

The Sustainable Business Network of Portland and the Economic Justice Action Group present:

Strengthening Local Economies in Challenging Times:

An Evening with Independent Business Activist Stacy Mitchell



Date: Thursday, Nov. 20
Time: pre-event activities 6pm, presentation at 7pm
Location: First Unitarian Church, 1011 SW 12th Ave
Cost: \$10-\$20 sliding scale (no one turned away)
call 503/232-2943 for tickets and info
www.sbnportland.org

Join SBNP and EJAG for an evening with author and economic activist Stacy Mitchell. She will discuss the growing movement around the country to rebuild and strengthen local economies, placing what's happening in Portland into this larger, encouraging context as well as examining why local economies are so critical to meeting the challenge of global warming to ensure our economic and community well-being in the near future. She will also be offering key policies and strategies to help realize this vision.

Be sure to come early at 6pm for a celebration of our local economy with information, refreshments and representatives from various local community businesses and organizations.

Stacy Mitchell is a renowned speaker and adviser to communities on retail development and independent business. She is a senior researcher with the **Institute for Local Self-Reliance** and author of *Big-Box Swindle: The True Cost of Mega-Retailers and the Fight for America's Independent Businesses*, which Bill McKibben described as "the ultimate account of the single most important economic trend in our country" and Booklist named one of the top ten business books of 2007. Mitchell lives in Portland, Maine.



The Sustainable Business Network of Portland (SBNP) is the only alliance of locally owned independent businesses, service providers, community organizations and individuals committed to building a truly environmentally, socially and economically sustainable local economy in Portland. The Local First campaign encourages Portland residents to choose locally owned businesses to keep more money recirculating in our community and preserve the uniqueness of our neighborhoods. You can find out more information about SBNP and their Local First campaign at www.sbnportland.org

The Economic Justice Action Group of the First Unitarian Church of Portland is dedicated to raising awareness and to take action to promote life-sustaining and life-enhancing values, to promote fair and just economic policies and practices while working to overcome unfair policies and practices, to promote equal access to economic opportunity, and to promote democratic participation in decisions on economic issues. They approach their work with a spirit of collaboration and partnership with like-minded individuals and organizations.