”

Jackson signed the petition and subscribed to the Militant.

When campaigner Joanne Kuniansky approached Alex Javier and two of his friends in Newark she said that workers needed to build a labor party, and to fight for a union in every workplace.

“Definitely! Unions have your back at work,” said Javier, a 22-year-old longshoreman and member of the International Longshoremen’s Association. All three signed up to put the SWP on the ballot.

Jacob Perusso contributed to this article.

Want to help campaign for the Socialist Workers Party and aid the fight to get on the ballot? See page 8 for the campaign office nearest you. See endorser card on facing page or email: socialistsworkers2020@gmail.com

25, 50, AND 75 YEARS AGO

August 21, 1995

PHILADELPHIA — Supporters of Black activist Mumia Abu-Jamal cheered as Judge Albert Sabo issued a stay of execution August 7. The ruling means that the death warrant for August 17 will not be carried out. Abu-Jamal, however, will remain on death row.

The much smaller number of armed and uniformed cops in the courtroom sat grimfaced. Abu-Jamal was framed up, convicted, and sentenced to death in 1982 for the murder of police officer Daniel Faulkner. Hearings on his appeal last week took a new turn.

Demonstrations have taken place in more than 50 cities in the United States since governor [Tom] Ridge signed the death sentence June 2. On August 1, some 200 prisoners at the Maximum Security Federal Prison in Lewisburg ran a total of 500 miles around the prison yard in solidarity with Abu-Jamal.

August 7, 1970

CENTER, Colo. — Center is the scene of a strike by Chicano workers that began June 2. The more than 100 strikers and their families are demanding a pay raise, the right to collective bargaining, recognition of their union, and an end to the use of child labor.

The powers-that-be have resorted to all kinds of harassment of the strikers. They have been prevented from holding meetings in a number of places. “We’ve been harassed by the police a lot,” said strike leader Len Avila, “and especially by the sheriff who has two relatives who are running scab crews.”

“The longer the grower holds out the harder it’s going to be for him to negotiate because we’re getting smarter every day,” predicts Avila. “I think we are going to have to victory because our eyes are opening, our minds are opening,” explained [striker] Orlando de Varga.

The Militant August 17, 2020

The second imperialist world war has ended. Six years of slaughter and devastation have been brought to an awful climax with the atomic bomb against the people of Japan.

All ruling class propaganda is mobilized to deceive the masses into thinking that the end of the war means the dawn of true and lasting peace and that peace can be preserved without revolutionary social change.

There can be leisure and comfort and cultural advancement for every man, woman and child on earth. All on one condition—that capitalism, the strangle of human progress, is destroyed! Working men and women in the factories and on the farms! The Trotskyists summon you to the struggle for the socialist revolution! Enlist with us in the battle for a new world in which permanent peace and well-being will be assured for all!
Workers fight boss attacks

Continued from front page

manding unpaid wages and injuries in working conditions. It comes on top of a long strike at the molasses sugar refinery and by workers at industrial facilities in the DC area.

The strike wave began July 28 under Ebrahim Azadshahid, a contract worker from the Mahaboul sugar refinery, who was fired from theuni-

Within a few days, 10,000 contract workers were on strike. They are pro-

testing low wages, the fact their jobs aren’t guaranteed and poor living con-

ditions. They are demanding reduced work hours in temperatures over 120 degrees Fahrenheit. The strikers won for employment agencies in the world’s largest natural jaggery. They say they will stay off work for all this 2020-

year cycle.

The militancy and service activity — contracted

utors page 8 or visit pathfindersw.org.

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year cycle.
Sankara: ‘We draw lessons from all the world’s revolutions’

Thomas Sankara Parle, the French edition of Thomas Sankara Speaks: The Burkina Faso Revolution 1983-87, is one of Pathfinder’s Books of the Month for August. In 1983 Sankara led an uprising in the former French colony of Upper Volta, bringing to power a popular revolutionary government. He led mobilizations by workers, peasants, women and youth to carry out deep social measures and take control of their own destiny in one of the poorest countries in the world. Sankara was assassinated in a counterrevolutionary coup in 1987. An outstanding communist, he followed the example of revolutionary leaders Fidel Castro and Che Guevara, in a counterrevolutionary coup in 1987. In the world. Sankara was assassinated

