

Rise and Resist General Meeting - Zoom Edition - 2.22.2022

Rise and Resist Contact Information

- Website: www.riseandresist.org
 - Email list signup <http://eepurl.com/cCzq1X>
 - Twitter: www.twitter.com/RiseandResistNY
 - Facebook: www.facebook.com/RiseandResistNYC/
 - Instagram: www.instagram.com/risenresistnyc/
 - General email: info@riseandresist.org
 - Press email: media@riseandresist.org
 - Meetings: Every Tuesday at 7pm on Zoom. To sign up for the Zoom meeting [click here](#)
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Facilitators: Livvie and Jennifer **Notes:** Maryellen

Good News! - Judge orders that Trump, Ivanka, Don Jr. must comply with A.G. James subpoena and sit for deposition within 21 days. Federal Judge refuses to drop conspiracy suits (Using the Klan Act of 1871) filed by Capitol Police and Democratic Lawmakers - allowing them to continue pursuing Trump and hold him civilly liable for Jan 6 Insurrection. The National Archive says Trump illegally took classified information with him to Mar-A-Lago. DOJ Investigating.

Upcoming/New Actions:

Next **Immigration Vigil Thursday**, Feb 24th, at 5PM in Grand Central Station

- Main hall of GCS. Will bring some posters and banners as last time. Decisions will be made tomorrow during the Actions meeting. There is a new leaflet in development and should be available for this action.

- Were briefly in GCS before Delta. It's much livelier in GCS now and this will be the first time back in quite a while.

Hochul "Just Look Up" Monday, Feb 28th, at 3PM at Hochul's office

- Second in a series of actions that were started approx. one month ago. Works off the movie, "Don't Look Up." One of the reasons why is at Hochul's office. NYS passed a law which mandated periods for when we would reduce carbon emissions (e.g., by 2030, 50% reduction, etc.). But this hasn't been funded. To do this right it would cost \$15B/year. Hochul has only budgeted 3% of what's needed this year.

- RAR and other climate groups are going after her to out her lies and political greenwashing.

- Will bring a banner that reads, "Just Look Up"

- On Monday, 2/28th there will be a case in front of SCOTUS challenging the EPAs right to restrict greenhouse gas pollution. Brought by West VA.

Next **INDICT demo** on Wed March 2, 1PM Foley Sq.

- 14th months and counting, where are the indictments? Posters and banners speak for themselves.

Protest Blake Mason at fundraiser on Monday March 7, 5pm (Empire Steak house)

- Small action. Two people have been promoted for Senate for midterm elections. Blake Masters is coming to NY for a fundraiser with the Manhattan Republican Party. Posters in development. He's very pro-guns, and everything that the Trump-wing of the party is looking for in a candidate.

- Rather than shaming people, we will bring provocative signs.

- Blake Masters with the Manhattan Republican Party \$1000 Plate dinner on Monday March 7, at 5PM at Empire Steakhouse - 151 East 50th St. He's a Trump sycophant sponsored by Peter Thiel and running for Senate in AZ.

Climate lobbying day in Albany Tuesday, March 8

- Coalition to pressure Hochul to fund climate change initiatives. Opportunities for civil disobedience. Big, noisy day but we need as many bodies as possible. Contact Livvie, Stu, or anyone in RAR-Climate for more information. Link to sign up for March 8 Albany Lobby Day for Climate Funding

<https://actionnetwork.org/events/ny-renews-capstone-albany-mobilization-for-15-billion-for-climate-jobs-and-justice>

- There is also a phone relay on Wednesday, 2/23rd. People are encouraged to sign up in the spreadsheet to call Heastie and Stewart Cousins:

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1U-SXFtv-TrEPdoolRw60HinNk3gyOgdX5SxIKqIX6E/edit#gid=0>

Lee Zeldin, near City Hall [exact location tba]

- Hasn't done a public event in Manhattan for a while, but is doing one tomorrow morning (Wednesday, 2/23rd). If you are interested in going, please contact Jamie. Don't need a lot of people – even six is good.

