



## The Village View

September 8, 2021

Editor: Kirsten Rohde

### (Part Two)

#### **A Labor of Love – A Continuation**

*Elizabeth Jarrett-Jefferson*

##### **Coming Up—**

- Pathwork – Sunday, Sep 12, 7pm
- Women's Gathering  
Saturday September 25
- Men's Weekend at Sahale  
October 22-24

Last week I spoke of the history of Labor Day and the Labor-of-Love that is Sahale and how it has become manifest over these many years. This past weekend we celebrated both, and our celebration took the form of friends and family joining together in the spirit of All My Relations that continues to sustain Sahale and the community that has held it for all these 20 years. We marveled over photographs that were taken over the years; we robustly reminisced; and we acknowledged with love those who were instrumental behind Sahale, including John and Colette Hoff. A number of beloved community friends who were key in both in community formation and in the establishment of Sahale have passed....John Hoff, Fran Miniotta, Phil Stark, Kathleen Notley, Neale Huggins, & Virginia Stout, all elders among us. We remembered the children who grew up in community that count Sahale as a significant part of their kid hoods...too many to be listed here! We remembered the time that Jim Tocher, with help, disassembled (literally cut in half) a building that he then trucked to Sahale to be re-assembled in our lower campus. We remembered construction of the upper garden terraces; remembered "soldier trees (Doug Fir)" now grown to 50 feet; how the naming of some of our byways came about (such as "Truck Trap Road"); we recalled when there were no full-time residents at Sahale but each night was "covered" in person by a community member from Seattle. We talked about the purchase of the property from the Capriottis, and how we, in turn, moved them (lock, stock, and freezers-of-food) to Medford to their own retirement home. We remembered how quickly we began remodeling the main home & other buildings to accommodate our many circles of meetings, including the business of Community. The recollections were many, and feelings arose afresh! In many ways, we were "re-entering the atmosphere of relationship," our theme from this year's Human Relations

Laboratory, where we, most of all, celebrated relationship and what is possible when minds and hearts join together.

Which reminds me of a person in our American history who, with the support and encouragement of key figures, was able to bring about profound transformation, in this instance to Labor Unions and to working conditions across the United States. She is Frances Perkins. Thank you to Bob Reid in his piece below.

#### **Bob Reid**

When Frances Perkins was a little girl, she asked her parents why nice people could be poor. Her father told her not to worry about those things, and that poor people were poor because they were lazy and drank. Eventually, she went to Mount Holyoke College, and majored in physics. In her final semester, she took a class in American economic history and toured the mills along the Connecticut River to see working conditions. She was horrified. Eventually, instead of teaching until she married, she earned a masters degree in social work from Columbia University. In 1910, Perkins became Executive Secretary of the New York City Consumers League. She campaigned for sanitary regulations for bakeries, fire protection for factories, and legislation to limit the working hours for women and children in factories to 54 hours per week. She worked mainly in New York State's capital, Albany. Here, she made friends with politicians, and learned how to lobby.



On March 25th, 1911, Frances was having tea with friends when they heard fire engines. They ran to see what was happening, and witnessed one of the worst workplace disasters in US history. The Triangle Shirtwaist Factory fire was devastating, killing 146 people, mostly young women and girls. Frances watched as fire escapes collapsed and fireman ladders couldn't reach the women trapped by the flames. She watched 47 workers leap to their deaths from the 8th and 9th floors.

Poignantly, just a year before these same women and girls had fought for and won the 54 hour work week and other benefits that Frances had championed. These women weren't just tragic victims, they were heroes of the labor force. Frances at that moment resolved to make sure their deaths meant something.

A committee to study reforms in safety in factories was formed, and Perkins became the secretary. The group took on not only fire safety, but all other health issues they could think of. Perkins, by that time a respected expert witness, helped draft the most comprehensive set of laws regarding workplace health and safety in the country. Other states started copying New York's new laws to protect workers.

