

Hudson Mohawk May Day Committee

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News Release: For Immediate Release

Committee Plans 10th Annual May Day Celebration

The Hudson-Mohawk May Day Committee is planning the 10th Annual Capital District May Day Celebration of International Workers Day to be held on **Thursday, May 1, 2008**. This year's theme is "Single Payer Health Care." With millions of American workers not covered by health insurance and the major political candidates each offering variations on each other's profit-based insurance plans, progressive American workers are calling for a plan that makes sense. Representative John Conyers, Dean of the Congressional Black Caucus and ranking minority Member of the House Judiciary Committee introduced The United States National Health Insurance Act (HR 676) in February. The legislation proposes an effective mechanism for controlling skyrocketing health costs while covering all 42 million uninsured Americans. The bill also restores free choice of physician to patients and provides comprehensive prescription drug coverage to seniors, as well as younger people.

The May 1 program will be held at **Prospect Park in Troy, NY from 5:00 PM to 9:00 PM**. Among the speakers are: Martha Livingston, Ph.D., Associate Professor at SUNY Old Westbury who gives courses on US healthcare and comparative healthcare systems, and has lectured widely on healthcare reform; and Dr. Andy Coates, Secretary of the local chapter of Physicians for a National Health Program (PNHP), member of the national board of PNHP and a local activist for peace and healthcare reform. Other speakers and entertainment to be announced; in addition there will be short video screenings and tabling by local organizations. The event is free & open to the public; refreshments will be available. Prospect Park is on Congress St. (Route 2) just east of Troy.

The Hudson-Mohawk May Day Committee includes members from the Troy Area Labor Council, Solidarity Committee of the Capital District, The Eighth Step, New York Labor History Association, the Albany Chapter of United University Professors, Bethlehem Neighbors for

Peace, the Upstate New York International Workers of the World, area labor unions and other activists. The Committee has planned educational and entertaining events on Labor history and current social justice issues held on May 1 throughout the Capital District for the last ten years. May Day is the International Workers' Holiday celebrated in most industrial countries in the world. It began in the United States in the 19th Century, growing out of the struggle for the 8-hour work day and the Chicago Haymarket Massacre in 1886.

For more information about the May Day 2008 Celebration contact Dan Wilcox, 518-482-0262, email: dwlcx@earthlink.net; or Art Fleischner, 518- 273-2759, email: alad8@verizon.net. Or visit the Committee's website at www.hudsonmohawkmayday.org.

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