

## Current Developments in the *Liberty & Wilderness* Film Project

This summer, the William O. Douglas National Heritage Trail was dedicated and our film team played a significant part in events. The trail route runs from Yakima, Washington to Mt. Rainier National Park, about 80 miles in all. The film project received substantial in-state media coverage. We recorded interviews with National Park Service and The Wilderness Society policy makers at the event and captured some striking video of the surrounding natural areas. Our prologue film screened at a reception was enthusiastically received.

We participated in the William O. Douglas Federal Building and Courthouse celebration. This building, an extraordinary example of American Renaissance style, was renamed in 1978 in Justice Douglas's honor by Congress and subsequently placed on the National Register of Historic Places. The Federal GSA commemorated the Centennial with an open house. The courtroom program included a public screening of the *Liberty & Wilderness* prologue film with Cathy Douglas Stone in attendance.



Justice Douglas...always at home in the Cascades

The *Liberty & Wilderness* film team hiked with and interviewed the renowned mountaineer Darryl Lloyd on Mt. Adams. He grew up in Glenwood, Washington at Mt. Adams' base and started hiking its meadows and ridges as a six-year old. His family was a 1950s neighbor of Mr. & Mrs. Douglas in Glenwood. Darryl later visited with Justice Douglas in Washington D.C., camping on his lawn and making the front page of the *Washington Post* and *The Oregonian*. He joined Justice Douglas along the C & O Canal on the anniversary of the hike that led to saving it as a national historical park. Darryl joined such dignitaries in the lead as Interior Secretary Stewart Udall and Sierra Club leader David Brower.

On October 16, the John Jay College of Criminal Justice at City University of New York honored four fierce advocates for justice with the 2012 John Jay Medals for Justice. Cathy Douglas Stone accepted a posthumous award to William O. Douglas on her late husband's behalf. Receiving awards at the ceremony were: Dr. Hawa Abdi, the Somali human rights activist and 2012 Nobel Prize nominee; Harry Belafonte, the renowned musician, actor and civil rights activist, presented by James Earl Jones; and Vivian Nixon, executive director of a higher education program for the formerly incarcerated, the College and Community Fellowship. Wide Iris, a Brooklyn production company created a profile of Justice Douglas for this event. Producer John Concillo worked extensively with Wide Iris in constructing the script, and providing clips and archival visual assets. More on this at <http://www.jjay.cuny.edu/5850.php>.

We now have a dozen interviews "in the can" including CBS News historian David Brinkley and retired Oregon Supreme Court Justice Hans Linde, who clerked for Justice Douglas in 1951. We have taped in addition environmental figures, publishers, educators, outdoor activists and Douglas family friends.

Our website, <http://williamodouglas.org/>, continues to be a valuable asset to researchers, educators and 1<sup>st</sup> amendment enthusiasts of every stripe.

Visit <http://www.youtube.com/user/williamodouglasfilm?feature=watch>, the *Liberty & Wilderness* Youtube channel online.