Perkins continued to work in New York for decades, until she was asked by President Elect Franklin D. Roosevelt in 1933 to serve as Secretary of Labor. She told him only if he agreed with her goals: 40-hour work week, minimum wage, unemployment and worker's compensation, abolition of child labor, federal aid to the states for unemployment, Social Security, a revitalized federal employment service, and universal health insurance. He agreed. Similar to what she had worked for in New York, her successes became the New Deal, and changed the country and its workers forever.

So while you may not know her name, you certainly know her legacy.



## **From the Goodenough Community Men's Culture**

*Norm Peck*

The GEC Men's Culture Fall Weekend will be held at the Sahale Learning Center October 22-24. The weekend is later than usual to host the NW Permaculture Convergence the previous weekend. Bruce Perler and Tom George will be leading the take-down of the white Event Tent and convene Men's Circles during the weekend. It is especially helpful to have experienced hands during the day Friday, October 22, with the formal weekend starting Friday evening after dinner. ARCC students will be available to help with the take-down, and will need guidance from more experienced men.

Please let Tom [thomasageorge@live.com](mailto:thomasageorge@live.com) (206-310-2240) of the dates and times you could be available, and anything you'd like to bring to the Men's Circle.

I will not be able to attend, as the memorial service and celebration of life for my father, who died in June of last year, is being held on that weekend in Kansas.



The deAnguera Blog: Labor Day  
Mike deAnguera

Labor Day commemorates the working person. But even today there is still an ongoing struggle between workers and owners. Why is that? Well for the owners the idea is to make as much profit as possible. Workers need to be paid a decent wage. But the workers are just a factor of production which can be replaced by automation or outsourced to other countries. There is no loyalty to the workers.

What do workers have in common with each other? Frequently not much. My experience has been that employment is not a good way to create community. What do we share in common besides our work spaces? Management has ways to keep us divided. And what do we do when we go home at night? We all go back to our separate lives.

Maybe a union will try to organize us but we still won't have anything to do with each other. The folks I had the most in common with were those I went to school with in Boeing's 10 month Business Computer Training Program. I have not found community to be present on the assembly line.



Here at Sahale I constantly have the opportunity to meet new people such as Ashley Adams, Draí Schindler's daughter. She is making all kinds of art such as these necklaces which she is marketing.

Also Jodine Hatfield reminded us of a funny time when we all were obsessed with stories about eggs. An egg report would go into the newsletter which appeared in one of our Labs.

It seems a lot easier to share our lives together when we intentionally build community together. That's something I have found nowhere else.

When Ashley displays her wares or when Jodine tells a story, both these people are sharing with us what's important to them.



Creative talents need to be nurtured and community seems to be the only place where that is possible. I remember the fairy house Presley Harrington and I built. That's something that meant a lot to both of us. Friendship is not something I have been able to find in art classes.

Our community is intentional arising out of our Lab work. We take care of our people and walk with them. I value our community relations as family just like with my brother Paul and his wife Pat.

We finalized our purchase of Sahale right after 9/11. I don't believe that is a coincidence. It was meant to be. Community is the answer to the increasing disorder in our world. We are what the world needs. Community rather than a single Messiah.

There must be thousands of ecovillages like us that are members of the Global EcoVillage Network. GEN member communities can be found in most countries around the world including Russia and China. I wonder when we will develop relations with some of these communities? These things take time.

Of course it is great to see the big picture but let's not forget little lovable details like this puppy at my foot. Julia, a friend of Andrew Hovenden's brought us a basket of puppies. Their mama is Julia's Russel Terrier Lola.





## NW Permaculture Convergence 2021: Sahale Shindig! October 15-17, 2021

2021 is a year for tending the soil and Nurturing Community! Mark your calendar for the Sahale Shindig Oct 15-17 in Washington.

Open Space Format campout. Bring yourself and ingredients to contribute to shared meals, music, art, skill-shares and discussions. Want to help shape the event? Let us know on the NW Permaculture 2021 Sahale Shindig

### Questionnaire.

Our schedule will be filled out with our collective offerings the first night of the event. Let's have a good time!