Riders Alliance accessibility demo in Queens at 63rd Drive station (M,R) on Friday, March 4th

- Demand is to have a fully-accessible subway. For more information contact Jennifer, jvandyck@rcn.com. Accessibility now!

LGBTQ+ activists and allies rally to protest Mayor Adams' appointments of homophobic and transphobic individuals to his administration. Thursday, February 24th at 12:30pm-1:30 pm (City Hall Park)

- Mayor Eric Adams has once again escalated tensions with the LGBTQ community by appointing homophobic and transphobic candidates for high-level roles within his administration, including Pastor Gilford Monroe and Pastor Erick Salgado, and is now intending to appoint Fernando Cabrera for another post. Despite persistent efforts to communicate in good faith with the Mayor and his representatives, a coalition of LGBTQ+, immigrant justice, community leaders including grass-roots organizers and legislators, have decided to hold a rally to oppose the appointments.

Demands: Advocates will also be calling for:

- 1 - The Mayor to make good on his commitment to have a meeting with LGBTQ community leaders
- 2 - Rescind the appointments of Gil Monroe and Erick Salgado
- 3 - Abandon the appointment of Fernando Cabrera in the administration
- 4 - Sharing clear goals for the LGBTQ community in New York City

- Vote for endorsement by RAR passed.

Decarceration Update

Two things you can do to advance the cause of Decarceration:

1. On March 9th please join the Virtual Advocacy Day for the two parole bills that RAPP is working to get passed. Here is the link to participate, <https://bit.ly/ParoleJusticeMarch9>
2. Tomorrow, Join the #CommunitiesNotCages Call Party from 12-1pm! Just one hour! On these "Call Your Legislators" Parties, we'll listen to music, hold a brief training, and then call, email, and tweet at our legislators as we push them to co-sponsor the Eliminate Mandatory Minimums Act, Second Look, and Earned Time. To join, see the flier in the chat.

In response to the interest of our members in learning more about CCA's new campaign to reform sentencing in NYS, Marvin Mayfield of CCA will present at our meeting to give us more background and detail of the sentencing bills just presented to the legislature. Date to be determined.

Healthcare Committee - Two announcements and one action:

1. Announcement: 6:30 pm during Healthcare meeting on Monday. **No More 24 representatives will present their plans.** No More 24 focuses on homecare workers, many of whom are immigrants and are forced to work 24 hour shifts. When there have been attempts through boycotts, actions, etc. to not work 24 hours, they've been fired. The other issue is they are paid 13 hours on the 24 because the idea is they are peacefully sleeping as the patient is sleeping – which isn't true.

If interested and for more information, contact Alexandra

2. March 11th, 12pm, in downtown (exact location, tba): Almost the first anniversary of action together in front of Pfizer. Global day of action to commemorate the Biden Administration to get the WHO to pass the waiver, share technology, fund access to vaccination all over the world as needed. There will be die-ins around the world and will have more details next week. Part of the ongoing vaccine campaign. Need to open up treatments for people who become ill because of the vaccine, globally transfer the know-how to produce the vaccine. EU leaders are standing up for the pharma industry.

Need marshals and participants.

https://actionnetwork.org/events/endvaccinemonopoly-nyc-marks-2-years-of-pandemic-and-6-million-dead?clear_id=true

Facebook event page:

<https://facebook.com/events/s/endvaccinemonopoly-nyc-2-years/493583608779465>

3. **Coverage4All action:** March 2nd, in Albany
Buses available from around the State. Goal is to provide coverage for all low-income immigrants. Right now approx. 1 million people are uninsured and a little more than half are immigrants because they don't qualify for any benefits. Demand is for NY to have its own funding and not rely on federal funding. Would extend the Essential Plan is in production but doesn't cover undocumented immigrants. Many of the events will be held outside.

