

THE OSCAR GRANT PLAZA GAZETTE

Monday, October 17 2011

Day 8.

.....
"the commons is back"
.....

FROM A COMRADE

To those who seek a message:

There is no message here. How could there be? Messages are for political parties, and how could this be one when it is clear that political parties have failed? Messages are words, and how could we trust words to prevail against the batons that always appear in the end to enforce the present state of things? Messages are for those seek to learn an answer in advance, but how could there be one, when learning means not waiting to be told what to do, but discovering it yourself?

For those waiting to watch and learn, we say do and learn! An occupation will never be an idea for a different way of life, because it is already itself the enactment of a different way of life. An occupation is not a utopian model, but a practical example. An occupation is society.

The message is clear: join us!

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HOT LIST OF NEEDS

~~~ highest priority listed in bold

~~~ for more info/questions contact [occupyoaksupply@gmail.com](mailto:occupyoaksupply@gmail.com)

~~~ no need to contact us first, just bring it on down to the Supply Tent at Oscar Grant Plaza at 14<sup>th</sup> & Broadway

| PHYSICAL/MATERIALS, GOODS                                                                            |                                             |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|
| ** buy used goods wherever possible!!!! and be thoughtful about who/what businesses you patronize... |                                             |
| <b>Medical – see detailed list for Wellness Center</b>                                               | Lentils                                     |
| <b>Generators and/or 9 volt car batteries (Deep</b>                                                  | Storage containers (multiple tents, groups) |
| <b>Cycle) for Food, First Aid and Media</b>                                                          | Clean socks                                 |
| <b>Blankets, sleeping pads, tarps, tents – more people</b>                                           | Solar collectors                            |
| <b>joining us every day</b>                                                                          | Wood pallets                                |
| <b>Easy up/shade/Pop up tents</b>                                                                    | Bales of Hay                                |
| <b>Hotspot cards for Media tent</b>                                                                  | Phone chargers and prepaid cards            |

The Oscar Grant Plaza Gazette aims to be a voice & record of the historic Occupy Oakland movement, part of a national & international movement of resistance. Please consider writing your thoughts, reflections, opinions, and what you've seen -- you are part of this movement & we want to get your words out there !

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| <b>Two burner cell phones for media tent</b><br><b>Water</b><br><b>Sharpies</b><br><b>Magic markers, poster board, sheets, sticks for making signs!</b><br><b>***Funds for porta-potty servicing***</b><br>Batteries – A, AA, AAA, D<br>Bikes | Kitchen utility shelving<br>Tape – duct, masking<br>Dry erase boards – lots, for tents and committees<br>Sanitizer<br>Zip ties<br>Milk crates<br>Gloves<br>Bakers racks<br>Spray paint |
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### *FROM A COMRADE*

Dear Occupiers, today my partner and I came to visit the Occupation. From what I experienced, I can understand why the corporate mass media seems so confused and dismissive about the Occupy message(s) to society. What y'all are doing is creating a developing model of society that is so alien, so diametrically opposed that it is baffling and offensive and threatening to those with vested interests in the status quo. I watched people working together to feed each other, distribute information, building a road made from scrapwood pallets, building a community, building a road by walking. And not in exchange for money. Valuing people over profits, cooperation over competition, reality over illusion, participation over passivity, these are the values that the Occupation embodies, develops, nurtures and transmits virally into our sick world. The bosses and their mouthpieces criticize these values and call them Utopian, but it is Rampant Capitalism that is utopian (an imagined state of things in which everything is perfect). The movement is finished with illusions and waiting for the Market Capitalist Paradise to materialize, the movement is building towards a new world, which requires a new language of human relations, of sorts. We don't need a reality mediated by political machines or markets, we need real community, direct democracy. No doubt, the form of the Occupation will change, as if this present moment is but a larval stage. I work in a worker-owned and operated cooperative. I feel that the thing my coop community has in common with the movement is the intentional engagement of the challenging yet rewarding process of cooperation and consensus decision-making. In my 3 years of experience at the coop, I've learned that it's all a process, not a product or a 'paradise/utopia': the people change, the coop changes, the larger community changes. Conflicts will arise, and this is good! In this world dominated by hierarchical structures (in family, school, religion, work), conflict is managed and suppressed, institutionalized. In a coop structure, conflict is freed from these constraints and people need to work it out. In my experience, I've always seen conflicts resolved to everyone's benefit when we keep talking, whereas repression breeds violence and resentment.

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"time has fallen into our hands/out of all the clocks"

-- George Stanley

Please send submissions to [oscargrantplazagazette@gmail.com](mailto:oscargrantplazagazette@gmail.com) or drop a hard copy by the information tent at Oscar Grant Plaza. We will endeavor to publish all materials received. For the purposes of collective self-defense we will reserve the right to decline to run materials which would render us legally liable.

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