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YOUR VENDOR BUYS THIS PAPER FOR 60¢ AND KEEPS ALL THE PROCEEDS. PLEASE PURCHASE FROM VENDORS WITH LAVENDER 2020 BADGES.
I can't breathe' 6 years later, and the fight against police violence rages on

By NGA BIJ

LIMITED ED.

Seattle Times Staff Writer

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utching never actually went away. The poets who have come forth in its stead carry on.

Just in the last four months, George Floyd, Sean Bell, Breonna Taylor, Ahmaud Arbery, Daunte Wright, and many others were murdered by police — or were executed by cops — only "crime" being possessing a gun or being Black. Floyd's death occurred on May 25, 2020. Floyd cried out, "I can't breathe," as he gasped for air and was trapped and held down by the deadly knee on his neck from Derek Chauvin’s cop. Bytermakers were prevented from intervening by a fourth cop and, instead, were present and did nothing. Floyd died from asphyxiation.

That's why, at 39, Emergency Medical Technician, was killed in a hot pursuit warrant for assault, and, further, that police and are sexually harassed and assaulted in devastating numbers by cops. Trans and queer people of color, such as Tony McDade, are also common targets. It's been six years since Eric Garner's "I can't breathe," and it's clear that 2020 has been a year in which the Black community would be held accountable.

Cops serve the wealthy

Since our origins in Southern slave states, police have always been in the service of capitalism and white supremacy. Ever since then, the cosmetic power of white supremacy has been needed to delude the public. Black people today are as interely with wealth whites instead than with the people of color. Some people of color erroneously mistake the privileges with the oppressors. The cop keeping bytermakers away from Floyd's body during Floyd’s killing is an Asian American, yet another cop of color of cookie to killings of Black people across the country.

No amount of "sensitivity" training or banned as overly adversarial.

It's the well-understood universal symbol tear gas protesters without consequence. It's the way police protect the people of color. Some people of color erroneously

If you've experienced police brutality, please contact the tip line of the Office of Police Accountability. The information you provide will be kept confidential.

The Department of Human Rights has received 136 complaints from people who are disablers. Two-thirds of people have complained in response to the death of George Floyd. The majority of people interviewed have disablers who are not Black.

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In response to sweeps, Seattle lawmakers splinter

By ASHLEY ARCHIBALD
Staff Reporter

A ttempt to curtail homeless encampment sweeps during the coronavirus pandemic stalled May 27 at the face of resolute opposition by members of the executive branch, despite testimony from some frontline workers that the status quo is hurting their clients.

In response to demonstrations across the city, councilmembers have introduced and debated a bill that would put additional guardrails on when and how city workers can clear encampments.

On Wednesday, the city council heard testimony from some frontline workers who have seen firsthand the danger to the surrounding communities.

Councilmember Tammy Morales, who chairs the committee that oversees the executive branch, introduced the legislation, such as modifying existing laws that govern certain encampment cleanups.

“I want to take the executive up on the offer to come to the table and talk to Council,” Lewis said.

Sweeps opponents counter that giving it like the public health crisis that it is. “It’s time to stop treating homelessness like a crime problem and start treating it like the public health crisis that it is.” — Tammy Morales

Chief Best’s statement to officers regarding the murder of George Floyd

By CHIEF CARMEN BEST

I woke up today and I was angry. You’re looking at an angry Black woman.” — Carmen Best, First Vice President of the Alaska Washington State Conference of the NAACP, stood in front of Seattle City Hall with a microphone, facing the Seattle Police Department (SPD) headquarters, where police lined up behind metal barriers. Hundreds of people waited quietly on Fifth Avenue, on the sidewalk and spilling west onto Cherry Street, their attention focused on Anderson. A cold rain fell.

They had gathered to protest the murder of George Floyd — a Black man killed by a white police officer, as three other officers looked on, in Minneapolis. Video of Floyd’s agonizing last moments, with Mr. Floyd calling for help.

Mr. Floyd’s death followed that of Breonna Taylor, an emergency medical technician who was killed by police in her Louisville home, and Ahmaud Arbery, who was jogging when a former law enforcement officer and his son hunkered down and shot him because they suspected him of burglary.

It was a city that echoed in major metropolitan areas throughout the United States that day.

