In Memoriam Audrey Kubiak



January 28, 1968 - February 17, 2020

It is with great sadness that we inform you that our beloved comrade Audrey Kubiak passed away peacefully in her sleep on February 17, after a courageous and exemplary battle with cancer. Words cannot describe the deep sorrow we feel.

As a long-time organizer with the U.S. Marxist-Leninist Organization and a regular distributor of *Buffalo Forum*, Audrey was well-known across the Buffalo metro-region and beyond. She earned the respect, admiration and social love of hundreds of members of the community, especially for her courageous work in defense of the rights of all in the face of many challenges. Many women and families in Lackawanna joined her to defend themselves against government attacks, including the violent FBI raids into homes, arrests, FBI cameras at the mosque and soccer field, and branding of those who stood up as terrorists. But stood up she did. Her work in defense of Palestine was also very courageous at a time government hostility towards the Palestinians, Yemeni and other peoples was at fever pitch. Audrey stood firmly against U.S. imperialism and played an important role at many anti-war demonstrations, in Buffalo, Washington, DC and New York City, leading chants and insuring a militant spirit prevailed. She participated in work to defend the environment, including advancing the stand that the harmful fracking for natural gas served war and was to be banned everywhere. Her smiling face was a beacon to community members and store owners on the east-side and at mosques and churches where she distributed *Buffalo Forum*. Several generations of young people benefited from her help and guidance.

Wherever she went she joined as one with the people, expressing her social love, readily giving her all in the cause of peace, freedom and democracy so as to open society's path to progress. She knew well the racism and devastation caused by the U.S., knew to target the state not the people for the problems of racism, poverty and war. She fought for a new society where people can provide their rights with a guarantee and empower themselves to set the direction for the economy, political affairs both domestic and foreign and all matters related to the social and natural environment. Audrey's tireless advocacy under all conditions and circumstances, for a bright future fit for all human beings here and abroad remains an inspiration. For this advocacy and her fidelity to everything she stood for, we will remain forever grateful.

Our condolences and deepest sympathies to her family, comrades, co-workers and many friends. From all walks of life her loss will be felt, including among her "dog-park" friends, her Tae Kwon Do friends, where she earned a black belt and was student of the year, her many friends from work, including their children for whom she organized "kids day," her softball and hiking friends and more.

Audrey's courage and optimism against all odds leaves an indelible mark on all of us. May her many exploits help to guide us as we hold her memory and contributions in our hearts.

U.S. Marxist-Leninist Organization