The French Revolution of 1789, which overturned the power of the kings and their dependence on the absolute monarchy, the blood shed in the revolutions of 1830 and 1848 and the foundation of the Union of the Socialist Republics in 1924 and the French Revolution of 1789, which overturned the power of the kings and their dependence on the absolute monarchy, the blood shed in the revolutions of 1830 and 1848 and the foundation of the Union of the Socialist Republics in 1924 and the Republic’s experience of the formation of the non-aligned countries — that, under the mutual pounding blows of the howling anguish of our peoples, our group will maintain its cohesion, strengthen its character, restore the peoples’ rights to liberty. The great victory of Marxism-Leninism transformed the world, brought about a peaceful coexistence among all nations, and begin, together with those who can still hear us, to organize a genuinely new international system of economic relations. I personally maintain unshakable confidence a confidence shared by the immense community of Non-aligned countries — that, under the mutual pounding blows of the howling anguish of our peoples, our group will maintain its cohesion, strengthen its character, restore the peoples’ rights to liberty. The great victory of Marxism-Leninism transformed the world, brought about a peaceful coexistence among all nations, and begin, together with those who can still hear us, to organize a genuinely new international system of economic relations.

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SYSTEM INTO OUR HANDS

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SOCIALIST WORKERS PARTY STATEMENT

Workers need a labor party!

ALYSON KENNEDY  MALCOLM JARRETT

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Pennsylvania officials revoke prison ‘Militant’ ban

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intervention in Libya

Alyson Kennedy and Malcolm Jarrett

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Intervention in Libya

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We are fighting for a union movement in every workplace nationwide to resist the growing attacks on our jobs, wages and working conditions. This move would defend workers on the job as well as family farm workers. It could serve as a model for other communities and cities across the country.

Getting workers back on the job will end de-moralizing isolation and undercut the ability of the bosses to pit unemployed and employed workers against each other and attack us all.

Unions need to speak out against every example of exploitation, racism, attacks on women and undocumented workers, and explain why workers are capable of uniting to fight to end these conditions. We will gain class-consciousness and learn our own self-worth.

Building a labor party out of these struggles will give us the political tool we need not only to defend our class interests, but also to chart a course to take political power out of the hands of the property-ruling class and establish a workers and farmers government. Workers and farmers in Cuba, led by Fidel Castro and the July 26 Movement, showed that making a socialist revolution and transforming social relations is not only necessary but possible.

From the mass battles that won the right of women to vote 100 years ago this month or built the industrial union movement in the 1930s to the Black-led popular movement that tore down Jim Crow segregation, the working-class has a proud record of courageous and disciplined struggle. But to truly end the dictatorship of capital, to open the door to a new future, all humility, we need to take power over our own hands.

To advance this perspective, the SWP is running and campaigning on a fighting working-class program in 2020. Join our fight to get on the ballot in as many states as possible!

I enjoy reading it and when I’m not reading it, I enjoy the thought that is expressed in it. I have the interest of my rich capitalist and Democratic parties only in mind. Politicians that have the people’s interest in mind would defend workers on the job as well as family farm workers. They would organize a union movement in every workplace nationwide to resist the growing attacks on our jobs, wages and working conditions. This move would defend workers on the job as well as family farm workers. It could serve as a model for other communities and cities across the country.

I’m glad to know that there is a political party for the working people. Unfortunately, I didn’t know about you until I started receiving your newspaper and now I’m in the process of losing my voting rights and can no longer vote. Thank you. A prisoner Ohio

‘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

Editor’s note: Thanks for your letter, glad to know you like the ‘Militant’ and help it get around to other work- ers. The Socialist Workers Party and the Socialist Workers Party’s Fund stands for the right to vote of prisoners and former prisoners like all the rest of us. You are entitled to freedom of speech and of politics, to follow what is happening in the class struggle and express your opinions no matter what side of the prison walls you happen to be on at the moment.

The letters column is an open forum for all viewpoints on subjects of interest to working people. Please keep them brief. Where necessary they will be abridged. Indicate if you prefer that your initials be used rather than your full name.

The Militant  August 17, 2020

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