**WOMEN’S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE FOR PEACE AND FREEDOM**

Portland Branch, 1034 SW 13th Avenue, Portland, Oregon 97205-1702

**www.portland.wilpf.org**  Georgia Pinkel, convener for March

Continuing officers: Sara Tattam, membership; Anne McLaughlin,

treasurer; Karen James, corresponding secretary

Phone: 503-595-9393

Email: [wilpfpdx@gmail.com](mailto:wilpfpdx@gmail.com)

Co-editors: Celeste Howard, Natasha Beck

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***March 2013***

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**WILPF INTERNATIONAL NOMINATED FOR NOBEL PEACE PRIZE**

The Norwegian Nobel Committee reports that the International Peace Bureau has nominated the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom for a Nobel Peace Prize 2013! Go to <http://tinyurl.com/a92u6pp> to read the letter, and sign up for the WILPF International Update at <http://www.wilpfinternational.org/wilpf-news-and-alerts/>.

**INTERNATIONAL WOMEN’S DAY IS MARCH 8**

Madeleine Rees, Secretary General of WILPF and former Head of the Women’s Rights Unit of the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, will host the New York celebration of International Women’s Day. Her Office in Bosnia challenged private military contractors for perpetrating human trafficking and took to court the first case of rendition to Guantanamo. <http://peacewomen.org/pages/about-us/wilpf-staff-and-board>

**WILPF ACTIONS TAKEN AT FEBRUARY 23 MEETING**

**1. Endorsed HB 2890 on inclusionary zoning as a help toward increasing affordable housing.** HB 2890 repeals a provision in current Oregon law “that prevents local governments from imposing conditions on approved [building] permits that effectively establish the sales price for residential development or limit purchase to a class or group of purchasers.”The bill is awaiting action in the Human Services and Housing Committee of the Oregon House. Its members are: Carolyn Tomei, chair; David Gomberg & Andy Olson, vice-chairs; Joe Gallegos, Sara Gelser, Alissa Keny-Guyer,Kim Thatcher, Gene Whisnant, & Gail Whitsett. <http://legiscan.com/OR/research/HB2890>

**2. Signed our WILPF branch onto the Statement Opposing U.S.-South Korea Joint Military Exercises, “Stop War Games, Start Peace Talks.”** See <http://www.asiapacificinitiative.org/stop-war-games-start-peace-talks/> to read the letter and be reminded that, though fighting in the Korean War ceased 60 years ago, the “Forgotten War” has never officially ended. The parties agreed to an ‘armistice’ but have not signed a peace treaty.

**3. Voted to encourage all members to oppose fast-track, secretive negotiations of the TransPacific Partnership (TPP) trade agreement.** The TPP FTA negotiations have been conducted in unprecedented secrecy. The issues now being negotiated extend significantly beyond traditional trade matters. The TPP texts will affect the cost of prescription drugs, the state of our environment, and our government’s ability to protect the public from tainted food, defective products, and unsafe drugs; they will touch every American family. Sign a letter to Obama urging greater transparency at <http://www.openthegovernment.org/node/3377>

**4. Voted to co-sponsor two Peace & Justice Works (**[**www.pjw.info**](http://www.pjw.info) **) events on 19 March.** See Calendar on pp. 5-6.

**5. Chose March topics for postcards from Portland WILPF members to federal and state policy makers.** Our stunning new WILPF postcards will be mailed to you ***on request*** in batches of six; mailing a postcard now costs 33¢. Suggested topics: 1) thanks to Senator Merkley for his efforts at filibuster reform; 2) support gun control measures requiring gun licensing and insurance, as with autos; 3) ask Congress to withdraw authorization for the war in Afghanistan and bring the troops and money home sooner; 4) increase the minimum wage; 2/3 of minimum-wage workers are women, and 60% of them are primary wage earners, so 17M women would benefit from the increase; 5) oppose drone warfare and militarization of the CIA, which is responsible for carrying out the drone program.

