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Internationally-Known White Supremacist, Son of Former Legislator Schedule Film Showing at Kalispell Public Library

The Human Rights Network has learned that Zachariah Harp and Craig Cobb are planning to show a film at the Kalispell Public Library on September 9, 2010. Both are members of The Creativity Movement, a national white supremacist group (see “Background on The Creativity Movement” below for more), and they are calling on their fellow “Creators” to attend the event.

Harp is the son of former Flathead-area legislator John G. Harp. Cobb came to Kalispell recently after getting into trouble in both Canada and Estonia for his white supremacist activism. He is best known for posting the address of and a map to the home of a federal judge, whose mother and husband were subsequently murdered. For more on Harp and Cobb, see the briefing paper below.

“Harp has attended and promoted the recent [films](#) denying the Holocaust that the [Kalispell Pioneer Little Europe](#) held earlier this year,” says Travis McAdam of the Montana Human Rights Network. “He’s been a central player in the Flathead Valley’s white supremacist movement for some time. However, working with Cobb takes his efforts to a new level.”

The Network confirmed with the Kalispell Library that space was reserved for the “Creativity Religion” on September 9. According to Cobb, the film that will be shown is *David Cole Interviews Dr. Franciszek Piper, Director, Auschwitz State Museum*, and the event is being held under the banner “STOP THE ADL [Anti-Defamation League] HATE.” David Cole, whom Cobb calls a “Jewish videographer,” made his name as a Holocaust denier in the early 1990s thanks to the film. By the late 1990s, statements from Cole appeared online denouncing his previous views. Other Holocaust deniers claimed Cole was coerced into making the statements.¹

“There’s been a tremendous upswing in white supremacist activity in the Flathead area over the past two years and adding somebody like Craig Cobb to the mix is not a good sign,” says McAdam. “However, it’s been impressive to see the number of people in the community who have come together quickly and publicly to denounce these activities. It’s clear the Flathead community is not interested in letting the likes of Harp, Cobb, and [April Gaede](#) establish their desired Aryan homeland.”

Background on Zachariah “Zac” Harp

Born and raised in Kalispell, Zachariah “Zac” Harp comes from a well-respected family in the Flathead area. His father is John G. Harp, a former state legislator who served as the Republican Majority Leader in the Montana Senate during the 1997 and 1999 sessions. Harp’s deceased grandfather, John R. Harp, was an Army veteran who has a local American Legion baseball tournament named in his honor and also founded Harp Line Constructors. The Human Rights Network tried to contact John G. Harp through his employer for a written comment about his son’s white supremacist activism. However, the Human Rights Network did not receive a response to e-mails sent to MDU Resources and MDU Construction Services Group, of which Harp is the CEO.²

Zac Harp is active on numerous white supremacist websites. On those sites, he lists his interests as tattoos, motorcycles, and shooting weapons. He served in the Army and makes his living as a driller. Now in his 30s, Harp claims to have first read *The White Man’s Bible*, a primary text of The Creativity Movement, when he was 22. He also has stated that he wants to get a tattoo of Ben Klassen, the group’s original founder. He claims to live his life by the [“14 Words.”](#) Written by a white supremacist that died in jail for his role in murdering a Jewish radio show host, the words are popular among racists. It’s a shorthand reference for the statement: “We must secure the existence of our people and a future for white children.” His online profiles also state that his dislikes include: “ZOG [Zionist Occupied Government], MHRN [Montana Human Rights Network], muds [people of color], trash, tweekers, rap....” He also claims that “race traitors should be dealt with as treason against our people.”

A few examples of his beliefs that he has posted online include:

- After complaining that white people in Montana don’t understand how bad “niggers” are, Harp stated it was good that “99 percent of whites that live here can all agree on is how the local indians [sic] live and it pisses everyone off they get paid for doing nothing, and we pay for it, and there is never any problem making any kind of ‘racist’ Indian joke.”
- He has complained that most people are unaware that Jewish people are the “world’s oldest and most notorious terrorists.”
- After the 2009 Pride Celebration was held in Kalispell, he complained that the “sicko fags had a very large pride parade” that was “zog [Zionist Occupied Government] supported.” He has also referred to gays and lesbians as “faggit [sic] parasites” and “disgusting wastes.”
- He frequently ends his online postings by writing, “RAHOWA,” an acronym for “Racial Holy War.”

Harp isn't only active as a white supremacist online. Although he gave a false last name to a reporter in October 2009, Harp was featured in a [photograph by the Flathead Beacon](#) waving The Creativity Movement flag at a white supremacist rally in Kalispell. While Billings Creator Allen Goff was awaiting trial and sentencing on weapons charges, Harp reported online that a post office box in Kalispell was the new address for The Montana Creativity Movement.

