

NorthStar Needs List

- Dry Erase Markers
- Trash Bags
- Coffee
- Allergy-Free Hand Soap
- Toilet Paper
- Pens
- Towels & Rags

Thanks again to our monthly donors for making NorthStar possible!

NorthStar Hours:

Tues.–Fri.
2pm - 6pm
or by appt.

NorthStar Listserve

If you would like to join the NorthStar announce- ments listserve, email northstarcenter@gmail.com with subscribe in the subject line

NorthStar Collective Meeting

Every Wednesday
7:30pm
Everyone is Welcome

I will support the

NorthStar Center

Name & Organization:-----

Address:-----

Phone Number & Email:-----

With a monthly pledge of

-----\$25 -----\$50 -----\$Other Amount

One-time donations are more than gladly accepted. Checks can be made out to NorthStar Center. Please send all mail to: NorthStar Center P.O. Box 4794 E. Lansing, MI 48826 and not to our local address.

Thank you for your solidarity with Greater Lansing activists in this effort to empower our communities by building sustainable projects.

The NorthStar Center - 106 Lathrop St. Lansing, MI 48912 - 517.371.2001 - northstarcenter@gmail.com - www.northstarcenter.net

The NorthStar Center

August 2008
Newsletter

-The NorthStar has historically been a symbol of freedom and empowerment. At the NorthStar Center, our goal is to further a legacy of resistance through community organizing-

106 Lathrop Ave
Lansing, MI 48912

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Lansing MI 48826

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OPEN:
Tuesday- Friday
2-6 PM
or by appointment

...resistance through empowerment...

...resistance through education...

...resistance through mutual aid...

...resistance through
NorthStar

NorthStar Open House

Saturday
Sept. 6th
Noon
@ NorthStar



September 6th at Noon, NorthStar will be hosting our fall open house. The open house is a chance for people to catch up if they've been out of town and to check out what NorthStar has been up to over the summer. It is a time to network with each other and to say hello to someone you haven't seen in a while but want to talk to. It's a party. There will be music, food and folks. Bring your stories, friends and family to NorthStar on Saturday, September 6th. Hope to see you there.

Detroit Radical History: An Overview
R&R Radical History Series

Tuesday
August 19th
7:30 pm

Let's get to know Michigan. Join us as we start to look at our major city---it's decline with deindustrialization and NAFTA, and it's potential to rise from the ashes. We will explore the collapse of the auto industry and the assault on the labor movement, in context with trends throughout the rustbelt cities. We will also give a brief history of past and present social movements in Detroit.

Save the Lansing City Market!
City Council will vote on the sale of the building August 11, 7pm
@ City Hall

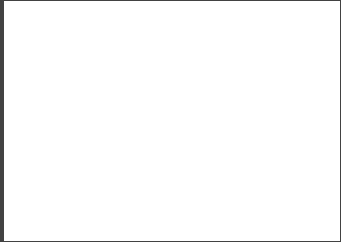
Please come out to this meeting to tell them we want do not want to bulldoze the market and the interest of small vendors and local farmers. The Gillespie Group has made a weak proposal to buy the property from the city and rebuild another market space that will not serve the interest of workers, farmers, or the larger Lansing community but Friends of the Lansing City Market have made a comprehensive plan countering the "redevelopment" proposal from Pat Gillespie.

Friends of the Lansing City market call for preserving historic buildings as part of revitalizing the downtown. All of the Lansing building trades unions have expressed their support in helping save and refurbish the current market

The current market is located next to greenspace that will be lost if a new market is built on it. The market is listed on state of Michigan's list of Historic sites, and is a recognized public works project of the 1930's.

Please email the Lansing City Council today and let them know that you want them to save the City Market! council@ci.lansing.mi.us Please include your address when writing council so that they know where you are from.

Check out www.savethecitymarket.com for more information about the campaign.



AMPLIFX NEEDS YOU!

Amplifx is a community organization that operates under a simple assumption: positive social change is possible, especially when that change starts at the local level. We function under direct democracy to build coalitions, connect resources, and work in solidarity with sister organizations and affiliates. Our first project is a bi-monthly magazine that is designed to be a mouthpiece for the Greater Lansing communities.

Amplifx Magazine is funded primarily through Campus Progress and the Center for American Progress. It features candid and critical discussions of socio-political, cultural and environmental justice issues, such as LGBT rights, affirmative action, climate change, local activism, anti-war efforts, international affairs, foreign policy, health care reform, racial equality, women's and minority rights, and more. Amplifx hopes to be representative of the families and communities living in the Greater Lansing area through content, design as well as language, and as such it is currently working on transforming the magazine into a bi-lingual publication, featuring articles in both English and Spanish.

Amplifx Magazine does not have just journalistic coverage, but accepts locally generated content in all forms, including articles, poetry, fiction, photography, graphic design, opinion pieces, mixed media, and more. Amplifx is currently looking for people to submit content in English and Spanish, and also for regular staff writers, graphic designers, and copy editors.