Thousands of people gathered shoulder to shoulder to demand change of the racist systems that allow the murder of Black men and women by agents of the state, often without consequences. Floyd’s death followed that of Breonna Taylor, an emergency medical technician who was killed by police in her Louisville home, and Ahmaud Arbery, who was jogging when a former law enforcement officer and his son hunkered down and shot him because they suspected him of burglary.

Every city had its own names to add to the list — local tragedies that brought the trauma close to home. Several high-profile cases have made an impression on Seattle: Charleena Lyles, a pregnant mother killed by a police officer; Breonna Taylor, a 26-year-old Black woman who was shot in her bed by police officers; Floyd in Minneapolis and Garner in New York.

The protests were also, at times, violent and destructive, and met aggressive actions by the Seattle Police Department, which protesters blamed on police and officers who remained standing and shouted at those who marched. A spray canister fired into a crowd of people who gathered to protest the 2020 killing of Floyd by police in Minneapolis.

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A spray canister fired into a crowd of people who gathered to protest the 2020 killing of Floyd by police in Minneapolis.

The protest that stirred Seattle throughout the weekend, starting Friday night, May 29, spreading Saturday and flowing into Sunday, were largely peaceful, if disruptive. People marched through the streets, took over Interstate 5 and came to Westlake to hear speakers condemn the circumstances that brought them together and calling out for the end of white elites in dominating the U.S. bureaucracy and oppression that made it possible.

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A spray canister fired into a crowd of people who gathered to protest the 2020 killing of Floyd by police in Minneapolis.

By ASHLEY ARCHIBALD
Staff Reporter

It’s time to stop treating homelessness like a crime problem and start treating it like the public health crisis that it is. “It’s time to stop treating homelessness like a crime problem and start treating it like the public health crisis that it is.” — Tammy Morales

Feedback to Chief Best’s statement about the murder of Mr. George Floyd

The power of the bill, according to a summary prepared by Council Central Staff, is that it removes discretion given to the mayor’s executive team and the City Council must ensure the legislation, such as modifying existing laws that govern certain encampment cleanups. The legislation is silent on the regular work of the Seattle Police Department. It only dealing with encampment removals, and allows the removals under certain circumstances, such as if the encampment constitutes a health hazard, if it does not allow four feet of clearance on a sidewalk or if it is a child’s play area.

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PROTEST Continued from Page 5

is enough.

Ringed in

The first of the Saturday downtown Seattle protests, where Anderson spoke, began at noon. As many as 500 people squeezed into the space, listening to speakers and engaging in call and response.

“Whose lives matter?”

“Black lives matter!”

The phrase, which became the name of the longstanding movement, doesn’t discount the value of other lives, Anderson explained.

“When we go to a house and the house is burning, we do not throw water on all of the houses. We make sure we bring water to the house that is burning.” — Sheley Anderson, First Vice President of the Alaska Oregon Washington State-area Conference of the NAACP

Continued on Page 11

Police launch pepper spray and tear gas at protesters who writhed and doused their faces with milk to ease the pain. ... reports and social media posts, placed the blame on police; city officials said protesters started the violence.

A protester photographs a burning police vehicle. Protesters smashed the windows and slashed the tires of the vehicle before setting it on fire, creating smaller explosions that some posited were caused by ammunition still in the vehicle.

During the first part of Saturday, May 30, protesters marched, attended rallies and listened to speakers.

The results of systemic oppression made it dangerous for Black people to leave their homes before the coronavirus pandemic — which also disproportionately kills Black people — turned gatherings into a breeding ground for the deadly disease. One Seattle pedestrian needed to this fact, displaying a sign that read “You know it’s bad when we’re protesting during a pandemic.”

The constant danger and sorrow weighs on Black people, according to Michelle Storm, executive director of the local American Civil Liberties Union chapter.

“I am weary,” Storm said. “I am exhausted. I can’t take this anymore.”

As speakers wrapped up, the crowd began to move down Cherry Street to Fourth Avenue, guided by a wall of police that prevented them from walking north on Fifth. They passed black-and-white posters bearing a depiction of Floyd’s face and the words “End Police Brutality” that someone had plastered on walls and city signs.

“Hands up! Don’t shoot!” they yelled as they crossed into Belltown before looping around on Fifth back toward City Hall. “Say his name! George Floyd! Say his name!”

There was a minor moment of panic when marchers turned and ran back the way they’d come upon hearing reports of a man with a gun at Fifth and James, but the individual joined the march and the moment passed. The marchers continued their loop, enjoying Fourth Avenue until they hit Westlake Park, where another wall of police prevented them from continuing north.

