

Le Frigo Vert: Electronic Newsletter, September, 2008

This once-monthly digest consists of a compendium of Frigo collective news, social justice events, calls to action, healthy recipes, and articles related to Le Frigo Vert's social justice and anti-oppression mandate.

The purpose is to better inform and interact with Frigo Vert members. It is an attempt to better explain changes we make to the organization and to directly to link Frigo members with local grassroots struggles.

If you do not wish to receive this newsletter, please email: lefrigovert@resist.ca

Messages in this Digest:

1. Le Frigo Vert Updates/Events: Fall hours; New! Le Frigo Vert Solidarity ID membership cards.
 2. Food Politics: Death in the Field: An interview with Arturo Rodriguez of the United Farm Workers of America
 3. Featured Anti-Oppression Issue: No Justice, No Peace: Behind the riots in Montreal after the shooting-death of Fredy Villanueva & COBP communique
 4. Vegan Recipes: Salsa Verde, Black Bean & Yam Quesadilla, Baked Plantain with Coconut Cream
 5. Social Justice Calendar
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1. Le Frigo Vert Updates/Events: Important & Exciting News. New Frigo S.I.D. Membership Cards!

Hello all you great Frigo members out there! As I'm sure you're aware, summer has come and gone in a whizz, and so Frigo is happy to announce we're now on our Fall/Winter schedule of: Monday - Friday, 10am-7pm.

We are also very excited to introduce a new project we've been working on over the summer - alongside the 2110 Gender Advocacy Center and Coop bookstore - we've collaborated to bring you a new membership card - the Solidarity Identification (or S.I.D) card! This will replace your current Frigo membership card, and will also have spaces on the card to acknowledge your membership at 2110 and the Bookstore as well. Or not.

The purpose of this project is to institute a new piece of formal identification that recognizes the right of all people to control and define how their identity is represented. This project, in part, comes from a desire to work in solidarity with transsexual, transgender and gender-non-conforming (amongst other) people to have I.D. in their name of common usage, and that reflects their gender identity.

The production of the S.I.D. cards begins September 18th, 2008. The cards will be used and implemented throughout the whole membership beginning September 18th for Frigo, but may be a more gradual process for the 2110 and Co-op Bookstore. We will be on the mezzanine on September 22nd and 23rd from 11am until 4pm with a special table set up for membership sign up and photo taking. Please take advantage of these dates as this is a big task for Frigo collective members and volunteers and we want, as much as possible to avoid congestion in the store during this transition.

What you will need to bring is your student card, another form of proof you have paid tuition (such as an ISIC card, STM student card, transcript, course schedule, etc), and your smile for the photo.

To learn more about the importance of this project, please join us on Friday, September 12th @ 2110 Mackay (wheelchair accessible venue) for the Solidarity I.D. workshop from 4-6pm, and launch party from 6-8pm!

2. Food Politics

Death in the Field: An interview with Arturo Rodriguez of the United Farm Workers of America by Stefan Christoff, from: The Dominion - <http://www.dominionpaper.ca>

Pregnant and seventeen years old, Maria Isabel Vasquez Jimenez died of heatstroke in California after working in sweltering temperatures without shade or water.

Maria Isabel Vasquez Jimenez died in May after suffering a heat stroke while pruning grape vines at the San Joaquin County vineyard in California. Jimenez was a seventeen-year-old undocumented worker who had migrated from Oaxaca, Mexico to work in the United States. She was working in the fields with her fiancé and was pregnant at the time of her death. As an undocumented worker, Jimenez's death points to the often severe realities faced by non-status agricultural workers in the US.

Since the signing of the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA), migration from Mexico to the US has increased dramatically. NAFTA has failed to deliver the economic boom for Mexico that was promised and thousands like Jimenez migrate to the US each year seeking a better life for themselves and their families.