Earlier this year, he promoted and attended the Kalispell films denying the Holocaust and trying to portray Adolph Hitler's Third Reich in a positive way. He has claimed that the Holocaust was nothing but a "sympathy plan by the jew [sic]." At one of the films, it was clear that he was on a first-name basis with [Karl Gharst](#), the Aryan Nations adherent who was the public organizer of the films, and the various members of the [Kalispell Pioneer Little Europe](#) who attended and promoted the films.

Harp wrote extensively about the efforts of the Bozeman community to respond to the efforts of The Creativity Movement in 2009. Following a rally that drew approximately 2,000 people in Bozeman, he complained that "local Bozeman residents gathered to sing puff the magic dragon, kumbia [sic], and hold hands while jewish [sic], black, and christian [sic] speakers spewed tolerance, freedom, and hate." He complained that the Human Rights Network was involved in planning and holding the event.

Not surprisingly, Harp is not a fan of the ["Speaking Volumes"](#) art exhibit for which the Human Rights Network served as the catalyst. The Network obtained over 4,000 of The Creativity Movement's books from a member of the group who was leaving the white supremacist movement. The Network partnered with Helena's Holter Museum of Art to create the exhibit. It features pieces by artists who used the books to create works warning about the dangers of white supremacy, anti-Semitism, and other forms of bigotry. The exhibit appeared at venues across the state from January 2008 until July 2010.

Harp visited the exhibit while it was in Missoula and described it as a "gross display" and "simply appalling." He stated, "I was not going to stand by and take this one...I give you my word my fellow Creators as a Montana Creator I will work my ass off to right this wrong done to our church. RAHOWA." He said the art pieces were created by "idiot race traitors."

Online, Harp has stated he is working with Craig Cobb to organize the September 9 film at the Kalispell library.

Background on Craig Cobb

While Zac Harp likes to proudly proclaim he is a second-generation Montanan and his family has lived in the Kalispell area since 1934, his partner in showing the film in September has been in the state for a much shorter time.

Craig Cobb is known for his white supremacist and anti-Semitic activism both in the United States and around the world. During his time in the states, he has been active with The Creativity Movement, [National Alliance](#), and [White Revolution](#), all national white supremacist groups. He has helped distribute racist publications and white power music CDs. However, he

is best known for launching “Podblanc,” a video sharing service for white supremacists along the same lines as YouTube.³

While currently offline, Podblanc’s content has included combat handgun training, homemade explosives how-to guides, and a complete audio recording of the infamous race-war fantasy novel, [The Turner Diaries](#). Other videos showed Russian neo-Nazis beheading and shooting Asiatic immigrants. Also popular were videos of skinheads in Russia and European countries punching, kicking and stomping orthodox Jews and people of color. In one video, a skinhead wielding a log crushed the head of an African immigrant, obviously killing the man.⁴

The website also featured diatribes by Cobb and street interviews he conducted while pretending to be a journalist for the white supremacist [Vanguard News Network](#). One example of these “interviews” was Cobb filming people’s reaction to his statements about Rosa Parks’ death. Cobb told people Parks was “a shit skin communist,” and that he thought her death should be celebrated.⁵

Cobb went on the offensive when Matt Hale, the leader of The Creativity Movement at the time, was arrested and charged in 2003 with trying to have a federal judge killed. Cobb posted the address of and a map to the home of the same judge. In 2005, a man who was upset at the judge for a matter not related to Hale broke into the home and murdered the judge’s husband and mother. Asked about the murders, Cobb replied, “I was just fine with it.”⁶

In 2005, Cobb moved to Estonia to establish an “International Office of White Diaspora.” In 2009, he was incarcerated for endangering state security, public order, public safety, and other public interests and was banned from the country for 10 years. As of March 2010, he was identified as living in Vancouver, British Columbia. However, a person writing as Cobb claimed he was arrested in June 2010 by a Canadian hate crime unit and released. The Human Rights Network was able to verify with law enforcement in British Columbia that there is an ongoing investigation of Cobb and his Podblanc website. Cobb claimed he made a bus and foot trek across the border into Montana.⁷

The online posting purportedly by Cobb said:

“I want to thank the Montana militiaman and his Jesse James-descended wife who picked me up 60 miles into my walk just outside Olney, MT. There is no public transport up here; my knee and foot were swollen...I will most probably take a lesson from Terrible Tommy Metzger and Glenn Miller and run for Congress from a northwestern Montana district in an internet/door-to-door campaign in 2012.”⁸

In mid-July 2010, Billings Creators claimed to have been contacted by Cobb who was looking for Kalispell white supremacist connections. A posting also reported Cobb was looking specifically for [April Gaede](#) and her husband, Mark Harrington. A Kalispell post office box and the address of a homeless shelter were posted as Cobb’s contact information. The Human Rights Network verified that, while he was no longer there, Cobb had stayed at the homeless shelter, where members of Kalispell Pioneer Little Europe had left messages for him.