The marchers pooled in the park where a second rally, held by Not This Time — an organization begun by Andre Taylor, Che Taylor’s brother, to reduce police violence and help local communities impacted by it — was set to begin at 3 p.m. Some builded under overhangs and trees to avoid the constant rain, others dispersed with the idea of being dry and climbed onto play equipment in a section of the park closed due to risk of spreading the virus. Two women passed out surgical masks to people who wanted them.

A young man, dressed head-to-toe in black, stood underneath one of the overhangs on the east side of the park. He did not want to give his name, but he told Real Change that systemic change achieved by a revolution of the people, united in a common cause, was what was necessary to end the crisis of violence against Black people.

“I’ve heard about stories like this my whole life. I know that’s just a small portion of what actually happens. Like Will Smith said, it’s just getting filmed,” he said. “Seeing this many people come out for George Floyd, I am hopeful.”

That is where the explosions started.

See PROTEST Continued on Page 11
Economics and the Diagnosis of Despair: A Review of ‘Deaths of Despair and the Future of Capitalism’

According to Case and Deaton, a plague of death and despair in the US pre dates the current pandemic

Review by JOE MARTIN
Contributing Writer

Although we have been conditioned to believe that the coronavirus pandemic will be over soon, the reality is that we are living through a catastrophic event that may last for years and change the face of the world for decades to come. The pandemic has highlighted the inequalities and weaknesses in our society, and has underscored the importance of addressing long-standing issues such as poverty, inequality, and access to healthcare.

As Case and Deaton argue in their book ‘Deaths of Despair and the Future of Capitalism’, the pandemic is not an isolated event, but is part of a larger trend that has been unfolding for decades. The book is a detailed analysis of the factors that have contributed to the rise of deaths of despair in the US, and the ways in which these factors are interconnected.

The authors argue that the phenomenon of deaths of despair is not limited to the US, but is a global issue that affects the working-class in all capitalist societies. They highlight the ways in which the US has become a “sick society”, with high rates of mortality, mental health issues, and social isolation.

The book is a cautionary tale, and a call to action. It is a reminder that the pandemic is not the end of the story, but the beginning of a new chapter in our history. It is a call to reexamine our priorities, and to prioritize the health and well-being of all members of society.

The book is a must-read for anyone interested in understanding the causes of deaths of despair, and the ways in which they can be addressed. It is a testament to the power of economics to explain and predict social phenomena, and to the importance of interdisciplinary research.

In conclusion, ‘Deaths of Despair and the Future of Capitalism’ is a thorough and insightful analysis of a complex and multidimensional issue. It is a must-read for anyone interested in understanding the causes of deaths of despair, and the ways in which they can be addressed. It is a testament to the power of economics to explain and predict social phenomena, and to the importance of interdisciplinary research.
and I

The current situation with regarding to apartment repairs ranging from how apartment repairs been done to how repairs should be done. The panel will feature Rebecca Davis, Chesty La Rue, Miss Anne-Queer art, expression and identity as well as the rights for themselves or their rights as a tenant and how to assert those rights for themselves or their neighbors.

Almost all King County events are canceled, so we’re listing a few that you can, tinyurl.com/y7qshgcm

Almost every Ray, but no Marlin? (Abbr.)

A block away from the stage where Protests swells to the point of no return. The meeting was split into two panels, one focused on the loss of opportunities and the other on the impact on the community. The three large sweeps in May all fell "Almost all King County events are canceled, so we’re listing a few that you can, tinyurl.com/y7qshgcm"

