

Justice Rising

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JUSTICE RISING is a publication of **The Alliance for Democracy**, whose mission is to end the domination of our politics, our economics, the environment, and our culture by large corporations. The Alliance seeks to establish true economic and political democracy and to create a just society with a sustainable, equitable economy.

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Nancy Price and Lou Hammann

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by Jim Tarbell

Ten years ago, corporate globalization was on the march and local economies were not even thought of. Then, in November 1999, fifty thousand people showed up in Seattle for the World Trade Organization (WTO) Ministerial Conference. AfD's brave contingent marched to the front lines in the battle against money power holding a giant banner proclaiming *End Corporate Rule*. Corporate globalization faltered that day and all the people that came from small towns and big cities across the country went home and started building their local economies.

Last week, in our small community in Northern California, great, young organizers at the Noyo Food Forest, who have created a community-gardens-to-the-schools project, held an Earth Day fest celebrating localization and sustainability. An amazing 1600 people showed up, more than double the year before. Localization is on the rise, but global corporate power is still a force to be reckoned with. While governments around the world are proclaiming that free trade economics is a bust, that the invisible hand of the market is a failure and needs government regulation to ensure a sustainable future, corporate power is in the back rooms pushing global rulemaking that would make regulations illegal.

The effort to build a sustainable world requires a two-pronged strategy. On the one hand we must stop the global elites from promoting their self-serving, life destructing policies, and on the other hand we need to build a new economy based on the finite size of our planet and its ability to deal with our waste and pollution. Building our local economies is a big part of that solution. But it will also be necessary to establish policies from the local to the global to ensure that the financial elite and corporate-funded politicians do not set the agenda.

This issue of *Justice Rising* is about ensuring that there is a deglobalization of corporate power and a relocalization of our economies and lifestyles. It has been co-edited by Ruth Caplan, who has followed this two-pronged strategy for decades. She headed up the effort to write the General Agreement on the New Economy and has been part of the international movement Our World is Not for Sale. She was the Alliance's first Co-chair with Ronnie Dugger and is the current chair of the Defending Water for Life Campaign of the Alliance for Democracy.



This Issue & The Next

For more information on alternative economics and corporate power see the Fall 2007 *Justice Rising* on *Moving from the Extraction Economy to the Restoration Economy*. The next issue of *Justice Rising* will be on *Housing for Humans Not Corporate Castles*. Send submissions by July 6, 2009.

Hundredfold Farm Wins Award & In the News

AfD Co-chair Lou Hammann and friends brought Hundredfold Farm into being against all odds. Now it is an award-winning, 80 acre co-hosting project that features passive solar houses with photo voltaic power generating panels, an onsite biological wastewater treatment plant, and rainwater catchment.

This community has come together to do more than live ecologically sound lives. They have come together for community. Their vision is to "create, a small multi-generational intentional community of individuals who will actively practice and share the art of living in a sustainable way."

They strive to:

- cultivate and nurture relationships among themselves, both children and adults;

- have equal ownership of common land in order to avoid hierarchical privilege;
- create a cohesive community on a humane scale by arranging the houses and a common house to encourage and facilitate resident interaction;
- live in a sustainable way by encouraging environmentally sound decisions;
- sustain themselves by producing as much of their own wholesome and healthy food as possible;

This year the Green Building Association of Central Pennsylvania awarded them its 2009 Innovation in Design Award and the news media has given it plenty of coverage. Local CBS and Fox TV have both been there and NPR featured them on Earth Day 2009 on Barbara Bogaev's Sustainability segment. As she says "It may be that Hundredfold Farm is a step into all of our futures."

See www.hundredfoldfarm.org for more information.