In comments posted online in late July 2010, a person with the name Craig Cobb reaffirmed he was in Kalispell, planning to show a film, and said he hoped to get Podblanc up and running soon. However, he said his computers had been seized by Canadian authorities. He restated his desire to run for public office in Montana. He also discussed his thoughts on Benjamin Smith, a Creator who went on shooting spree in 1999. Cobb said Smith was “intelligent, sensitive” and the only problem with his actions was that he was “too young and inexperienced to choose important targets.”⁹

On July 30, 2010, Cobb attended the “Global Block Party” held by the local community group United Against Hatred. The local group formed in response to the anti-Semitic film series earlier this year and has since started holding its own events. Cobb was not disruptive at the event. Of Cobb being in Montana, Zac Harp wrote, “Craig is a very dedicated guy...I think having him here is a great addition to Montana and can only bring more strength and unity in our fight. RAHOWA!”

Community Impact

Cobb’s arrival and Harp’s willingness to become more active in organizing events are not good developments for the Flathead Valley. In addition to the upcoming film showing by Cobb and Harp, [Karl Gharst](#) has announced he will show another film focused on denying the Holocaust on August 31, 2010, at the library. The members of Kalispell Pioneer Little Europe also show no signs of slowing down. In fact, the group recently launched its own website, which serves as another vehicle to try and attract fellow white supremacists to the area. Additionally, statewide communication between factions of the white supremacist movement in Montana continues.¹⁰

The good news is that communities across the state are already coming together and opposing the efforts of the white supremacists. The Human Rights Network continues its tradition of working with these communities, both in organizing events and providing a complete picture of the local white supremacists. Community members across the state have stood together and publicly said they are dedicated to making their communities welcoming for all races and religions. Kalispell is one such community. Demonstrations against the anti-Semitic and Holocaust denying films drew hundreds, and now community organizers aren’t just reacting to the racists. They are holding their own events that promote an inclusive vision for the Flathead.

“It is important that the people of Kalispell continue to realize that these white supremacists are not just interested in bad revisionist history. Their goal is to create an Aryan homeland in the Flathead Valley,” says the Human Rights Network’s Travis McAdam. “The racists continue to follow groups with violent ideologies and make connections with people who turn that ideology into action. We applaud community members for standing strong against these racist and anti-Semitic efforts. We hope more people will join them.”

Community organizers have planned an event for Sept. 9, 2010. The community will hold a vigil in solidarity with the Jewish community, which will be celebrating Rosh Hashanah at that time. Organizers are asking supporters to leave their signs at home this time and bring a candle to the Museum at Central School in Kalispell on Sept. 9, 2010, at 7:00 p.m.

Background on The Creativity Movement

Zac Harp and Craig Cobb follow [The Creativity Movement](#), the most recent incarnation of a white supremacist group originally founded as the Church of the Creator. Florida's Ben Klassen, a former state legislator and inventor of the electric can opener, founded the Church of the Creator in 1973. The racist and anti-Semitic ideology driving the group is based on books written by Klassen, which feature titles like *The White Man's Bible* and *On the Brink of a Bloody Racial War*. Klassen named his theology "Creativity" and appointed himself "Pontifex Maximus," or "highest priest."¹¹

Creativity boils down to worshipping the white race. It teaches that white people are the "creators of all worthwhile culture and civilization." It views the white race as nature's finest creation, while "racial treason," which encompasses practically any interaction outside the white race, "is the worst of all crimes." Those following Creativity are called "Creators." What they deem beneficial for the white race is viewed as the highest virtue, and "what is bad for the White Race is the ultimate sin." The Creativity Movement believes that its religion is the only salvation for the white race, and that Christianity is a lie perpetuated by Jewish people. Creativity refers to people of color as "mud races" and claims Jewish people are engaged in a conspiracy against the white race. An integral part of Creativity doctrine is RAHOWA, an acronym standing for "Racial Holy War." It is used to describe a worldwide ethnic cleansing that Creators believe will leave white people as earth's only inhabitants.¹²

After Klassen committed suicide in 1993, The Creativity Movement teetered on the brink of extinction. But in 1996, Illinois' Matt Hale took over as Pontifex Maximus at an event held in Superior, MT. Under Hale's leadership, The Creativity Movement (then known as the World Church of the Creator) became one of the most active hate groups in the country. It held public meetings at libraries, aired programming on public access television, and held public rallies. Hale's combination of blatant racism, clean-cut appearance, and law school education translated into appearances on many national news programs.¹³