We are planning for a digital home-base, paired with live on-the-ground projects at our host site. We will follow our traditional schedule of Thursday night to Sunday night, live-streaming opening and closing circles, keynotes and all workshops, with the option to join in person regionally.

### **Want to help plan it?**

Join us on Zoom 7pm Thursdays (sometimes Tuesdays - check green box on our website) to help us explore and discuss what you and our community wants to speak and learn about! For the Zoom link and next meeting date visit: <https://www.northwestpermaculture.org/>

*This is a wonderful opportunity to meet some of our local permaculturists and to learn about a variety of aspects of permaculture. Let Colette Hoff know of your interest.  
(hoff@goodenough.org)*



*Now we (members and friends of the Goodenough Community) are taking a stand for love and equality over all the expressions of racism and injustice and inequality against People of Color. We, as mostly white, will educate ourselves and learn to make a difference. We will continue to speak out about racial injustice.*

When we organized the Group Health RNs into the union 1199NW, the national president of 1199 was Henry Nicholas whose start in the labor movement is described in the second story below. It is about 1199's beginnings with a 46 day strike in NYC in the 1970's that transformed workers rights in healthcare.. The first article below is a current story about the union. I had tremendous admiration for Henry Nicholas – he believed in organizing! I learned so much about organizing, giving speeches, messaging, and dreaming big. 1199 never made “back room deals” and negotiating teams were made up of workers from many hospital units. So the management team had to be very careful what they said in front of so many workers!

Kirsten Rohde

## New Generation Takes Over at 1199C

November 27, 2019 | Filed under: [Subject Categories](#) | Posted by: [Tony West](#)



THE NEW Local 1199C leadership team: L-R, Secretary-Treasurer Salima Pace, President Chris Woods and Vice President Elyse Ford.

BY TONY WEST

The torch has been passed to younger leadership in one of Philadelphia's most-influential unions, National Union of Hospital & Health Care Employees Local 1199C.

At the membership meeting earlier this year, Elyse Ford became vice president and Salima Pace was chosen as secretary-treasurer. In October, Chris Woods, who had long served as vice president, acceded to the presidency by an act of the executive board.

This team has big shoes to fill: those of legendary labor leader Henry Nicholas, who had doggedly expanded unionism in the northeastern region and around the nation since the 1970s.

Nicholas became a dominant force in the area's growing health-care industry, building Local 1199C to more than 11,000 members, primarily in a host of service jobs and paraprofessional workers. He was also a powerful political force in Philadelphia who played kingmaker in the advances of former Mayor Wilson Goode, Sr., State Sen. Vincent Hughes, Councilmember Blondell Reynolds Brown – and the city's current Mayor Jim Kenney.

But Nicholas was meticulously grooming his succession in the past few years. His new team is now fully in place. All are 34 years old.

Woods, began to work with Local 1199C in 2007. He cut his teeth on statewide campaigns to organize child-care workers, longterm-care workers, nurses and behavioral-health technicians.

Ford joined the union in 2006. "We've been very successful in growth since then," she said. "We've organized St. Christopher's, Delaware Valley Memorial and Frankford Hospitals."

Pace, a native Philadelphian, "fell in love with the union" as a volunteer in 2012 in the "Workers Stand for America" movement organized by IBEW Local 98 leader John Dougherty in conjunction with Nicholas and Woods.

This team has come of age when unionism has been subjected to decades of assault by political conservatives. With the election of President Donald Trump, said Woods, "Washington came out of the gates smashing labor. The U.S. Supreme Court 'Janus' decision helped fire up workers," instilling an aggressive spirit in younger members of the labor movement.

Historically, Woods noted, "The trades have led the way in the labor movement. But they have not prioritized the concerns of service workers." Woods sees a need for NUHHCE to coordinate with unions like AFSCME DC 47, UNITE HERE and Service Employees International Union to dynamize the labor movement to broader relevance and growth.

Pace expanded on that point: "We need to make friends and relationships with everybody, build a table of allies and partners."

One interesting partner is Canadian TD Bank, which has proved open to forms of business-labor programs. Another is Peirce College.

