— PRESS ADVISORY for July 29, 2014—

EMBATTLED FAIRPOINT WORKERS to INTRODUCE FILM "SALT of the EARTH"

ELLSWORTH—On the 60th anniversary of its release, the classic and controversial film *Salt of the Earth* will be introduced by workers from FairPoint Communications at a special community screening in Ellsworth on July 29.

FairPoint workers represented by the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers and the Communication Workers of America are currently engaged in a difficult struggle to retain fair wages and working conditions. FairPoint, largely owned by Wall Street hedge funds, has hired law firm Seyfarth, Shaw LLP to try to force steep concessions upon them—including the unlimited ability to outsource their work to low-wage contractors—when their contract expires on August 2. (United Farmworkers leader Cesar Chavez once called Seyfarth, Shaw "the worst union-busting firm in the land.")

Hear what the FairPoint workers have to say—and enjoy this rousing film!

Salt of the Earth is the dramatization of a strike conducted by Chicano miners in New Mexico in 1953, graphically depicting how they won their epic battle against ethnic bias and corporate abuse. It also shows how the miners' wives played a pivotal role in the strike—against the men's wishes.

The film makers who recreated the strike (using many of the miners and their families as actors) fought their own epic battle to bring it to the screen. The movie's pro-labor, pro-equality themes upset corporate and political leaders at the time (during the McCarthy era)—they called it "un-American" and went to great lengths to suppress it. *Salt of the Earth* has since been chosen by the Library of Congress as one of only 100 films to be preserved for posterity.

Co-sponsored by: **Community Union of Ellsworth & Hancock County, Unitarian Universalist Church of Ellsworth's Peace & Social Action Committee, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 2327, Communication Workers of America Local 1400, Maine State Association of Letter Carriers, Maine AFL-CIO, Peace & Justice Center of Eastern Maine, Eastern Maine Labor Council.**

CONTACT: John Curtis (Community Union) at 667-4877

JULY 29—Tuesday—7:00 p.m.

121 Bucksport Road, Ellsworth
(Unitarian Universalist Church)

Admission FREE