Jimenez's death sparked protest in California, including a caravan from Lodi, CA, to Sacramento, CA, coordinated by the United Farm Workers of America (UFW). Jimenez's death reinvigorated calls for an amnesty program for undocumented workers in the US who often face appalling working conditions that frequently go undetected due to the precarious status of the workers.

Arturo Rodriguez, president of the UFW, spoke with Dominion contributor Stefan Christoff about the recent death of Maria Isabel Vasquez Jimenez and the political movement for regularization of non-status workers in the US.

Dominion: The death of Maria Isabel Vasquez Jimenez has drawn a great deal of attention to the case of undocumented farm workers in the United States. Commentators across the political spectrum are referencing this tragic event. Could you address the specifics surrounding her death?

Arturo Rodriguez: Maria Isabel Vasquez Jimenez was a 17-year-old farm worker who was pregnant while working in the fields in the San Joaquin County Vineyard, working with grape vines. Maria was working in the fields for long, long hours. The employer didn't bring water until 10:30 that morning--work had begun at 6am. Maria had worked for over four hours without any water to drink and on that particular day, the temperatures soared above 95 degrees [Fahrenheit], and in the fields even hotter.

That afternoon, Maria Isabel Vasquez Jimenez collapsed after not having enough water, or having any shade provided and without any sufficient rest. Consequently, Maria fell into a coma. Supervisors took no action, not calling the ambulances, not calling an emergency vehicle, instead putting her in the back of a sweltering van. About two hours later, [they] finally brought her to a hospital where, upon arrival, the doctors pronounced that the body temperature had soared to around 108 degrees.

At this point Maria was admitted to the hospital and over the course of the next days her heart stopped beating a number of times and finally her heart simply stopped beating. Doctors said that there was no real chance to revive her or for her to survive. At this point the family made a decision to shut off the machines that were keeping her alive.

Could you provide a picture of the trek that undocumented migrants are making from throughout the Americas, due to economic factors, to work in agricultural fields in the United States and Canada?

Migration occurs throughout the United States and into Canada. Towns that the workers come from, in Oaxaca or Chiapas in Mexico, have economic conditions that are so bad, so poor, that people are forced to look externally for ways to provide their children with enough to survive in these states.

Often families will pay thousands of dollars to smugglers, known as coyotes, to take people across the borders to a place where another family member is, or a place where they can work as an undocumented labourer where they slowly start working in the field. These people are then indebted to that particular coyote, so they are working first to pay off their debt.

Literally thousands and thousands of people are crossing each day. Estimates indicate that at least five hundred people are dying trying to cross the border each year. People are dying while crossing the deserts, dying from thirst, heat exposure or starvation.

Can you talk about these demands for safety reform within the context of the larger demands for regularization or status for all non-status people or workers in the United States?

Our organization has been working extremely hard for the past decade because we know that Maria Isabel Vasquez Jimenez isn't an isolated case. In the US, at least 70 per cent of the farm labour force is undocumented. Oftentimes, workers like Maria are abused, or exploited, or mistreated, simply due to their lack of status in the US.

Consequently, we feel that it's extremely important that we change this situation, to ensure that undocumented workers are afforded the same rights as anyone else in the United States when they come to work in this country. A very important part of our work as an organization is to bring about real immigration reform in the US.

Recently we have worked very closely with Senator Dianne Feinstein, Senator Kennedy and Congressman Howard Berman on a special piece of legislation that would in particular deal with undocumented farm workers in the United States. Through this legislation, farm workers would bring proof that they have worked 150 days over a four-year period. This legislation would then provide a pathway to grant legal status for the workers and their spouses and children in the US.

We continue to work very hard on this legislation, as we think it's the real solution to the current problem. [If the legislation were adopted], farm workers could enjoy the same protection as anyone else and they will no longer be discriminated against.

Do you see a parallel between the recent death of Maria Isabel Vasquez Jimenez and the current position of the US government to not grant farm workers status in the US today?

