

American Ghandi, Bernie Meyer, To Speak at Aberdeen Timberland Library

Local News

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ABERDEEN, Wash. - Mahatma Gandhi is regarded as one of the great men of the 20th century for introducing nonviolence to oust the British Empire from India. Bernie Meyer, a long-time peace activist, will give a portrayal of Gandhi at the Aberdeen Timberland Library on Tuesday, September 11 from 6 to 7 p.m. Afterwards, Meyer will conduct a discussion with the audience. The program is the library's contribution to the September Project, an annual international effort to promote events exploring freedom, justice, democracy and community in libraries around the world during September. (<http://theseptemberproject.org>) Meyer will portray Gandhi in six scenes that highlight the significant life events and teachings of the Mahatma (Sanskrit for "Great Soul"). Meyer has been portraying Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi since 2002, traveling throughout the United States, Canada and the United Kingdom. He has also made ten journeys to India portraying Gandhi and is known in India as "The American Gandhi";

Meyer began his justice and peace career as a Catholic priest in Cleveland, Ohio in the 1960s. Taking to heart Gandhi's teaching, "Be the change you want to see in the world," Meyer has focused on the study of human motivations for violence and methods for pursuing nonviolent relations. In December 2007 he received an Individual Lifetime Achievement in Human Rights award from the Thurston Council on Cultural Diversity and Human Rights. Meyer lives in Olympia. His website is www.oly-wa.us/berniemeyer. This event is sponsored by the Friends of the Aberdeen Timberland Library. The library is located at 121 E Market Street. For more information, contact the library at (360) 533-2360 or go to www.TRL.org.