



WHO WE ARE

News Not Bombs is edited and produced by members of Canton Food not Bombs. Canton FNB is a Pan-Left group that believes food is a right, not a privilege. We are a horizontally operated working-class collective that believes: direct action gets the goods, solidarity over charity, we keep us safe, and a meal tastes best when shared with your community.

We do not require proof of work, status, sobriety, or religious affiliation to eat with us; only that you are hungry. You will find the following at our serves:

- Vegetarian meals
- Cold or hot beverages
- Toiletries
- Basic OTC medications
- Harm reduction supplies
- Community



THE CANTON COPWATCH

by a concerned citizen

As the Canton Community grapples with the fact that Frank Tyson's released autopsy reports that Mr. Tyson's death was ruled a "homicide", as we all knew to be the truth, we all wait to watch the same song and dance by our city officials as they pass the buck and reassure the CPD that they are special. Although, we hope and organize for a change. Since the murder of Frank Tyson, many concerned citizens have been attending the Canton City Council meetings on Monday nights, in hopes to speak truth to power in the shameful halls of our city council.

In other Canton Copwatch news, a viral 21 second video of Canton Police officer Brandon Momirov kicking a compliant and kneeling young man, Jaemiir McElroy, in the chest, has triggered an investigation. An investigation into the actions of CPD by the Canton Police Department, to determine if they are in trouble, rest assured.

The viral video, filmed on the night of August 24th (2024) by a bystander, since the bodycam video has yet to be released, shows a large group of officers quickly approaching a group of young black men standing together (which is a crime, depending on the mood of an officer). As the officers yell at the young men to stop and lay on the ground, many listen and begin to get down. As McElroy, with his hands up, gets on his knees, a CPD officer runs (for momentum, one would have to assume) into the frame and ruthlessly slams his foot into the chest of the young McElroy, knocking him onto the ground.

The Canton Police Department was allegedly responding to a 911 call about an argument outside. So, in order to "protect" these fellow Cantonites from the violence of a fight that may or may not have already happened, they resort to their own violence; most likely out of frustration that they missed an opportunity to beat and abuse with impunity. Now, out of desperation, embarrassment, and retaliation this young man is being charged with resisting arrest and obstruction by CPD.

Furthermore, it was reported that the victims of this random CPD street brawl were in possession of marijuana, pistols, scales, and money. All of which are legal, in the state of Ohio since August 6th, 2024. This makes one wonder what else they had on them: car keys, cigarettes, maybe a bottle of water?

Despite Chief of Police John Gabbard's reminder to us that "our officers face stressful, dangerous situations... and Officers using force outside the parameters of our training, policy and principles will be held accountable", the last couple of years leads any Cantonite to think that Gabbard is either talking through his teeth, has no control over this department, or both. As of late September 2024, Officer Momirov was fired. However, will he be charged like any other citizen that assaults another? The CPD murders of James Williams, Zachary Fornash, Frank Tyson, among others, and the abuse and beatings of Kieven Conver, Jaemiir McElroy, among many others, leaves Cantonites wondering who it is the CPD really protects and serves, because it is not the people of Canton.

Policing behaviors

- 1. Fear-based tactics-Trying to control someone through manipulation, threats, humiliation, other forms of social control.**
- 2. Leadership uses demoralization and intimidation**
- 3. Attempts to control or force situations for your own comfort**
- 4. Sense of superiority- finding ways to think you're better than someone else.**
- 5. "Warrior mindset"- Be at war with the public- everyone has ill-intentions**
- 6. Uncheck biases-unwilling to learn about persons different from yourself**



Ask yourself, "Am I acting like a cop?"

THE ELUSIVE NOW

by Russel

We anarchists reject hierarchies. (No gods no masters) One of the most harmful organizations in which hierarchies exist, in my opinion, is within organized religion. These top down structures serve to convince people that the top level members have access to God that lower members do not; that to be nearer to God one must come to the church building and interact with the priest, pastor or whatever title the upper members of the hierarchy are called.

Being an atheist, I renounce all judgemental gods and religions. But I also think that spirituality is an essential part of our existence. This isn't always what I've thought. I have been an atheist for many years and spurned the Christian concept of god along with most all practices of spirituality. However, some experiences have recently changed my mind about spirituality. I was figuratively throwing the baby out with the bath water. (The baby being spirituality and the bath water being the god concept and religion.)