Maria Isabel Vasquez Jimenez is one of nine individuals that we know of who have died of heat stress just in California. Multiple other deaths have occurred due to equipment failures, due to heavy use of pesticides, and you can go on from there. The overwhelming majority of these deaths are undocumented people, so we know

that these deaths are very closely linked to the legal status of these individuals.

Unfortunately, the legal status of undocumented farm workers needs to change for them to be treated as human beings. This is the reality that we face in the US and we are trying to do everything within our own power to ensure that these changes do come about. So it's of utmost importance for us to ensure that farm workers receive the same type of legal status and protections that any other workers in the US [receive].

Throughout Mexico there has been unrest concerning the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA). Can you talk about the case of Maria Isabel Vasquez Jimenez within the larger context of NAFTA, which some argue is forcing increased migration of undocumented workers into the US?

Unfortunately, NAFTA hasn't been the solution for Mexico's economic concerns that it was presented as. Many companies went to Mexico looking for a cheap labour supply, [but] once they found a cheaper labour supply in China or other parts of the world, they often abandoned the communities or cities in Mexico where they had set up.

Along the US-Mexico border, near Tijuana [and] other areas, you can often find factories that have been completely abandoned as a result of these corporations finding other locations internationally where they could find a cheaper labour supply, a labour supply they could better use and exploit for their corporate economic benefit.

Many large regions or states in Mexico, for example Oaxaca, were not impacted by any of the proposed economic gains from NAFTA. Oftentimes the areas that NAFTA impacted, in terms of US companies setting up factories along the border regions, are no less destitute [today] as these factories or companies are now leaving.

Today, large, large numbers of people in these states are in situations of unemployment, even homelessness, as they had left their homes in other parts of Mexico and are now stranded without work or opportunity. Oftentimes, the only solution that they had was migration to the US, in order to seek some kind of relief, in order to deal with the economic stress that they were feeling in Mexico.

Profound economic changes that benefit people will never take place unless there is real economic revival within Mexico and across other parts of Latin America. Huge numbers of people are migrating from across the Americas to the US in order to find jobs, basically to find economic relief; this is a real challenge.

Economic stability in Mexico means that people will have self-reliance where they live, an economic situation locally where they can provide for themselves, their families and their local communities.

3. Featured Anti-Oppression Issue

No Justice, No Peace: Behind the riots in Montreal after the shooting-death of Fredy Villanueva ZNet, August, 23 2008

By Charles Mostoller

Montreal-Nord, Montreal--"Why four gunshots? Why?", asked Patricia Villanueva. "I don't believe they had reason to shoot four times, just like that. Nothing justifies a death." Patricia is sister to Fredy Villanueva, an 18 year old Honduran youth who was shot dead by a Montreal police officer on August 9th, sparking a small riot among the fed-up youth of this impoverished immigrant neighborhood in North Montreal.

Villanueva is the latest death in a long line of police killings here in Montreal, although the first to occur in this North Montreal neighborhood.

According to police, two officers approached a group of youths who were playing dice in a park, and attempted to arrest Dany Villanueva, Fredy's brother. When an argument broke out, one officer fired four shots, killing Fredy and injuring Denis Meas and Jeffrey Sagor Metelus, who are recovering in the hospital. Police have stated that the officers were attacked by a group of about 20 youths, despite statements from witnesses who say that only five or six people were present and that there was no physical confrontation.

"My brother said 'What are you doing with my brother? Let go of him.' Then I heard gunshots, and my brother fell to the ground," said Dany, according to the CBC. According to statements by the Villanueva family, Dany has had some trouble with the law in the past, but Fredy was the 'good' son, doing well in school and staying away from drugs and trouble.

Jean Loup Lapointe--the Service de Police de la Ville de Montreal (SPVM) officer from Montreal-Nord's Station 39 who fatally wounded Villanueva--has not been suspended, although he has been taken off patrol duty.