The recent Hahnemann Hospital bankruptcy was a fiasco for the local health industry that shook Local 1199C. Ford asserted, "We should be doing research on who's coming into the city with ulterior motives," referring to Hahnemann's latest owners, who are Arizona-based.

"When hospitals as well as factories are closing, we've all got to figure out a way to work together," said Woods. "We've got to hold onto what was created before us and learn how to grow it in our time."

Political engagement remains a core mission of Local 1199C. It donated generously to Working Families party's successful Council at-large candidate Kendra Brooks. Another at-large winner, educator Isaiah Thomas, is a childhood friend of Woods.

Going into 2020, Woods has an eye on Harrisburg. "Democrats are only four seats from a majority in the State Senate," he observed. "We can't sit it out."

The new team at Local 1199C is proud to include African American women in top leadership positions – still a rarity in the labor movement.





HENRY NICHOLAS

## **A LOOK BACK: 1199'S 46 DAYS THAT TURNED NEW YORK UPSIDE DOWN**

**May 7, 2014**

Fifty-five years ago, a union of 5,000 drugstore workers led a 46-day strike that transformed New York City's healthcare system by ending the super-exploitation of workers at some of the city's most powerful hospitals.

David took on Goliath. When the strike began on May 8, 1959, management at the struck hospitals – Mount Sinai, Beth Israel, Bronx, Lenox Hill, Brooklyn Jewish, Beth David and Flower-Fifth Avenue – felt certain that turning back the workers and the strike would be relatively easy. They soon learned that they had greatly under-estimated the resolve of the 3,000 workers and the organizing genius of the 1199 leaders.

Led by President Leon Davis, Organizing Director Elliott Godoff and a small but dedicated staff, the workers rose to the occasion. Most also felt they had nothing to lose. The majority earned about \$32 a week, with no healthcare coverage and few benefits. Many, in fact, qualified for public assistance.

“We also had right on our side and we were determined,” says Lena Hayes, president of the 1199SEIU Retirees Division, who at the time of the strike worked at Mt. Sinai Hospital. She later continued her education to become an RN.

Hayes reflects the militancy of the workers, one of the Union’s secret weapons. Like, Hayes, many of the heroes were women of color. For example, Gloria Arana, born in Puerto Rico, began pressing curtains in 1942 at Mt Sinai for \$60 a month. Over the years she had become a highly respected leader. In “Upheaval in the Quiet Zone,” a history of 1199 by Leon Fink and Brian Greenberg, the authors write about one of Arana’s co-workers, a European immigrant whose ailing feet prevented her from picketing. At the time, she lived in the Mt. Sinai dormitory where she refused to leave during the strike, saying, “Gloria told me I don’t work. I do the strike here”

Another Sinai strike leader was Julio Pagan, who brought fellow orderly Henry Nicholas to his first picket line. Pagan later joined the 1199 staff as an organizer. So did, Nicholas, who also became president of the 1199-initiated National HospitalUnion.

“I was very scared, but understanding that fear has helped me to organize workers,” Nicholas says. Today, he is president of the National Union of Hospital and Health Care Employees of the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME).

During the 1959 strike, 1199 garnered the support of the New York labor movement and large sections of the progressive community. Another key element in the struggle was the “Crack of Dawn Brigade,” consisting of

drugstore workers, including Jewish pharmacists, who showed up daily at picketlines.

John Perkins, who preceded Lena Hayes as president of the Retirees Division, was a young member of the brigade. “I’m not a professional organizer,” Perkins says. “During the hospital campaign, I helped to make sure that the hospital workers had a voice”

When the strike ended on June 22, the settlement did not directly lead to union recognition but created what Leon Davis termed a foot-in-the-door Permanent Advisory Committee (PAC). A second strike in 1962 led to the replacement of the PAC with management’s recognition of 1199.

But it was the 1959 strike that turned New York upside down and established 1199 as the city’s major healthcare workers union.