I was reading an article recently which proposed that the future and the past are not real. They argued that these things exist only in our minds, contending that the only thing that is real is the present moment. When I think about the concept of the present moment or 'now', it occurs to me that 'now' is a bit elusive. It makes sense to me that 'now' is the piece of time in between the past and future. But how large is this piece of time? Is it one second, a millisecond, a nanosecond? Is it logical to think that 'now' is an infinitely small piece of time that is constantly moving?

If that is true then it appears to be nearly impossible to focus one's attention on 'now' for very long. It feels like our social conditioning only teaches us to focus in terms of past and future, even if it is only a few moments or seconds in either direction. I think "now" is noticed, by most people, when they stare into a fire. I like to picture it as 'now' dancing in and out of my awareness along with the flames.

Meditation has always struck me as a practice that helps with coping in this insane world. I am not very good at it yet. I have never, in the past, regarded meditation as being a spiritual experience. Meditation was, to me, a mindful exercise to lessen stress and anxiety as well as strengthening my mind and will. It was largely an exercise in attempting to stop my inner dialog by reciting a mantra or focusing on my breath.

It's recently my view that meditation is the practice of attempting to focus on 'now' for increasingly long periods. I think that meditation is definitely a spiritual experience. I also feel that many indigenous spiritual practices as well as those of many other cultures strive to be in sync with 'now' ; in sync with the divine.

We are all divine.



REDNECKS ARE COMRADES TOO

by Gabriel

What qualities come to mind when you think of a “redneck”? Is it someone who is uneducated, intolerant, and far-right? You may be surprised that the term “redneck” was actually used to describe people with strong leftist principles. In 1921, the largest labor uprising in American history took place in West Virginia, known as the Battle of Blair Mountain. Around 10,000 coal miners battled 3,000 lawmen who were preventing them from unionizing. The union members wore a red bandana around their necks to symbolize their solidarity—thus, the term “redneck” was born out of working-class solidarity. Urban leftists must not dismiss the rural working class because of stereotypes but rather accept them as comrades and build solidarity with them.

It is true you would have a hard time finding many self-proclaimed leftists in rural America; and if you look at an election map, most rural people appear rather right-leaning. However, I would argue that most working-class people are leftist at their core—regardless of how they vote. They are against the corporations that exploit them, the landlords that steal from them, and the government that keeps these systems in place. Despite not having much, they will be the first to give you a meal and a place to sleep when you need it.

Why, then, do rural Americans support such hateful policies that go against their own best interests? The answer is that the Republican Party has one of the most well-funded and organized propaganda campaigns in the world, and rural white working-class people are their main target.

These individuals, who have been oppressed their whole lives, are naturally angry. Right-wing media works day and night to redirect that anger toward other oppressed groups. For example, they are told that “illegal immigrants” are stealing jobs, when in reality, employers are taking advantage of their vulnerable status to pay them extremely low wages. Poor

whites are told that Black people are all lazy or criminals, when in reality they are suffering from a similar systemic poverty. In other words, the goal of this propaganda is to divide and conquer. This is not to say that rural people would be better off voting Democrat. To most rural folk, the party represents the urban liberals who look down on them as inferior for their traditional values and simple way of living.



A Blair Mountain coal miner

We all know people who are trapped in the propaganda machine of the Right. It is nearly impossible to convince someone to change their views when there is so much propaganda working against you. So, what can we, as leftists, do? The answer is to show them leftism rather than tell them about it. We must simply live our values and lead by example. Acquire and distribute food that would otherwise be thrown away, help those who need it, organize community events, speak against oppression, and most importantly, invite them to join. Though they may not agree with you in theory, they will agree with your actions and trust that you have good intentions and are not just one of the evil socialists they see on TV. From there, you can meet them where they stand and talk (not debate) with

them. If you put action and solidarity first, they will come around to the theory side of things too.

One final but important note: many rural people will have at least some racist, sexist, homophobic, and otherwise hateful views. As I mentioned before, this hatred is learned through propaganda, and therefore it can be unlearned.

However, we must not tolerate hateful speech or action. When it comes to white supremacists, religious fundamentalists, fascists, or anyone who is actively causing harm or making the community unsafe, it is far more important to protect your community from these individuals than it is to try and reform them.

Remember that the greatest fear of the rich and powerful is a united working class. This is why the government and capitalists work so hard to divide us. If we want to create a better world, we have to build solidarity with all workers—even with those we don't initially agree with.



West Virginia: The Same Old Line-up

PAN-LEFT

by Danscendental

Food Not Bombs describes itself as “Pan-Left”, but what does that even mean? To define any concept it’s important to understand a little bit of its history, both why it was adopted and how it’s used. “Pan” is a word with many definitions but here it means “all” or “completely”, as in “Pan-American”, which means all of South, Central, and North America. “Left” is a bit more obscure, as all political concepts are, but it’s enough to look towards the origin of ‘left’ and ‘right’ in political history.