Although over 30 witnesses have already been questioned in relation to Villanueva's death, the two police officers responsible for his death have yet to be questioned. His sister wants to know why.

"It's so important to have a transparent investigation, to know what really happened," she said. "But they haven't taken the police officers' testimony yet. What are they waiting for?" Despite the slow course of the internal police investigation, the Villanueva family hopes that Fredy's death will finally make police on the island more responsible and less likely to resort to lethal force.

"We want this never to happen again," said Patricia, speaking after a press conference on Friday. "If it happens once, it can happen again, and it has happened before." The incident has sparked debate in the media and among politicians here, more over the supposed threat of street-gangs in the area than over the reckless use of force displayed by Montreal's finest--with many, including Prime Minister Stephen Harper, suggesting the need to beef-up the police units in the area to crack down on gangs. However, Francois du Canal, a spokesperson for the Coalition Against Police Brutality (COBP), believes that the most pressing issue in Montreal's poor neighborhoods is poverty, not gangs.

"They are treating everyone in the neighborhood like they are would-be gang members," he said. "There is poverty and a lot of social problems in neighborhoods like Montreal-Nord, but instead of dealing with poverty--like by giving money to community groups--they give millions of dollars to cops." Take a quick stroll through Montreal-Nord and this is immediately obvious. Local residents gather in front of the dilapidated housing buildings, while groups of five or six police officers patrol the sidewalks and teams of police cruisers line the corners. Many people feel intimidated by the heavy police presence, which has been a part of daily life since long before Villanueva's death.

"There are too many police here," said Kevin Garcia, a friend of the Villanueva family. "Caravans of 10 or 15 police cars will come into the neighborhood all of a sudden, and we feel very insecure, because it seems like anything can happen from one moment to the next. It makes us feel very intimidated to have so many police everywhere." "It seems like they are here to provoke things," he added. "They see a few young people, and even if there are little kids around, they approach them, trying to intimidate--or what are they looking for? They are provoking things, trying to take this to the next level." However, it is unlikely that Villanueva's killers will ever face justice, given the history of impunity for police officers in cases like this. Villanueva is the 43rd person to be killed by the Montreal Police in the last twenty years, yet only two police officers have ever faced charges for their actions--and were acquitted in both cases.

“They kill people, and they’re not even accused of any misdoing,” said Canal. “So they get away with it. That’s what we call impunity, and because of it, they know they can kill people, so they just keep on acting like they can do whatever they want.”

“They use harassment, intimidation and violence as tactics,” he added, “and things like this happen, because the politicians are too afraid to control the police more. And they will continue to happen if nothing happens to these cops.”

Surete du Quebec (SQ)--the Quebec provincial police who are leading the inquiry into Villanueva’s death--have promised “an investigation with impartiality, rigor, objectivity and rapidity,” according to SQ Lt. Francois Dore.

However, past investigations into fatal shooting by the Montreal Police suggest that we may never know what really happened on August 9th.

For example, in the case of Mohamed Anas Bennis--a youth killed in December of 2005 by a Montreal Police officer--the findings of the investigation into his death have still not been made public., two-and-a-half years later. Nor has the officer who killed Bennis, Yannick Bernier, been penalized.

“It’s always the same story,” said Canal. “The cops investigate themselves and there are no accusations, so we never really know what truly happened. The cops are not even suspended.”

In 1996, former SQ investigator Gaëtan Rivest told the COBP that an investigation into the death of Yvon Lafrance--killed by police in 1989--had been tampered with in order to protect the officer responsible, Dominic Chartier. According to the COBP, Rivest confirmed “that such practices are common within the different police services in Quebec.”

“So it really sends a message that the city and the government are backing the police,” said Canal, “even if they say they think about the family and all that. But they really seem more upset that there was a riot than the fact that the cops killed an unarmed youth.”

Communities like Montreal-Nord are fed up with the situation. The riot that happened the day after Villanueva’s death was probably just a release of the neighborhood youth’s pent-up anger, not an action organized by local ‘street gangs’.