## **Song for Autumn by Mary Oliver**

**Don't you imagine the leaves dream now  
how comfortable it will be to touch  
the earth instead of the  
nothingness of the air and the endless  
freshets of wind? And don't you think  
the trees, especially those with  
mossy hollows, are beginning to look for  
the birds that will come—six, a dozen—to sleep  
inside their bodies? And don't you hear  
the goldenrod whispering goodbye,  
the everlasting being crowned with the first  
tuffets of snow? The pond  
stiffens and the white field over which  
the fox runs so quickly brings out  
its long blue shadows. The wind wags  
its many tails. And in the evening  
the piled firewood shifts a little,  
longing to be on its way.**

## **Programs and Events of the Goodenough Community Updated for the Fall, 2021**

**Community is about adapting to change, and that has been the case with the pandemic as we have adapted many of our ways to connecting, many of which are via Zoom.**

Throughout the year our intention is to offer programs that help you participate in your own development, learn about relating well with others, and help you discover your potential to have a good time in life and with others.

Information about programs and upcoming events can be found on our website:  
[www.goodenough.org](http://www.goodenough.org)



**Human Relations Laboratory, August 7 – 13, 2022 – Mark your calendars now**

This intense and joyous week-long event is a communal experience of personal growth and relational development within a rich culture with art, music dance, song, drama and more. Next summer we will celebrate 53 years! Contact: Colette Hoff or Elizabeth Jarrett-Jefferson, [hoff@goodenough.org](mailto:hoff@goodenough.org), [elizabeth.ann.jarrett@gmail.com](mailto:elizabeth.ann.jarrett@gmail.com)



**The Goodenough Community's governing body, the General Circle,** meets monthly, 7:00 PM, via Zoom:

- *September 20, 2021*
- *October 18*
- *November 15*

For additional information, contact [Elizabeth Jarrett-Jefferson](#)



**The Women's Program** is a long-established and ever- growing way for women to enjoy each other's company, learn about themselves as women, and even perhaps to experience the Divine Feminine.

- *September 25, 2021, Saturday, 10AM via Zoom*
- *October 23, Saturday*

For more information, contact [Hollis Ryan](#).



**The Third Age** - Those age 60 and older have been gathering monthly, Friday evenings. 7:00 PM. With the pandemic, meetings are virtual.

Fall dates: October 8, December 10.

Contact [Kirsten Rohde](#) for more information

**The Men's Program** - Our Men's Circle is an expression of brotherhood and practice with wisdom, gathered from our own lives, other men's work, advocates, and the founders of this circle.

For information, contact Norm Peck, [shkwavrydr@aol.com](mailto:shkwavrydr@aol.com)



**Pathwork, a Program of Convocation: A Church and Ministry** – Pathwork offers you a spiritual home in which to rest and to share your heart and mind as you move through these unpredictable times. Participants come together under the leadership of Pastor Colette Hoff and find support and encouragement, gaining wisdom from the world's faith & wisdom traditions. All are welcome to join. Meetings are held via Zoom on alternate Sundays from 7pm to 9pm. Contact



Colette: [hoff@goodenough.org](mailto:hoff@goodenough.org) for Zoom information.

- *September 12 and 26*
- *October 10 and 24*
- *November 7*



### **True Holidays Celebration - Saturday, December 4, 2021**

We are planning our 2021 event! Hold this date on your calendar. We traditionally hold this event on Mercer Island. Stay tuned for details.



**Work and Play Parties throughout the Year.** Traditionally, the Goodenough Community sponsors work parties over Memorial Day weekend as well as other times to express gratitude for the presence of our beloved retreat center, Sahale, and to experience the satisfaction of playing and working together. Please email [hoff@goodenough.org](mailto:hoff@goodenough.org) with questions.



### **Quest: A Counseling and Healing Center**

Our belief is that mental and emotional health is a prerequisite for spiritual wellbeing, collaboration, and the expression of compassion. Quest's counseling and education programs, open to all interested individuals, focus on empowering individuals, couples, and family groups to be happier and more effective in relationships. *Call Colette (206-755 8404).*