

Founded 1915



Struggles past and current at Capitol

By Gracie Lewis

On March 5, 1964, more than 10,000 citizens from across Kentucky gathered before the State Capitol on a bitter cold day to demonstrate their support for a statewide public accommodations bill being considered by the General Assembly. The bill would bring an end to segregation in employment, housing and public accommodations such as restaurants and hotels. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and other national speakers including baseball legend, Jackie Robinson, and the Rev. Ralph Abernathy participated. Folk singers Peter, Paul and Mary performed. Later thirty-two people held a hunger strike in the House Gallery to coerce legislators to pass the bill, but it never came out of committee. Two years later Kentucky became the first state to pass a strong state civil-rights bill passed in 1966.



Gracie Lewis

Fifty years later, the Allied Organizations for Civil Rights again issued a call to social-justice minded individuals. On March 5, 2014, thousands of people converged on the State Capitol to commemorate the 50th Anniversary. Ministers led by the Rev. Dr. Alex J. Moses, Sr. played a major role in getting the people out. This time the march

focused on a current issue – House Bill 70, a bill to extend voting rights to ex-felons who have completed their sentence.

The celebration began with a march which began promptly at 10:00 a.m. Members of the 12th U.S. Colored Heavy Artillery of Camp Nelson led the march. Youth contingents made up of the River City Drum Core; Carter G. Woodson Students (Bracktown); Lincoln Foundation Scholars Collegiate School; Saint Francis School and other schools and youth groups participated. Greek Organizations such as the Deltas, AKAs, Sigmas, Omegas and the Kappas joined the march. The Links also took part.

The hour-long event featured speeches from the former Kentucky State Senator Georgia Powers, the Honorary Chair of the 50th Anniversary March on Frankfort, Rep. Jesse Crenshaw, Kentucky poet laureate Frank X. Walker and Governor Steve Beshear. Raoul Cunningham, President of the State Conference and Louisville Branch, NAACP was the Master of Ceremonies. There was an invocation by the Rev. Dr. C. B. Akins, Moderator, General Association of Baptists in Kentucky. Pat Mathison led us in singing the Black National Anthem, “Lift Every Voice and Sing.”

Governor Steve Beshear was the first speaker. The governor said those rallying for House Bill 70 should take inspiration from the 1964 leaders’ persistence and insistence on justice. Governor Beshear reminded us that “there is nothing more fundamental to our democratic society than voter participation.



An expression of unity and remembrance at the April 5 celebration of the 50th Anniversary of the March on Frankfort

photo by Bud Dorsey

And as we move toward the 50th Anniversary of the Voting Rights Act of 1965, it is time for this legislature to pass House Bill 70.” The State Senate a week ago amended the House Bill to restore voting rights to felons only after a five-year waiting period and, only if the person has no further misdemeanors or felony convictions. The Senate voted 34 to 4 to amend the bill. Governor Beshear said that “in 2014 we are leading the way as the first southern state to embrace affordable healthcare reforms and that some 250,000 people have signed up. He went on to say that we must now work to end poverty and open up voter access for all our citizens.”

The Honorable former Kentucky State Senator, Georgia Powers mounted the podium. She began by thanking all the “fighters for equality” for the many years of struggle. She said, “this is a good day and I am glad that I have lived to see this day” and glad that Kentucky is on the map with healthcare. She said, “I remember, as if it were yesterday, those who led the Allied Organizations for Civil Rights, organized in 1964 – Frank Stanley, Jr., the dynamic and energetic editor of the Louisville Defender; Dr. Olaf Anderson; Eric Tachua; Lucretia

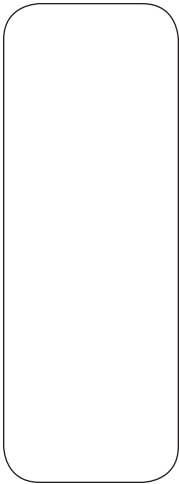
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The justice gains and family strains of a great leader

Randy Nichols reviews the movie, “Cesar Chavez”

Hollywood has always been willing to tell the story of an individual “underdog” who though hampered by society, bigotry or other issues manages to become a winner on the basis of personal tenacity, drive and determination. The film, “Cesar Chavez” is just such a movie. The picture provides background information on Chavez and his work with migrant farm workers in California. His wife Helen (portrayed by actress America Ferrera of “Ugly Betty” fame), is featured predominantly in the film as a primary supporter of the cause of bringing civil and economic rights to the farm workers as well as of her husband’s efforts. Rosario Dawson is cast as Dolores Huerta who along with Chavez; created an organization seeking better wages, working conditions and equal treatment of farm workers that would eventually become the United Farm Workers. The significance of the work done by the principle characters featured results in farm workers gaining rights and better wages and working conditions.