“The only street gang around here is the police,” shouted Will Prosper, along with hundreds of other Montreal-Nord residents in front of the town’s municipal building on Wednesday night.

Local residents had gathered in the parking lot in front of Mayor Marcel Parent’s office, calling for an public investigation of Villanueva’s death and an end to police repression in Montreal.

Shouting “No justice, no peace! Disarm the police!” and “Enquête public!”, dozens of residents barged into a meeting the mayor was holding, and Prosper raucously called for the mayor himself to resign--for not trying to help lift Montreal-Nord out of poverty.

“I don’t think he can lead Montreal-Nord correctly, because he’s not listening to his people,” said Prosper. “If he was listening to his people, maybe Fredy Villanueva would still be alive.”

According to Prosper, unemployment among youths has skyrocketed under Mayor Parent , and police abuse has gone unchecked.

“These people want jobs, houses, families--and are tired of police harassment,” he said. “If you don’t give them some options, what are they going to do?”

Both Prosper and Canal feel that in a poor neighborhood like Montreal-Nord, the police just exacerbate the problem.

“The police are not here to help people, they’re here to criminalize people and then they do things like killing people,” said Canal. “This makes it so that everybody in the community feels alienated--like they are being unjustly treated--and that’s one of the reasons why an explosion like the one we saw after the killing of Freddy Villanueva happened.”

In the end, police brutality towards immigrants seems like a systemic problem in Montreal, and one that won’t be going away soon. According to Prosper, minorities are twice as likely to be shot by police in Montreal, and poor immigrant neighborhoods like Montreal-Nord are overrun by police officers.

“They have a gang mentality,” he said. “A lot of police are good officers, but they tolerate abuses by other police officers. How come they don’t say anything about that? They ask the population to anonymously denounce criminals, but then they let criminals in their own ranks.”

“If we could respect the police, the riot wouldn’t have happened. But right now,” he continued, “there’s no trust, no respect. We know what happened that night, and that’s why we want change.”

The political response to police killings is to criminalize immigrant communities and victimize the police, sending in more police to fight against street gangs--in other words, young people. Until less money is spent on police in poor neighborhoods and more is spent on community programs, Canal explained, the vicious cycle that has led to so many deaths at the hands of police will probably continue.

“If they don’t stop police brutality, and their answer to what happened is to put more police on the streets,” said Canal, “then there’s going to be more police brutality and more riots to come.”

Justice for Freddy Villanueva, the 43rd Montreal police killing in 22 years! **Communiqué by the Collective Opposed to Police Brutality (COBP)**

Montreal, August 13, 2008 -- On Saturday August 9, 2008, at about 7pm, a police officer from Station 39 fired four bullets that injured two youth and killed Freddy Villanueva, 18, in Montreal-Nord. The Collective Opposed to Police Brutality (COBP) offers its condolences and solidarity to the Villanueva family who are beginning a difficult journey that we hope will lead to the truth and real justice. We offer our solidarity as well to members of the community, and in particular to the families of the two injured youth, Denis Meas, and Jeffrey Sagor Metelus who is still in hospital.

The death of Freddy is part of a long history of repression, abuse and brutality by the Montreal police. What happened is unjustifiable. The police know that they committed an enormous error. They are trying to hide the facts, speaking of twenty youth, when eyewitnesses assert that there were five or six. The police say they were attacked when witnesses assert that they saw no direct confrontation between the police and the group of youth. Four bullets were shot at youth who were not armed and who were reacting to a scene of police brutality that was happening in front of their own eyes. We can’t be surprised that people have no confidence in the police and revolt.

As per usual, the Montreal police (Service de police de la ville de Montréal, SPVM) and their union Fraternité des policiers et policières de Montréal, FPPM), in complicity with the Quebec Provincial Police (Sûreté de

Québec, SQ), will do all they can in their power to clear the police officer that unjustly killed the youngest son of the Villanueva family. It's unacceptable that police investigate other police officers in such sensitive cases. Police organizations are in solidarity with each other, which is not difficult to prove.