**NEXT MEETING OF PORTLAND BRANCH WILPF WILL BE ON SATURDAY 23 MARCH, 10 AM TO NOON, AT FIRST UNITARIAN CHURCH, SW 12TH AVENUE AND SALMON. BRING YOUR BROWN BAG LUNCH!**

**2**

**CELEBRATING SUSAN B. ANTHONY, BORN 15 FEBRUARY 1820**

*by Natasha Beck*

"Failure is impossible", stated the tireless abolitionist and women's rights pioneer Susan B. Anthony. Born into a Quaker family, Anthony first worked as a teacher, paid less than male educators. An early abolitionist, she was among the conveners of the first women's rights convention at Seneca Falls, New York in 1848. She and Elizabeth Cady Stanton became leaders of the radical wing of the women's rights movement, concerned about issues besides suffrage: workplace safety and pay equity for working women, married women's property rights, violence against women and children, among others. Anthony was the organizer, Cady Stanton was the theoretician, and together they planned strategic actions and campaigns, working with women and sympathetic men around the country.

The Portland WILPF chapter, under the leadership of Mary Rose and Barbara Drageaux, has for many years commemorated the birthday of the woman who's been honored with a postage stamp and a silver dollar but not a holiday. This year's celebration was again called a *Subversi-tea*. We took turns reading some of Anthony's most noteworthy quotations, had tea and snacks, then watched a re-enactment of Anthony's 1873 trial following her arrest for attempting to vote. The judge, played by Mary Rose, tried to intimidate the defendant. Attired properly in a long dress and signature shawl, this writer presented Anthony's eloquent defense of her principles.

The outcome of the trial was a $100 fine, which Anthony never paid. By 1890, the radical and moderate wings of the women's rights movement, deciding to focus solely on gaining the vote for women, had merged into the National American Women's Suffrage Association. Anthony died in 1906, years before American women finally achieved suffrage in 1920, after what historian Eleanor Flexner called "a century of struggle." Thanks to the pioneers of this first wave of feminism, a second wave emerged in the 1960s and 1970s as the women's liberation movement.

Thanks to Mary Rose, Barbara Drageaux, Georgia Pinkel, Walter Wesley, and other attendees who enthusiastically participated.

**PASSIONATE ABOUT POSTCARDS!**

*Georgia Pinkel*

What issues would you like to target with our great postcards? Please email me ([gpinkel@gmail.com](mailto:gpinkel@gmail.com)) for a quick supply. They will also be available at all our meetings and whenever we table at an event. Let’s let our legislators know where we stand—even when we already believe that they agree with us!

My personal addition to **gun violence suppression** proposals (universal background checks, more mental health information, ban on assault weapons and high capacity clips) is to treat guns like cars and require registration, owner-licensing, regular updates on knowledge and skill in use, and liability insurance for the gun’s use. Perhaps also some discounts for safe storage in the home, trigger locks, etc.

Current budget cuts in the name of **deficit reduction** impact women harder when they target government employees (teachers, lower-level office workers) and those programs providing support for women and children (WIC, child healthcare, aid for disabled children in schools). Fewer people are hurt by closing corporate tax loopholes, ending special financial support for large farms and exemptions for toys of the upper 1% (large boats, jets, multiple homes), and cutting the size of bloated military/intelligence agencies.

What about postcards to the Supreme Court. We could ask the Justices how the Citizen United decision looks to them now. We could write about the need to keep the Voting Rights Act intact, perhaps extending it to those states that have been working to suppress the vote of minorities (i.e. cities) and/or undoing the gerrymandering drive to give greater weight in the Electoral College to rural areas. And I think the constant attack on access to abortion goes well beyond the SCOTUS position (that restrictions are OK but should not cause “undue burden” on women).

**CHILDREN’S BOOK AWARD PRESENTATIONS IN MARCH**

Jane Morgan has scheduled three public school discussions of Jane Addams award books in March. WILPFers are welcome to join Jane, Mary Rose, and Kaye Exo on any of these occasions: Monday 18 March, 2:15 pm, at Creston Elementary, 4701 SE Bush; Thursday 21 March, 8:30 am, Sabin Elementary, 4013 NE 18th Avenue; and Thursday 21 March, 2:15 pm, at Woodlawn Elementary, 7200 NE 11th Avenue. RSVP to Jane at [jsmorgan@spiritone.com](mailto:jsmorgan@spiritone.com) or 503-381-9072.