Arrests are "if individual housing options are not available. The Navigation Team isn’t the answer, said Shawn Fong said. "I see it in some unsanctioned encampments," meaning they do not have to give notice is given. "I do believe that everybody would mean a whole lot if I could vote. I do believe that everybody who’s going to the (when in fact you can’t vote because of your Felon status) has a right to vote; sometimes your place to live. It’s your conscience says. If I had the right or privilege to vote, you want the people you’re voting for to do what they say they’re going to do, the (when in fact you can’t vote because of your Felon status) has a right to vote; sometimes your place to live. It’s your conscience says. If I had the right or privilege to vote, you want the people you’re voting for to do what they say they’re going to do, the (when in fact you can’t vote because of your Felon status) has a right to vote; sometimes your place to live. It’s your conscience says. If I had the right or privilege to vote, you want the people you’re voting for to do what they say they’re going to do, the (when in fact you can’t vote because of your Felon status) has a right to vote; sometimes your place to live. It’s your conscience says. If I had the right or privilege to vote, you want the people you’re voting for to do what they say they’re going to do, the (when in fact you can’t vote because of your Felon status) has a right to vote; sometimes your place to live. It’s your conscience says. If I had the right or privilege to vote, you want the people you’re voting for to do what they say they’re going to do, the (when in fact you can’t vote because of your Felon status) has a right to vote; sometimes your place to live. It’s your conscience says. If I had the right or privilege to vote, you want the people you’re voting for to do what they say they’re going to do, the (when in fact you can’t vote because of your Felon status) has a right to vote; sometimes your place to live. It’s your conscience says. If I had the right or privilege to vote, you want the people you’re voting for to do what they say they’re going to do, the (when in fact you can’t vote because of your Felon status) has a right to vote; sometimes your place to live. It’s your conscience says. If I had the right or privilege to vote, you want the people you’re voting for to do what they say they’re going to do, the (when in fact you can’t vote because of your Felon status) has a right to vote; sometimes your place to live. It’s your conscience says. If I had the right or privilege to vote, you want the people you’re voting for to do what they say they’re going to do, the (when in fact you can’t vote because of your Felon status) has a right to vote; sometimes your place to live.
ing from the destroyed vehicle was visible, but the atmosphere did not reflect the nearby tension.

Andre Taylor spoke directly to white people in the crowd, chiding them for attempting to “reduce” the privilege that spares them from the same levels of police violence as Black people when they organize with the Black community.

“That’s the wrong message,” Taylor said. “It’s almost insulting. We’ve been doing this a long time. We’ve got this together.”

“We need you to operate in your privilege,” he continued. “It is your privilege, your genius and the power of your position that you need to bring.”

Behind him, a Black woman with a megaphone called on white people to use that privilege in the confrontation with police.

“I need white bodies in the front,” she yelled, her voice thick with emotion. “That is what I need. I need white bodies in the front.”

At 5:04 p.m. text messages from Alert Seattle popped up on cell phones declaring 5 p.m. curfews that night and Sunday. It was followed by an emailed statement from Mayor Jenny Durkan that suggested enforcement would be used only if necessary to keep order.

The majority of attendees cleared out for the day. Some would return on Sunday for another action.

Others stayed and began breaking windows and removing items from stores. They knocked over flower planters and pushed them into the street. As two seemingly white men attempted to break another window, a woman of color began yelling at them to stop.

“That’s what they fucking want,” she said, referring to the authorities.

At Durkan’s request, Gov. Jay Inslee approved the deployment of up to 200 members of the National Guard to assist local police in keeping order.

Against the ropes

Much would be made of who was responsible for the destruction and looting that went on late into the night. Durkan described them as predominately young, white men intent on chaos and destruction. Best said they were outside instigators. No evidence was presented to substantiate that claim.

The next morning, people returned to Westlake to clean up the mess left by the protests the day before. They scrubbed graffiti off the walls and attempted to restore order. In a matter of hours, protesters were back and chanted and marched throughout Sunday, standing off against police as the clock ticked past the curfew.

The rage that boiled over following Floyd’s death, like the overall Black Lives Matter movement, has proven to be more than a passing phase. It was accompanied by documented incidences of police violence against protesters, be it New York Police Department vehicles driving through crowds of people, a couple tased and dragged out of their vehicle in Georgia or injuries from rubber bullets and other “non-lethal” forms of crowd control in Los Angeles and other cities. Dozens of journalists — who are used to reporting on protests unmolested — posted evidence of being targeted by armed police online.

No one knows, yet, if Floyd’s death and the protests that followed will lead to the kind of change that the young man in Westlake Park believed he might see.

It has caused many mayors and other officials, including Durkan and Best, to commit to improvements. Many advocates in Seattle will scoff at that, given that Durkan is simultaneously paving the way to remove Department of Justice oversight that SPD has labored under since 2011 due to findings of excessive use of force.

But Taylor sees the rhetoric as a marker by which to measure actions moving forward.

“You can hold people accountable for their words when they say them,” Taylor said Sunday afternoon, flanked by the same elected officials.