During a press conference organized by COBP in 1996, a former SQ investigator, Gaëtan Rivest, confirmed tampering an investigation to the benefit of Dominic Chartier (a Montreal police officer who killed Yvon Lafrance in 1989). He explained that such practices are common within the different police services in Quebec. So, it's not shocking that killer cops are systematically cleared by their colleagues.

The police officers involved in the Saturday evening incident have yet to be questioned, although 30 other witnesses have so far been questioned. This manner of proceeding clearly shows the lack of transparency and impartiality in the investigation led by the SQ. If we trust previous experience, we can expect that this investigation will end by clearing the accused officers. Previous history shows us some facts from which to draw some lessons. Of the 43 cases documented by COBP, 2 police officers have been charged (Alan Gosset who killed Anthony Griffin in 1987 and Giovanni Stante who killed Jean-Pierre Lizotte in 1999) and they were both acquitted. In addition to officers Gosset and Stante, three other officers have been charged after a police killing:

- Police officer Marcovic killed Paul McKinnon, 14, on October 25, 1990. He received 45 days in jail for dangerous driving causing death in 1995, because he didn't show remorse to the family of the victim. He appealed the decision.

- After the beating death of Richard Barnabé, 38, on December 14, 1993, charges were laid against five officers. One officer was acquitted but four others were found guilty of assault causing bodily harm on June 27, 1995: officers Pierre Bergeron, Louis Samson, André Lapointe and Michel Vadeboncoeur. They rejoined the Montreal police force. In 2006, the dismissals of Bergeron and Samson were confirmed in appeal by the Police Ethics Committee.

- After the death of Martin Suazo, 23, on May 31, 1995, police lieutenant Pablo Palacios was charged with obstruction of justice for hiding facts during a police investigation. But on September 14, 1995, the decision to not lay any charges against officer Michel Garneau, who shot and killed Suazo, was announced.

As for the so-called "transparence" of the SQ investigation, we can't count on that either. In the Mohamed Anas Bennis case, killed on December 1, 2005 by police officer Yannick Bernier, the investigation report has still not been made public more than two-and-a-half years later.

Sunday's riot was a clear expression of the dissatisfaction of an entire community. Youth and others are fed up being targeted by the police, and being constantly harassed for the color of their skin, age, and clothes. The people who participated in the uprising on Sunday did not come from street gangs and were not criminals, as expressed by Yvan Delorme, chief of the SPVM. Rather, they were residents of the neighbourhood and the surrounding area and live daily police repression and discrimination. They sounded alarm bells that must be heard. The Mayor and the SPVM chief must assure that police abuses will stop. At the very least, they should suspend the police officers involved in the death of Freddy Villanueva. For his part, the Minister of Public Security, Jacques Dupuis, must change the law so that police no longer investigate other police officers. There must be a public and independent police inquiry into the events of last Saturday, without waiting more than two-and-a-half years like the Bennis family. Finally, the police involved must be charged criminally so that they answer publicly for their acts.

NO JUSTICE, NO PEACE!

The Collective Opposed to Police Brutality (COBP)
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Source: "From Anthony Griffin to Mohamed Anas Bennis: 40 people killed by the Montreal police in 20 years (1987-2006)", pamphlet by COBP available by request by e-mail.

4. Recipes

BLACK BEAN AND YAM QUESADILLAS

2 large yams

1 can black beans, drained and rinsed

1 medium onion, diced

4 cloves of garlic

1 c. vegetable stock

1 Tbsp. chili powder

1 tsp. cumin powder

1 tsp. mustard seeds

1/2 tsp. salt

corn tortillas (homemade daily at: Taqueria Mex-I, 3820 St-Laurent, just above des Pins)

salsa verde (recipe below)

tofu sour cream (optional, but delicious)

Peel, chop, boil and mash the yams. Fry the onion in some oil until soft (if you have mustard seeds add them to the oil first and let them pop before adding the onions), add the stock, garlic, beans, and powders. Mix well and simmer on medium-high heat until the liquid is gone (10ish minutes), stir occasionally. Add the salt and mash the mixture a bit with the potato masher.