**3**

**VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN ACT REAUTHORIZED!**

On February 12 the Senate’s inclusive reauthorization of VAWA, S 47, passed by an overwhelming bipartisan vote of 78 to 22. On February 28, the same bill, designated HR 11, passed the House of Representatives by a bipartisan vote of 286 to 138, after a more limited House version put forward by Republican leadership failed 257 to 166.

The bill offers new protections to lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender persons, who now report being [unable to access services](file:///C:\Users\Celeste\Documents\WILPF\Newsletters\Mar13%20p1-2.docx) at astonishingly high rates. It includes protection for immigrant women from sexual and domestic violence. It strengthens Native American tribal jurisdiction over assaults on Native women, committed on tribal land by non-Native men. It also addresses college and university-based sexual violence, dating violence, and stalking by requiring campuses to be transparent about their assault rates, prevention programs, and assistance for victims.

All four of Oregon’s Democratic representatives voted for HR 11. Greg Walden (R, District 2) was not among the 138 Republican members who voted against it.

**MIKO PELED’S “NEW PARADIGM for PEACE IN PALESTINE”**

If you missed Miko Peled’s talk on 11 February, you can find out about his peace paradigm and his new book, The General’s Son: Journey of an Israeli in Palestine, at his website [www.mikopeled.com](http://www.mikopeled.com) .

In Peled’s view, “For the good of both nations, the Separation Wall must come down, the Israeli control over the lives of Palestinians must be defied so that a secular democracy where all Israelis and Palestinian live as equals [can] be established in our shared homeland…[The present state of affairs] is a reality where half of the population lives in what it thinks is a Western democracy while keeping the other half imprisoned by a ruthless defense apparatus that is becoming more violent by the day… [In this book] I intend to show how it is that the son of an Israeli General and a staunch Zionist came to these realizations, so stay tuned. Realizing that your side of the story is not the *only* side to the story, and then accepting rather than fighting this realization – that is an interesting journey.”

**LEARNING MORE ABOUT AFGHANISTAN**

Afghan Peace Volunteers and Voices for Creative Nonviolence, the Fellowship of Reconciliation, and others have a regular “Global Day of Listening” teleconference via LiveStream, accessible via high-speed internet connection. Audio of past calls can be found online at <http://vcnv.org> and <http://globaldaysoflistening.org/> . One Afghan’s experiences with drones which touched my heart: <http://ourjourneytosmile.com/blog/2013/01/afghan-peace-volunteer-says-drones-bury-beautiful-lives>.

The Global Day of Listening team includes individuals and groups who believe we can change to a non-violent way of living with each other – if we get to know each other better. The first Day of Listening was the International Day of Peace on 21 September 2010. The Global Day team is dedicated to holding these calls at least four times each year. The next call is scheduled for ~ March 19 or 20. –*Jill Severson*

**REESE ERLICH on MIDDLE EAST & ARAB SPRING**

As we look toward the 10th anniversary of the Iraq Invasion on March 20, 2003, we can observe how the official Washington story about our Iraq involvement has been revised. Journalist Reese Erlich, who spoke in Portland on 14 February, reminds us of the lies used to justify that invasion, pointing out that our government also used lies to justify the Vietnam War. People in DC who helped spread those lies in 2003 no longer talk about them. Around 2008, the public rejected this war, and those same people now support a story that shifts the war’s goals in a way permitting us to claim victory.

Erlich himself sees the Iraq war as a defeat, and he says it marks “the beginning of the downfall of US imperial power.” The Iraq story is “being repeated in Afghanistan.” Writing from his experience as an on-the-ground observer in the Middle East, Erlich says “The US public is generally the last to know what the US government is doing.”

In each of the Arab Spring countries (Tunisia, Egypt, Libya, Syria), there was an official US position toward that government at the time. That US position changed with each uprising, and the official story of what ‘actually’ happened has been altered to fit with US policy. In this light, it appears that what the US really cares about, regarding any of these governments, is 1) its attitude toward Israel and 2) its willingness to cooperate with US political and economic interests.