During the revolutionary period in French history, the French National Assembly had a president, and members of parliament would sit to the left of the president if they supported the revolutionaries while those who supported the aristocracy and monarchy sat to the right. Left politics then came to capture those ideas and movements that championed equality, autonomy, anti-hierarchy, emancipation from the political control of others, etc.

So, Pan-Left is an umbrella concept meant to include all of those like minded people and organizations who share those same principles and goals of the left, generally. And while the left is notorious for being divided amongst dozens of different and distinct ideologies, parties, and movements, Pan-Left covers all leftists under one common roof for the betterment of everyone and welcomes all others in need regardless of ideology.

As a quick clarification to popular, contemporary terminology, it’s important to note the difference between “liberal” or “liberalism” and “left” or “leftist” because they are often mistaken for one another, especially in the US. Historically, liberalism was a term that meant to signify a suspicion of government as unnatural and legitimate only as a tool for the securing of liberty for individuals. Classical liberals wanted to liberate society from government control and thus secure the greatest freedom for all (who happen to count as people at that time; certainly not everyone). While liberals can have leftist sympathies, they place the core of their concern on individual liberty and see no role for government or state collec-

tive action in reforming or eliminating structural and systemic inequality.

Liberalism is certainly left of conservatism in the US, but compared to leftists here and abroad, they are firmly on the political right as they are generally okay with, and often promote, hierarchy and inequality so long as those policies support individualism (for the *right* kind of people) and the middle class (why do we still have classes!?). In short, for liberals, politics is a kind of strategy or game to rig systems towards whatever way of life is best to them, while leftists see politics as a way to create systems together that support everyone's needs, rights, freedoms, and liberty.

Leftists can differ on motivations, theory, practical application, strategy, and a host of other concerns, but the one thing they all have in common is that they fight for you, me, and everyone, because no one does any wrong by being here; no one is at fault for finding themselves wherever chance and circumstance has placed them. We all matter and that's the core of the left—a concern for everyone who needs help and the willingness to stand up for them.



WHAT IS THE IWW?

by Fellow Worker Joe Santone

The Industrial Workers of the World (IWW) is a union unlike any other. Our union's goal is to be One Big Union for all workers, in all industries, regardless of gender, race, or creed. We are dedicated to empowering workers everywhere. Our duty is to end the current economic system of wage slavery and create a new world where all live in harmony with the earth.

WHY ONE BIG UNION?

We understand that the reality of modern economics is one of “class struggle.” The working class makes everything, while the owning class grows ever richer off our labor. Most of us must work to live and struggle to live well. Meanwhile, the rich interests that run our society squeeze as much profit out of our work as possible.

While working people fight for basic dignity, higher pay, and more free time, the rich already enjoy all the good things in life. We do more so they can have more. Economically, workers and employers have nothing in common.

The IWW organizes all workers in a jobsite into One Big Union that works together to fight for everyone. We also organize the unemployed and underemployed. This is called solidarity unionism, a radical approach to labor power that ensures nobody is left behind. By organizing into one coordinated force, the IWW ensures that workers have the most possible leverage against the bosses to get what we all deserve.

HOW IS OUR UNION DIFFERENT?

The IWW is founded on democracy, direct action, and worker control. Workers act together on the job to solve problems in the ways we choose. Members run our unions, not bosses or bureaucrats. We decide what our unions will or won't do. IWW unions are built worker-to-worker, amass-

ing our own collective strength and relying on our natural solidarity with each other.