Spread a thin layer of yam onto the whole tortilla and then a thin layer of bean mixture onto one half (quesadillas are all about keeping the filling minimal). Fold over the half with no bean mixture and fry in a little oil turning over when brown. The yam will act as a glue to keep the whole thing together. what cheese would traditionally do. but in a taster, healthier and more compassionate way ;) I personally love having the temperature contrast of hot quesadilla and cool salsa/sour cream so I never put it in when I'm making them, but you could if it suites you.

SALSA VERDE

1 lb fresh tomatillos, husked and cut in half

1 small onion, chunked

2 Tbs sliced pickled jalapeños

2 large cloves garlic

1 tsp dried oregano

1/3 cup vegetarian bouillon

Heat a large heavy skillet, such as cast iron. Add the cut tomatillos, onion, jalapeños, and garlic. Toss over medium-high heat until they are browning.

Pour the vegetables in a food processor with the rest of the ingredients. Pulse until it's a slightly chunky puree. Taste for salt and pepper.

Refrigerate before serving.

Yield: 2 cups

BAKED PLANTAINS WITH COCONUT CREAM

2-3 plantains, black on the outside so they are sweet

A bit of sugar, sucanat, or maple syrup

1 can unsweetened coconut cream or coconut milk

¼ teaspoon of vanilla

First, put your can of coconut milk in the fridge for 4 hours before using.

Peel and slice the Plantain lengthwise. Put onto a small non-stick oven cookie sheet (either with or without a small amount of coconut oil, depends how non-stick your pan is). Sprinkle with sugar and place into a 300 F oven until soft. Prick with a fork after about 15 minutes, then every few minutes after that to check if done. When done, arrange on plates with vegan whipped cream or eat straight.

Open can of coconut milk, and remove the thick part at the top. Save the rest for other uses. Put thick coconut cream into a chilled metal bowl and with electric beaters, beat cream until thick and fluffy.

Then gently beat in vanilla. Cover bowl, and chill for a bit.

5. Social Justice Calendar

Sunday, September 7th - 8pm. sliding scale \$5-10

Artists Against Apartheid IV: Bridges to Bil'in: performances against Israeli apartheid
@ La Sala Rossa, 4848 St. Laurent

The Artists Against Apartheid concert series unites ground-breaking artists from Montreal in solidarity with the growing international movement against Israeli apartheid. This evening will focus on the contemporary struggle of Bil'in village in the West Bank, Palestine, which recently filed a lawsuit in Quebec Superior Court against two sister companies registered in Quebec, currently constructing in an exclusive Israeli settlement on lands within Bil'in's municipality.

Musical performances from: Vox Sambou (hip-hop); Kalmunity Vibe Collective (funk, soul, rap, jazz); Kaie Kellough (spoken-word poet); Matana Roberts (jazz saxophonist) with Rebecca Foon (cello).

Presentations / screenings by: Sarita Ahooja: social activist from Montreal who worked in Bil'in, Palestine with the International Solidarity Movement (ISM); A Day in Palestine, a film by Mary-Ellen Davis; Active Stills: projections from the activist photography collective which has documented the ongoing struggle against Israel's apartheid wall.