Amplifx is also working to organize public talks, events and skillshares in our community in order to build critical connections, encourage political thinking, and bridge cultural, generational and economic gaps between community members. If you are interested in helping us plan events, identify creative sources of funding and in-kind exchanges, network with people, or if you'd like to encourage community cultural production, graphic art and writing, and local businesses, get in touch with us. We're always looking for help.

For more information on how to get involved, visit our website at www.amplifx.org, stop by our Sunday meetings at 3pm at Gone Wired Cafe on Michigan and Fairview or email us at info@amplifx.org.

Outdoors Movie Series: WHAT WE WANT, WHAT WE BELIEVE: THE BLACK PANTHERS

**Thursday August 21st
9pm @ NorthStar**



The North Star Center will host an outdoor movie about the history of the Black Panthers. Beginning at 9:00 pm, the movie will show in the parking lot next to the North Star Center. The movie is one of a three disk set that gives an overview of the Black Panther Party movement. The movie features newsreel films, home movies, speeches made and in depth interviews with the party members. The film includes interviews with founding members such as Stokely Carmichael, Bobby Seale, and Huey P. Newton and explores the Black Panther's Party history of militant civil rights movement. Please join us for our first outdoor film of the summer.

Protecting Yourself at a Protest Know Your Rights Series

Tuesday, August 26th 7pm @ NorthStar

The Jena 6 and New Jersey 4 event last month went very well. as a result of a rather large dialogue at the event, northstar is going to be doing a series on knowing your rights. It will cover a range of issues from knowing your rights at a protest, your rights during arrest and trial, how to support people who are arrested, etc.... the first event will be focused on legal issues when attending a protest. This is in part due to some northstar folks going to protest the republican national conventions the end of August. We will make a point of having some of these events focused on knowing your rights when dealing with law enforcement in everyday situations and are not solely focusing on activists. First in the Series is "knowing your rights at a protest"

July Event Report-Backs

The Jena 6 & New Jersey 4

The Jena 6 and New Jersey 4 event last month at NorthStar raised the bar on how we envision events happening at NorthStar. Turnout, participation and interest were all excellent. More importantly, we were able to have an at length discussion that went beyond the surface and dug deeper for answers, new questions and hope. For those unable to make it please see our website for links to the Jena 6 and New Jersey 4 situations. The event has also inspired one of this months events, a know your rights training. Thanks to everyone who participated.

Popular Education Series Bike Class

Last Month's Popular Education Class: Bike Repair 101 was a success. Now we have no excuses, so let's get in the streets and start pedaling! A shout out to Jason Weller for teaching us all those little things we never knew.

Prefigurative Organization

How Can We Reflect the Future
We Want, In Our Present Work?

Kim Keyser, an insightful, anarchist organizer from Norway, visited the NorthStar Center July 24. He had been touring the US giving a presentation called "The Prefigurative Organization". The presentation tried to answer the question "How can we reflect the future we want, in our present work?" The talk looked at the practice of direct democracy in daily organizing, the process for organizing direct actions, and more forward thinking ideas about the possibilities of worker councils as means of self determined governance, as well as the potential contributions of anarchist organizing methods within social movements.

He prepared a complementing pamphlet called "The Prefigurative Organization," which had been made specifically for the speaking tour. If you are interested, we can make copies available at the NorthStar Center.

Latest in Efren Paredes' Case

NorthStar recently hosted an event in support of Efren Paredes Jr. Efren was convicted at 15 to 3 life sentences for a crime he did not commit. In the Past Couple of months, Efren has filed a commutation request, which must go all the way to the governor for him to be released. The commutation request was sent forward by the parole board, with their approval. It must still be approved by a commutation committee, and then the governor. For more on this situation please go to www.4efren.com.

Upcoming Protests Against the Republican National Convention (RNC)

Some NorthStar folks and other Lansing activists will be heading to the protests at the Republican National Convention in September. If you are wondering why people would do this or just want to know more, drop an email to Unconventional Michigan at: uamichigan@riseup.net. This is a loose network of folks who are working on a statewide level to organize against the RNC and are using it to build stronger ties across the state.

RNC Call to Action:

On September 1-4 of 2008, the Republican Party is coming to Minnesota to celebrate their latest conquests in global domination and exploitation. We of the RNC Welcoming Committee want to make sure that this time the fear-mongers will be met with their own biggest fear: people mobilized, organized, and taking the future back into their own hands.

For those of you who abhor the rapid growth of racist militarized borders across stolen lands, the raids and deportations, destruction and commodification of our shared and living earth, police brutality and prison industry, fear propaganda and subjugation, exploitation and robbery of peoples worldwide, and all forms of injustice and oppression - we ask you to be prepared for 2008. This will require new alliances, strong networks, the awakening of those who've given up, as well as the mobilization of those who've never before taken action. Let's use this opportunity to make the changes we thirst for manifest and take root before us, making the Republicans/Democrats (whatever you want to call them) obsolete.

Labor Day weekend of 2007, anarchists and anti-authoritarians from across the country gathered in the Twin Cities to develop goals and plans for the RNC 2008.