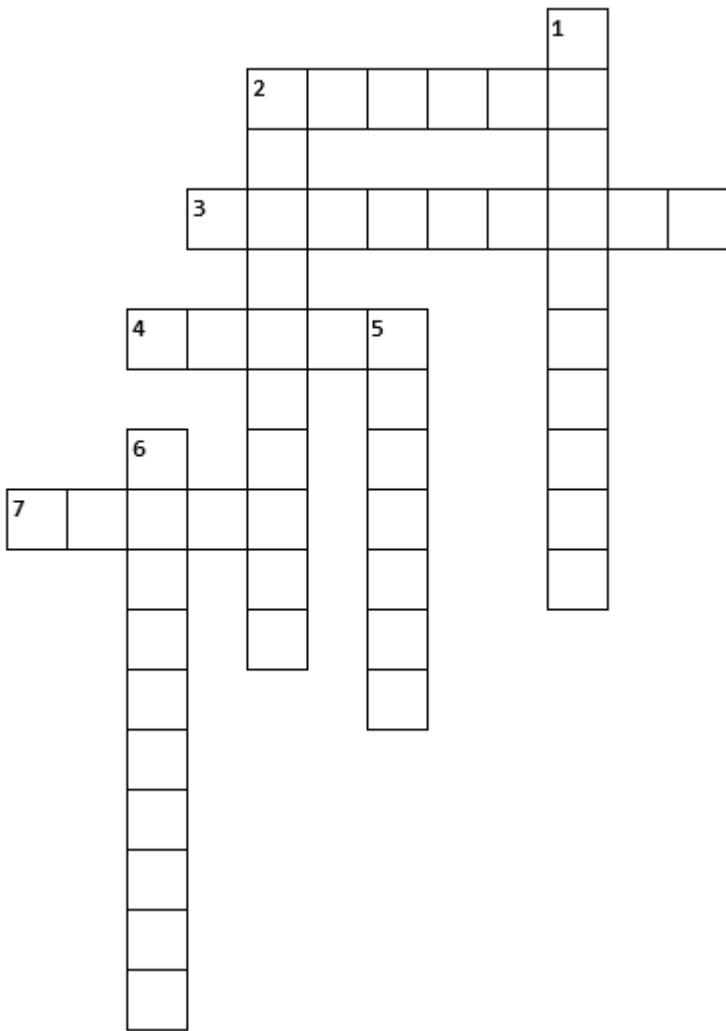
“Union contracts” aren’t required because workers together enforce our demands. For most of labor history there has been no legal recognition of such contracts. No union contracts were legally binding in the U.S.A until 1935. But workers made and kept plenty of gains without them. In fact, these contracts almost always favor the boss and put workers at a further disadvantage. Our approach has yielded gains in the past that are practically unheard of today.

We’re building a union based on the direct power workers already have. We need no government or employer “recognition” to be legitimate. Working people have the right to join together to solve our own problems without any permission. Together, workers push for better pay, hours, and conditions.

We would love for you to join us. Won’t you help this work along?

To find out more about the Industrial Workers of the World and to become a member, visit www.neoiiww.org.





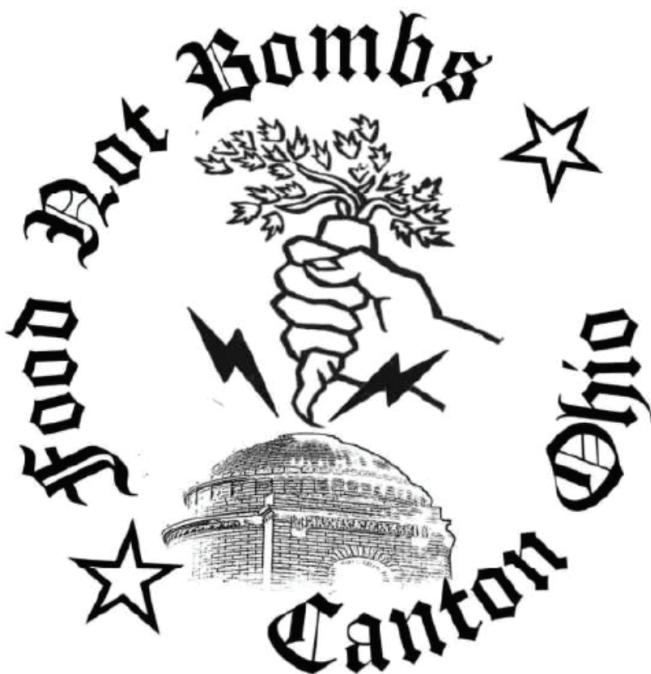
Across

2. People who protect and serve the ruling class
3. Something you will find at a Food Not Bombs serve
4. “Battle of ___ Mountain”
7. “One big ___”

Down

1. A way to cope in this insane world
2. Information used to promote a particular political cause
5. A union member with a red bandana
6. An ideology that promotes inequality

Across: 1. meditation 2. propaganda 5. redneck 6. liberalism
 Down: 1. meditation 2. police 3. community 4. blair 7. union



**LOCATION: GREEN SPACE ON THE CORNER
OF WALNUT AND 6TH ST NE**

**SUMMER HOURS: SATURDAYS 4:00-
5:30PM**

WINTER HOURS: SATURDAYS 3:00-4:30PM
Contact Us

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FEATURED IN THE ZINE!**

