

## Speak Out Socialists Public Meetings

# The Encampments Film Screening

Red Emma's Free School (downstairs)

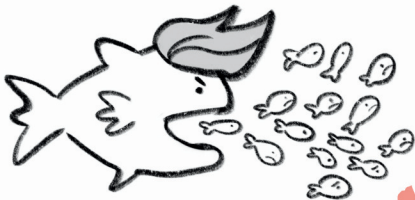
3128 Greenmount Ave  
Baltimore, MD

**Sat, Oct 11, 4:00 PM**

It's been 2 years since October 7<sup>th</sup>, 18 months since the student encampments, and still Israel's genocidal rampage continues. What can we learn from past movements about where we can go from here.



## In the Streets AND at Work It's Time to Organize!



**Sun, Oct 26, 7:00 PM**  
(Doors: 6:30 PM)



**Under Trump, we face:**

- The continued genocide in Gaza
- ICE raids on our communities
- Attacks on freedom of speech
- Cuts to social programs
- Rewriting history
- And much more!

**Homewood Friends Meeting House**

3107 N. Charles St.

Baltimore, MD

(\$5 donation)

no one turned away for lack of funds

The **solution is up to us!** Come to a presentation and bring your friends and ideas to discuss what we can begin to do, and why we must organize our forces **as workers.**

**Speak Out Socialists**  
speakoutsocialists.org  
@sonsocialists





# Speak Out Now

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## Community College Staff Rally for a Contract and Better Education

On September 9, Baltimore City Community College (BCCC) faculty and staff rallied to demand fair on-time pay, better staffing, and that the college finally reach a contract agreement after a year since the union won its representation election. Some faculty say that they go months without payment, not until their course is over! Others say they lack the specialized resources the college should supply, like clinical jackets for the dental hygiene program. When the semester started in August, dozens of classes were listed with no instructor. This is absurd!

BCCC serves an overwhelmingly Black, working-class student body seeking essential knowledge and skills. Government funding cuts are targeting us. Faculty are absolutely right to fight back and we all need to join them.

## Health Insurance Costs Increase

Rates will soon increase by an average of 13.4% for the 300,000 people who buy health insurance through Maryland Health Connection, the highest increase in eight years. These health policies are available to people who can't get insurance through work, meaning their jobs are often low-paying or unstable. Some people will see their rates double when the new prices take effect in 2026.

In June, UnitedHealthcare, CareFirst, and other private insurance companies asked the state government to raise the rates that people were paying. They said they were dealing with increased costs from inflation and cuts to subsidies from the federal government. For the insurance companies to keep earning record profits, these costs needed to be passed on to their customers. Maryland sided with the insurance companies, approving an increase only slightly lower than requested. When big corporations foresee financial trouble, they will always find a way to convince the government to make regular people suffer instead.

We live in the wealthiest country in the world, and it is our labor that has created all of this wealth. We aren't the ones who benefit from this. The super rich — the bosses of the big corporations and banks — keep the wealth and make all the decisions. Working people do the work that makes society run, and we can organize to unite our forces. When we do, we have enormous power to change things and make a better world.

## County School Payroll Problems Hurt Teachers, Other Employees

Earlier this year, Baltimore County Public Schools (BCPS) refused to pay teachers and other employees the salaries and benefits that had been negotiated in their contract. Union members carried out job actions and demonstrations in protest. They won back part, but far from all, of what the county had taken from them. Now there's been another attack on school staff by BCPS.

In June, BCPS started using new payroll software. As this school year started, some teachers and other employees noticed problems with their paychecks, direct deposits, and benefits. Paraeducators and other staff seem to be especially affected. But, instead of apologizing and acknowledging that a new system might have some start-up problems, school officials tried to blame the workers or their banks. Most of us know that introducing new technologies can cause problems. Don't insult our intelligence. Just apologize and fix it fast!

## Baltimore Businessman Collaborates with Trump to Suppress Speech

After comedian Jimmy Kimmel made a tame joke about the murder of right-wing organizer Charlie Kirk, Kimmel's employer, ABC, suspended his show due to a threat from Trump's Federal Communications Commission. Even after ABC resumed Kimmel's show, Baltimore County-based media company Sinclair Broadcast Group refused for a week to air it on Sinclair's many TV stations across the country.

Local Sinclair stations nationwide consistently air right-wing content, and the company's top executive, multi-millionaire David Smith, is one of the top funders and promoters of right-wing ideas in Baltimore and elsewhere. He's donated millions to Republican politicians and far-right groups, including Kirk's organization; aggressively funded pro-business policy proposals in Baltimore City; and purchased the Baltimore Sun newspaper in 2024 in order to further promote his political message. Even though Sinclair's blackout of Kimmel was only for one week, it's unacceptable that a wealthy right-wing businessman in Baltimore County gets to decide what millions across the country are allowed to watch on TV!