Here's the link to sign up to participate in the #Coverage4All action:

<https://tfaforms.com/4964474>

Discussion about Putin/Biden/Ukraine - what are you thinking about, concerned about, and unsure about. Also opportunity to share links and material.

- Truth has been upended. How is it possible to hold an anti-war stance under the pressure of the media? No matter what, people get killed and often from the next generation.

- Americans don't want troops in the Ukraine, and don't want a boots-on-the-ground war. But that isn't how war takes place. Today war is fought with drones and sanctions, or that the sanctions go after the oligarchs (but that's not necessarily true). Try to not get sucked into a good-bad person perspective (i.e., Ukraine is good, and Russia is bad).

- Useful article by Thomas Friedman, was about Putin is an imperialist and because we are doesn't mean he is. The US expansion of NATO was a tremendous act of provocation to Russia when they were weak. Putin's imperialist ambitions have been during his entire regime – he's frightening and not nice.

- Worried about the cyber-attacks. 60 minutes did a scary piece about it. Unsure whether we're equipped to handle what Russia is capable of doing. Russia started doing this at least 20 years ago and it's been getting worse.

- The issue of NATO is very important because a lot of people favored NATO because Trump hated it. NATO has been around since 1947 to protect Europe from the Soviet Union. But when it collapsed in the 1990s why was it needed? One of the things Putin is saying is that he was promised that countries such as Poland, etc. wouldn't be allowed to go to NATO. Jim Baker has allegedly said that wasn't a promise made to Putin (but take that with a grain of salt). Putin is a horrible autocrat and homophobe, right wing. Been in power for 24 years. He's invading another country and what can you do? Ignore it? Go in with an army? Sanctions? Call Putin's bluff and say that Ukraine would never join NATO (which would have been a perfectly legitimate thing to offer)? What is the 5th choice? Seems to be one of the things Biden is doing ok with right now. Apparently, the sanctions aren't the "big" sanctions. Wish he would do this for climate too (but people would be upset about that).

- Putin is a very bad person. However, it's been disgusting that while all of this is going on the media never presented what Putin's legitimate concerns are (e.g., NATO has expanded and is approaching Russia). The media perspective that everything the US says is true, and the predictions are valid is disgusting.

- There are 15 nuclear power plants in Ukraine. They're vulnerable to cyber-attacks, and electrical grids shutting down – which could cause the cooling to fail. Underscores the importance of negotiations and peaceful resolutions.

- Want to remind everyone that Putin's government is an oligarchy of thieves and henchmen who will do everything to keep their power (including poisoning opponents). Whose points of view are they really protecting? A lot of what's driving the tension between Russia and Ukraine is that they overthrew a Russian oligarchy 8 years ago. There are probably many dirty deals going on and the Russian oligarchy is trying to reestablish. Often comes down to power, money, and natural resources – dressed up as nationalist and security.

- When we expanded NATO and came close to Russia, that was the start of a cold war. Putin's insistence that Ukraine not be part of NATO is a very cynical perspective. His government is a mess.

- Since Putin came to power, there has been a constant type of semi-war in his country. His support of authoritarian crushing of people's lives further demonstrates there's nothing good about him. He's refusing the people of the Ukraine

- <https://www.newyorker.com/podcast/politics-and-more/what-putin-is-really-after-in-ukraine>

- Good background information: <https://www.nytimes.com/article/ukraine-russia-putin.html>

- Link to Wall Street Journal article https://apple.news/AREojYBVJR2C_L0OJlkm0MQ

- <https://www.nytimes.com/2022/02/21/opinion/putin-ukraine-nato.html>

- Masha Gessen podcast from this past week
<https://www.newyorker.com/podcast/politics-and-more/what-putin-is-really-after-in-ukraine>
- Some Background https://youtu.be/VtOx6dW_0vU
- <https://www.ippnw.org/no-war>
- Link to der Spiegel article.
<https://www.spiegel.de/international/world/nato-s-eastward-expansion-is-vladimir-putin-right-a-bf318d2c-7aeb-4b59-8d5f-1d8c94e1964d>
- Something from the Committee to Protect Journalists on Russia, <https://cpj.org/tags/russia>