Randy Nichols

The film offers several points to consider. Chavez has to face seemingly overwhelming odds to see his objectives accomplished but, something has to give. That something is his relationship with his family. The film takes an introspective look at this relationship as Chavez sets out on his quest to make working conditions better for farm workers. There is also the issue of a growing disparity between those farm owners who are profiting from oppressing the migrant workers, as long hours and low



Cesar Chavez

wages lead to the farmers profiting while the workers barely survive on what they are paid. The exploitation of these workers might long have continued on without the efforts led by Chavez and Huerta. The primary issue with Chavez’s character is, “How much is a person expected to sacrifice of him/herself in order to make things better for others?” This is not to diminish the efforts of Chavez, Huerta, Helen and the hundreds of farm workers who banded together to improve their lifestyle.

The film offers snippets of historical scenarios filmed during the time when the movement was going on, as a way of highlighting and/or supporting the work of the film’s primary characters. There may have been some “creative license” taken with the activities presented in terms of historical accuracy, but the points are clear. The inclusion of U.S. Sen. Robert Kennedy as an eventual supporter of Chavez and his work helped to display how the Kennedy name and influence contributed to the farm worker rights efforts. The film, while focusing on the Chavezes and Huerta, also

(continued on page 7)

INSIDE

- Page 2..... Carla Wallace on racial inequities and how to begin to make Louisville truly a place to call home
- Page 3..... Sarah Lynn Cunningham explains, speaks out on the Bluegrass Pipeline threat to Kentucky
- Page 3..... Alex Bradshaw reviews the book, “Anarchism and Syndicalism in the Colonial and Postcolonial World, 1870-1940: The Praxis of National Liberation, Internationalism, and Social Revolution”
- Page 4..... Ibrahim Imam finds trail of colonial planning leading to today’s troubled Middle East
- Page 5..... Ira Grupper blasts big business’ greed in search of profit rather than protecting lives
- Page 5..... Dr. Judy Heitzman writes of activism in Nicaragua bringing nutritional solutions to that country
- Page 6..... Teena Halbig alerts our community on the plans of new sewer pipeline commission

Some want to punish a whole people, not the offenders

By Carla F. Wallace

“We do not just inherit the world from our ancestors, we borrow it from our children”, longtime civil rights worker Bob Cunningham often reminds us. “Our young people are precious and we cannot throw them away.”

Assaults and robberies are scary, harrowing incidents. When the perpetrators are black youth, issues of safety and law and order are distorted by the explicit and implicit race bias in the majority of our population. Some white Louisvillians have reacted to the violence in Louisville’s downtown with calls for more violence. Posts on social media call for a “wall” to block off west Louisville from the rest of the city, and “stand your ground and shoot them” actions. There are “jokes” about gathering at the Waterfront to “go hunting”.



Carla F. Wallace

Many others accommodate this reaction with our silence and inaction, unsure of what to say or do.

Through media portrayals and the race coded language of politicians, black youth, and young black men in particular, are pegged as trouble makers, juvenile delinquents, gang bangers, and hardened criminals.

Never mind that the majority of black and brown youth in our community had no involvement in the incidents of violence downtown. Due to the dominant culture of racial profiling of black youth, and institutional racism in our criminal justice system, schools, housing and jobs policies, all young African Americans are basically treated as guilty until proven otherwise.

For those of us who are white and want to help in this moment, here are just three suggestions.

One. Insist on talking about race and racial inequity with other white people. “But its class”. “But its neighborhood”. “But its lack of opportunity”. While all of these are absolutely part of the picture, refusing to talk about race, especially for white people, keeps us from getting at the historical core and persistent reality of race as a determinant of life in America. It keeps us from looking at the way racism is the tried and true go-to strategy used to maintain an economic system that hurts most of us. It stops us from looking at white privilege, the “leg up” that white people (moderated by other factors like class, gender, sexuality, disability, etc.) benefit from whether we are aware of it or not. And it keeps us from looking at racial inequity and the “white supremacy” system that Cornel West demands we talk about if we are to make the transformative change needed.