The Creator violence began during Klassen's reign continued after Hale's takeover. In 1999, Creator Benjamin Smith went on a shooting spree in the Midwest. Targeting people of color and Jews, Smith killed two people and wounded nine others before committing suicide. Prior to the spree, Smith had been named "Creator of the Year" for his racist activism and had moved to Illinois to help out at the group's headquarters. Hale refused to condemn Smith's actions, saying Smith with a "pure heart and pure will struck back against the enemies of our people." Hale's group sold shirts commemorating Smith that stated, "Judaism must be destroyed" in Latin.¹⁴

In January 2003, Hale was indicted for trying to arrange the assassination of a federal judge. US District Court Judge Joan Lefkow presided over a trademark infringement case involving The Creativity Movement. In October 2002, Judge Lefkow ruled that Oregon's Te-Ta-Ma Truth Foundation had a trademark on the term "Church of the Creator." She ruled that the hate group could no longer use it. The group responded to the ruling by starting to refer to itself as The Creativity Movement. Hale said Judge Lefkow's ruling placed "our Church in a state of war

with this federal judge.” In 2004, Hale was sentenced to 40 years in prison for soliciting Lefkow’s murder.¹⁵

Throughout the 1990s, Montana had a steady presence of Creators. [This generation](#) was based predominately in the western part of the state, specifically in Missoula and Superior. During this time period, Matt Hale didn’t just begin his reign as the leader of The Creativity Movement in Montana. He came to the state on numerous occasions and even began the process of trying to obtain a license to practice law in Montana. By 2003, internal fighting had basically led to the demise of the Montana chapter.¹⁶

In 2008, the Human Rights Network discovered a [new generation of Creators](#) organizing in Montana. Based out of Billings, the group has active chapters in Bozeman and Kalispell, in addition to contact points in other cities. The ring leader in Montana, a teenager in Billings named Allen Goff, recently pleaded guilty to a charge of carrying a concealed weapon during a shooting in July 2009. However, Goff was acquitted of felony weapons charges related to the incident.¹⁷ It is Goff’s faction of Creators with which Zac Harp is involved.

¹ *Mountain Trader*, Aug. 19, 2010; Anti-Defamation League, “Holocaust Denial: David Cole and Roger Garaudy,” http://www.adl.org/poisoning_web/cole.asp.

² Montana Legislative Services, <http://leg.mt.gov/css/About-the-Legislature/Facts-and-Statistics/leadership-through-history.asp>; John R. Harp Tournament, <http://www.legion.org/baseball/tournaments/invitational/5520/john-r-harp-tournament>; and John R. Harp obituary, *Missoulian*, Aug. 16, 2001.

³ Southern Poverty Law Center, “US Neo-Nazi Operates in Estonia,” Summer 2007.

⁴ Southern Poverty Law Center, “Behind the Gunfire,” Summer 2009.

⁵ *Ibid*; Craig Cobb, Wikipedia, July 15, 2010.

⁶ Southern Poverty Law Center, “Behind the Gunfire,” Summer 2009 and “Family of Judge Targeted by Hate Group Murdered,” March 1, 2005; and *Eesti Ekspress*, Sept. 11, 2006, translated using Google Translate.

⁷ Southern Poverty Law Center, “US Neo-Nazi Operates in Estonia,” Summer 2007; *Estonia Times*, Aug. 11, 2009; Craig Cobb, Wikipedia, July 15, 2010; *Georgia Straight*, March 25, 2010; and Vanguard News Network Forum, July 6, 2010.

⁸ Vanguard News Network Forum, July 6, 2010.

⁹ Vanguard News Network Forum, July 30, 2010.

¹⁰ *The Mountain Trader*, Aug. 5, 2010; and PLE Kalispell, <http://ple-kalispell.tk/>.

¹¹ Montana Human Rights Network and Center for New Community, *Creating a Commotion: Matt Hale and the ‘World Church of the Creator,’* Jan. 7, 2003.

¹² *Creator Membership Manual*, undated; “Creativity Movement FAQs,” <http://www.creator.org>, March 5, 2003; and Ben Klassen, *The White Man’s Bible*, 1992.

¹³ Montana Human Rights Network and Center for New Community, *Creating a Commotion: Matt Hale and the ‘World Church of the Creator,’* Jan. 7, 2003.

¹⁴ *Ibid*; World Church of the Creator, *The Struggle*, June 1999; and World Church of the Creator, “Ben Smith ‘First Amendment’ Martyr,” Dec. 24, 1999.

¹⁵ *Los Angeles Times*, Jan. 9, 2003; and World Church of the Creator, *The Struggle*, December 1999.

¹⁶ World Church of the Creator, “Written Hotline Message,” Sept. 26, 2000; and *Great Falls Tribune*, March 1, 2001

¹⁷ *Billings Gazette*, July 2, 2010.