Report Backs

2/18 **Say Their Names** - every Friday at 4:30PM at 96th and Broadway

- Very thankful for everyone who's been attending. Bios will be available with pictures so people can see the victims and learn their stories.
- Email Ann to be included in the email list, shirazNY@verizon.net

2/21 **Pop-up INDICT** at 58th St. 5th Ave. & Trump Tower

- Nice turnout of RARers and others. A lot of foot traffic, tourists, schools, etc. A lot of people asking, "why isn't he in jail now?" Great pictures with the banner. Many cops there but no issues – one patrol car was moved out of the way.

Truth Tuesday at Fox - every Tuesday at 12noon at 48th and 6th also Fox Updates

- A producer decided to set up for a taping near the plaza where RAR stands. At some point RAR went over and disrupted their taping. Seemed to be successful – they got frustrated and walked in.
- Call Liberty Mutual at 617-357-9500 and say, "Stop hurting America", and "Stop telling lies", etc.
- Also Tweet at Liberty Mutual, @AskLiberty @LibertyMutual
- There was one violent person there today who was yelling and trying to take off people's hats. Same person in the past who stuck his finger in someone's face and pretended to pull a trigger and shoot her.
- Another person, Angelo, had long discussions that were absolutely fabulous. He was very thankful we were there and talking about the 1st Amendment and the importance of doing what we're doing. There's a difference between Fox and other cable broadcast channels. He would like to be there in the future to help with aggressive people.

Non-Rise and Resist Actions

1. **For election work for The March 1st primary in Texas:** The Center for Common Ground Center for Common Ground was founded to educate and empower under-represented voters in voter suppression states to engage in elections and advocate for their right to vote. They are

presently working to enable people to take part in the Texas primary, which occurs March 1st. They have structured phone bank sessions and training that you can join to learn how to do it their way. They also have videos. They do not endorse or electioneer for any candidates. Here is the link to work with them. <https://www.centerforcommonground.org/phonebanks>.

You can do phone banking and otherwise support two progressive candidates running in the Texas primary, which is March 1st.

Jessica Cisneros: running a grassroots, people-powered campaign in the 28th District in Texas. To find out more about her and contribute or work for her, go to her website: <https://jessicacisnerosforcongress.com>.

Greg Casar: A progressive member of the Austin City Council and a movement organizer who has supported working families. To find out more about him, contribute to or work for him, go to: (@GregCasar) Twitter, <https://twitter.com/GregCasar>

2. Two more **Know Your Rights for tenants'** training are upcoming. Please contact Kat for more information and to attend, at katcorbell19@gmail.com.

3. **Spirit of the Movement** is 2/24; PPC 101 is on 3/9; April 11 **Poor People's Campaign** in NYC (likely by Riverside Church area?) There will be chances to help with arts/music/singing, songwriting, too. (4/25 for Philly for those who know Elections connections?)
<https://www.poorpeoplescampaign.org/june18>

<https://spirituschristi.org/media/events-calendar> event Friday as part of a fundraiser, but suggested donation.

4. June 18 **event in DC**. Buses avail with ways to have funds covered/ways to pitch in to help cover others' funds (Rally bus); opps to help again with sing/songwriting and becoming a bus captain, a Hub (recruiting more participants/spreading event/organization info, etc).
<https://rally.co/poor-peoples-assembly>. Message Kat, at katcorbell19@gmail.com if interested in helping with arts or/and singing, songwriting for either/both of these, and I'll connect you with the relevant NY state PPC groups.

End of Meeting!

RISE AND RESIST