Thursday, September 11th - 7pm, \$5-10 sliding-scale donation at the door

Growing Grassroots Media in Palestine: A fundraiser for the International Middle East Media Center in Bethlehem, Palestine @ Le Social, 1455 Bishop

Featuring a screening of "Peace, Propaganda, and the Promised Land"(2004, 80 minutes, subtitles in French) Plus music and dancing with DJ's Sundus, Leila P, Aaron Maiden, and 1-Speed Bike! Co-presented by CKUT Radio, QPIRG McGill's RadFrosh, and Concordia QPIRG's Alternative Orientation. [We regret this location is not wheelchair accessible.] For more information about IMEMC, visit www.imemc.org

Friday, September 12th - 4pm

Solidarity I.D. Project Workshop and Launch Party @ 2110 Mackay (wheelchair accessible space)

Come find out why Le Frigo Vert and 2110 have collaborated to bring you this project and celebrate its launching. The workshop is from 4-6pm, and the launch party from 6-8pm. Hope to see you there!

Monday, September 15 - 7pm

Workshop-Discussion: Copwatch and our rights vis-à-vis the police

Presented by the Collective Opposed to Police Brutality.

@ Carrefour d'éducation populaire de Pointe Saint-Charles, 2356 rue Centre (métro Charlevoix)

This workshop addresses our rights in relation to the police (in the streets, in a car, at home, etc), and on the different responses we can take against police abuses. It will be followed by a presentation about Copwatch and the surveillance of police behaviour; we'll discuss the why and how of Copwatch, as well as the advantages and risks associated with this practice. The workshop will be followed by a discussion about what we can do in the face of police abuses and questions on specific and general cases. The presentation will include a video about Copwatch and the distribution of a pamphlet 'Surprise! We have rights!?' Free & welcome to all! French, with whisper translation towards English. Childcare available on request (please phone 48 hours in advance). The Carrefour d'éducation populaire is wheelchair accessible.

INFO: info@amp-montreal.net - <http://csa.revolte.biz> - 514-848-7583

Wednesday, September 17th - 11am-2pm.

QPIRG Concordia's Alternative Orientation Campus and Community Groups Tabling Fair

@ Concordia University, on the Terrace, between Bishop & Mackay

+ stencil making workshop

+ DJs

+ FREE delicious vegan foods

+ Radical history tour of Concordia

Saturday, September 20th - 7:00pm

Launch of the Montreal Independent Media Centre

@ 2035 St-Laurent, 2nd floor (and backyard, weather permitting, metro St-Laurent)

BBQ and dance party to officially launch the new Independent Media Centre. Come check out our digs, get involved, listen to some tunes, and meet the folks behind the new space. The collective of the IMC is open to the participation of new members, so if you want to be involved, get in touch with us at:

info-cmi@revolte.biz

Monday & Tuesday, September 22nd & 23rd - 11am-4pm

Solidarity I.D. Tabling on the Mezz

@ the Mezzanine, 2nd floor of Concordia University

Bring your student card, another form of proof you have paid your tuition (transcript, ISIC card, stm card, course schedule, etc), and your smile! It's picture-taking time for your new Frigo S.I.D. membership card.

Monday, September 29 - 7pm

The Mysterious Riot

Presented by Marc-André Cyr, anarchist activist.

@ Carrefour d'éducation populaire de Pointe Saint-Charles, 2356 rue Centre (métro Charlevoix)

Quebec City 1917, Quebec City 2001, Montreal-Nord 2008 . Riots have always frightened the ruling classes. The dominant ideologues have tried to discredit riots by all means at their disposal. Riots are supposedly 'irrational', 'violent', and a product of the 'rabble', 'troublemakers' and 'rock-throwers'. Through an analysis of some of Quebec's past riots, we will see the actual characteristics of a riot, beyond the stereotypes. What are the factors leading to a riot? Who takes part? Are there particular characteristics of riots? Can we associate a precise political ideology with riots? To what extent are they strategic? Together, we will try to understand a bit better this form of rebellion. Free & welcome to all! French, with whisper translation towards English. Childcare available on request (please phone 48 hours in advance). The Carrefour d'éducation populaire is wheelchair accessible. INFO: info@amp-montreal.net - <http://csa.revolte.biz> -