**4**

**FRIDAY “SILENT NO MORE” VIGIL NOW FORMING**

Greetings WILPF Members! My name is Jill Severson. I just rejoined WILPF in December. I turned 45 in January, and I have been silent and obedient for far too long! I have a desire to connect with U.S. people one on one (and in groups). I am asking YOU to join me! In honor of WILPF members Pat Hollingsworth and Yvonne Simmons, who started a “Women in Black” vigil after 9/11, and of Afghan education professor Zaher Wahab who helped **wake me up** this January, I intend to be “Silent No More.” Please join me!

My goals are: to speak out, educate, activate, and listen to our fellow humans. Encourage, inspire, and listen some more. I want to join with others at Pioneer Courthouse Square on Fridays, starting on International Women’s Day, Friday, March 8 – and share what I know about Afghanistan, help humanize our image of the Afghan people, and listen. We would encourage passersby to write postcards to elected officials and/or do other actions of their own choosing.

I believe that we inspire one another! Pat, Yvonne, Zaher – all have inspired me. Who inspires you? Come, share stories, and encourage people to act for non-violent change.

Let’s meet at 10 am Friday, March 8, on SW 6th Avenue, midway between Morrison and Yamhill, east side of the square, by the milepost. Feel free to contact me. –*Jill Severson,* [*HeadHeartHandsSpirit@riseup.net*](mailto:HeadHeartHandsSpirit@riseup.net) *, 305-984-8195.*

**“MARCH FOR ONE OREGON” BUS TOUR**

From March 5th to March 9th, 50 Oregonians will get on a bus for travel to Central and Eastern Oregon to let Congressman Greg Walden know we are united in demanding that families be kept together in immigration reform. On the state level, we'll hold up the urgent need of immigrants for drivers’ licenses. We’ll start in Central Oregon, travel to the Gorge, Eastern Oregon, and Idaho, then unite with our allies in Washington State in Walla Walla. To join us for the entire tour or for local events in, Bend, Madras, Hood River, Hermiston, La Grande or Baker City, sign in at <https://www.facebook.com/events/504429016262397/> . –*Jane Morgan*

**HISTORY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE ORGANIZING**

History of Social Justice Organizing is an ongoing series of presentations by activists and scholars on a wide variety of social justice organizing topics in Portland and elsewhere. Our second program on the Portland Women’s Movement (Thursday, March 7; see Calendar, page 6) will cover the Community Law Project, the Rape Relief Hotline, the Red Emma collective, the Portland Women’s Health Clinic, and Prescott House. It is co-sponsored by the PSU Center for Women, Politics & Policy ([www.cwpp.pdx.edu/](http://www.cwpp.pdx.edu/) ).

In 1975, panel member Ruth Gundle was one of the founders of the Community Law Project, a feminist law collective that represented both women and organizations. Ruth won the first lesbian custody case in Oregon and brought Oregon’s first sexual harassment case. She will talk about how they tried to run the CLP on feminist principles.

In 1971 Ann Mussey was a member of the Red Emma feminist collective, home to some of the early founders of the Portland Women's Health Clinic. She currently teaches PSU courses in Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies.

Kristan Knapp joined the Red Emma collective in 1972. She and Bonnie Tinker worked with others to found Prescott House, where women released from prison could readjust to society. Aided by the increasing consciousness of institutionalized violence against women, it had developed by 1975 into Bradley-Angle House, the first women’s domestic violence shelter on the West Coast.

May Wallace (formerly Susan Crawford) was a member of the Main Street Gathering, a collective of activists working to create a just society. She helped launch the Rape Relief Hotline in 1973 (now known as the Portland Women's Crisis Line). Now she is an artist, activist, and recently retired art teacher. –*Sandy Polishuk*

*from the current Yes!Magazine Page That Counts:*

Percent by which a male college graduate’s hourly wage was higher than a female’s in 1939 – 11%

Percent by which a male college graduate’s hourly wage was higher than a female’s in 2011 – 24%

Percentage of the banking industry’s assets held by local community banks – 14%

Percentage of small loans to businesses and farms that are made by local community banks – 46%

**5**

**JOIN or RENEW YOUR NATIONAL WILPF MEMBERSHIP, SUPPORT PORTLAND BRANCH**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ New Member: ❑ Renewal: ❑

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Membership includes International, US Section, and Portland Branch (including emailed branch newsletter)

National membership annual dues, sliding scale, $15 to $150: $ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Contribution to support Portland WILPF activities, including emailed newsletter: $ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Contribution for receiving hard copy newsletter: $ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Other \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_: $ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL Enclosed: $ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Send form & check, payable to WILPF, to **Portland WILPF, 1034 SW 13th Ave, Portland 97205-1702**

**FEMINIST ISLAMIC SCHOLAR SPEAKS MARCH 14**

Amina Wadud, author of Qu’ran and Woman: Re-reading the Sacred Text from a Woman’s Perspective*,* is among the keynote speakers at Lewis & Clark’s 32nd Annual Gender Studies Symposium, March 13-15. (See calendar on page 4.) Her talk, “We Make This Bridge by Walking It: Muslim Women and Authority in Islam,” is scheduled for 7 pm Thursday March 14 in the Council Chamber in the Templeton Student Union. For the online symposium schedule, see <http://college.lclark.edu/departments/gender_studies/symposium/schedule/> **.—***Jill Severson*

**WHERE THE U.S. STANDS ON INDIGENOUS RIGHTS**

Find out Sunday afternoon, March 17, in Hillsboro, when Prof. Bob Miller talks about the Doctrine of Christian Discovery – the legal justification for the colonization of the Americas and the subordination of aboriginal peoples. (See calendar item below). Prof. Miller has been captivating audiences all over the world with his trademark mixture of humor and seriousness, telling how this 15th century legal doctrine continues to limit Native American rights today. The US has still not implemented the UN Declaration on Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP).

EVENTS *(continued from page 4)*

**Sunday 17 March, 3 pm: Robert J. Miller, “Doctrine of Discovery, Colonization, and Christianity”**

UU Community Church, 22785 NW Birch Street, Hillsboro. Prof. Miller, an enrolled citizen of the Eastern Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma, teaches at Lewis & Clark Law School. He specializes in US and international law involving American Indians. A UUCC endowed Amitor social justice presentation. [www.facebook.com/AmitorLecture](http://www.facebook.com/AmitorLecture) .

**Tuesday 19 March, 3:30-5:30: Visibility Action, “US Out of Iraq!”**

Pioneer CH Square (NW corner), SW Broadway & Morrison. Peace & Justice Works, <http://www.pjw.info/>

**Tuesday 19 March, 7 pm: Cathy Breen, “Eyewitness 10 Years Later: What Iraqis Are Saying”**

First Unitarian Church, Buchan Room, 1011 SW 12th Avenue. Working with Voices for Creative Nonviolence, Cathy spent six weeks in Iraq last October & November, talking to Iraqis. [www.pjw.info/Iraq.html](http://www.pjw.info/Iraq.html) .

**Friday 22 March, 7 pm: Film, *Two Who Dared, The Sharps’ War***

First Unitarian Church, Eliot Chapel, 1011 SW 12th Avenue. American Unitarian minister Waitstill Sharp and his wife, Martha, boldly committed to a life-threatening mission in Europe to help save imperiled Jews and refugees at the onset of World War II.

**Thursday 28 March, 7:30: Pamela Olson, Fast Times in Palestine: A love affair with a homeless homeland**

Powell’s Books, 3723 SE Hawthorne. Olson‘s book is “a Top Ten Travel Book of 2013” and “a fascinating and honest account of life in Palestine that goes beyond politics to challenge the way we think about the Middle East.” See [www.pamolson.org](http://www.pamolson.org) and [www.powells.com](http://www.powells.com) .

**6**

**WOMEN’S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE for PEACE and FREEDOM**

**Portland Branch, 1034 SW 13th Avenue**

**Portland OR 97205-1702**

*“The good we secure for ourselves is precarious and uncertain…*

*until it is secured for all of us and incorporated into our common life.”*

Jane Addams, 1892

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***March 2013 Calendar***

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**VIGILS**

***\* Wednesdays, 6:30 pm***  SW 5th & Hall, Beaverton. **Washington County Peace Vigil**

***\* Fridays, 4 pm*** SW First and Madison on Hawthorne Bridge. **Weekly Anti-War Protest**  lonevet2008@comcast.net

***\* Fridays, 5 pm*** Pioneer Courthouse Square, SW Yamhill and Broadway. **Portland Peaceful Response Coalition**

***\*Saturdays, noon to 1 pm*** McLoughlin and Oak Grove Blvd., Milwaukie, Oregon. **Oak Grove Peace Vigil**

**EVENTS** *[see* [*www.Trimet.org*](http://www.Trimet.org) *to find public transportation to all these locations]*

**Friday 1 March, 6:30-9 pm: Film, *The Marketing of Madness***

Fuller Hall, First Unitarian Church, 1011 SW 12th Ave. The Rethinking Psychiatry Series continues ***each Friday in******March***. <http://library.constantcontact.com/download/get/file/1110348260890-48/Film+fest+desc+feb+20.pdf>

**Saturday 2 March, 7-10 pm: Celebrate Margaret Butler!**

Buchan Reception Room, First Unitarian Church. Jobs with Justice says goodbye to its recently resigned Executive Director and founding member, Margaret Butler. Bring your dancing shoes!<http://www.jwjpdx.org/jwjevents/>

**Tuesday 5 March, 12-2 pm: Open meeting, East Side Democratic Club**

Grace Presbyterian Church, 6025 NE Prescott Street. Juan Carlos Ordonez (Communications Director, Oregon Center for Public Policy) speaks on “The State of Working Oregon.” Scott Fernandez speaks on “The Future of Portland’s Water: Your heritage, your health.” For complete information, see <http://www.afd-pdx.org/community-events.html>

**Thursday 7 March, 7-8:30 pm: Portland Women’s Movement, Part 2, “Building: From Activism to Institutions”**

PSU Urban Affairs Bldg, 506 SW Mill, second floor Gallery. Speakers include Ruth Gundle, Ann Mussey, Kristan Knapp, and May Wallace. Co-sponsored by Center for Women, Politics and Policy. Free, open to public; see page 3.

**Thursday-Sunday 7-10 March: Portland Oregon Women’s Film Festival**

Hollywood Theatre, 4122 NE Sandy Blvd. See [www.POWfest.com](http://www.POWfest.com) . 85 films from all over world, spotlight on women directors; guest of honor is Director Penelope Spheeris.

**Friday 8 March, 7-9 pm: Film, *Bidder 70***

Eliot Chapel, First Unitarian Church, SW 12th & Salmon. In 2008 Tim DeChristopher bid millions of dollars he didn’t have, to save thousands of acres of pristine Utah land from gas & oil leases. Documentary; view trailer at <http://www.bidder70.org/video/view/164456/>

**Monday 11 March, 7 pm: Barry Lynn, “Three 800-Pound Gorillas Enter the Church-State Arena and It’s No Joke!”**

Eliot Chapel, First Unitarian Church, 1011 SW 12th Ave. Details at <http://www.keepthemseparate.org/index.htm> .

**Tuesday 12 March, 7 pm: Race Talks, “Hate Crimes in Oregon”**

Kennedy School Gymnasium, 5736 NE 33rd Avenue, doors open 6 pm. Free series of monthly dialogues on race issues. <http://www.mcmenamins.com/events/109695-Race-Talks-Hate-Crimes-in-Oregon> .

**Wednesday-Friday 13-15 March, Symposium “Divining Meaning: Meditations on Gender and Religion”**

Miller Center, 0615 SW Palatine Hill Road. 32nd Annual Gender Studies Symposium, featuring keynote speakers Rita M. Gross (Buddhism After Patriarchy), Amina Wadud (Qu’ran and Woman) and Melissa Wilcox (Coming Out in Christianity). Free and open to the public. <http://college.lclark.edu/departments/gender_studies/symposium/>

**Sunday 17 March, 2-3:30: Rally and March, “Save America’s Postal Service!”**

Rally at Pioneer Courthouse Square, March to Main Post Office. Sponsored by Portland Communities and Postal Workers United. See [www.cpwunited.com](http://www.cpwunited.com) .

*[more Events on page 5]*