Two. Listen to the voices of those most marginalized and challenge a framework in which these communities are being “talked about” rather than “talked with”. Listen to the young people, and the leadership of people in the communities most targeted by racial profiling, neglect, and underdevelopment. Support solutions that center the leadership and input of people usually locked out of planning and decision making.

Three. Show up to push for long term, systemic solutions. Over and over again, and year after year, the data showing disproportionate impact based on race has been uncovered in our local media, in regional and national research, and by the community and neighborhood groups connected with those most impacted. Statistics on police stops, imprisonment, housing, homelessness, jobs, health, environmental poisoning, school disciplinary policies, quality education, child welfare, and even who lives longer are

all there. They point to what Anne Braden used to say about people of color getting less of everything good in the community and much more of everything bad in the community than white people. Failure to challenge this reality only makes every one of us, white and people of color alike, more vulnerable to a system that uses up and spits out most of us.

A place you might focus where the correlation between racial inequity and violence is all too clear? Let’s take the school to prison pipeline.

Recently, the faith based organizing group, Citizens of Louisville Organized and United Together (CLOUT) brought over 100 parents, teachers and other community people to a meeting of Jefferson County Public School’s school board. They highlighted JCPS’s failure to take sufficient action to implement restorative justice practices, provide training and support to teachers on disciplinary issues, and address the disproportionate number percentage of youth of color being suspended from our schools.

Last year, in the most comprehensive study of school discipline undertaken in the US, JCPS was named among the ten most racially biased when it comes to school disciplinary practices. Indeed, our school system is under a federal civil rights investigation for the treatment of children and youth of color. African American children make up 32 percent of enrollment. However, they receive 66 percent of the suspensions. This disproportionate impact has worsened by 7.3% in the past few years.

The National Council on Crime and Delinquency report shows a dramatic reduction in the youth incarceration rates for most states. Yet, despite the overall reduction in incarceration rates among white youth, at the same time, youth of color have jumped from 68% to 81% of all youth sentenced in juvenile court.

At a press conference organized by the Kentucky Alliance Against Racist and Political Repression, the group statement read by Alliance Co Chair Kathleen Parks stated, “As a community, we must not let



Bob Cunningham with Carol Kraemer, who leads LSURJ (on bullhorn)

the recent actions by some of our city’s youth downtown lead to a knee jerk reaction that will aggravate the situation...we cannot suppress, oppress and repress our way out of this”.

Chris Hartman, director of the Fairness Campaign, stated, “The deep and longstanding systemic issues of racism, and poverty must be addressed if we are to achieve real solutions to issues alienating youth of color.”

Indeed, those of us who are white need to show up in support of both the immediate programmatic and policy changes and the long-term systemic and transformational change we must undergo as a community if we are to truly be a place we can all call home.

Carla F. Wallace is the co-convenor of Louisville Showing Up for Racial Justice. Go to LSURJ on Facebook or call 502-558-7556.

FOR’s Mission Statement

The Fellowship of Reconciliation seeks to replace violence, war, racism and economic injustice with nonviolence, peace and justice. We are an interfaith organization committed to active nonviolence as a transforming way of life and as a means of radical change. We educate, train, build coalitions, and engage in nonviolent and compassionate actions locally, nationally, and globally.



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95 Years on Peace Frontiers

Since 1915, the Fellowship of Reconciliation in the United States has led campaigns to obtain legal rights for conscientious objectors, win civil rights for all Americans, end the Vietnam War, oppose U.S. intervention in the Third World, and reverse the superpowers’ arms race. An interfaith pacifist organization, the FOR has members from many religious and ethnic traditions. It is part of the International Fellowship of Reconciliation, with affiliates in 40 countries.

In the development of its program FOR depends upon persons who seek to apply these principles to every area of life. If you are not already a member, we invite you to join us in this endeavor. Membership consists of signing the Statement of Purpose, indicating that you agree with FOR goals.

Chair: Pat Geier.....609-7985

Capitol (continued from page 1)

Ward; the Rev. K. L. Moore, pastor of Frankfort’s First Baptist Church. Senator Powers urged us to continue to fight for passage of HB 70 in its original version. She concluded her speech by passing the torch on to the present and future generation.

We then heard from Frank X. Walker, Poet Laureate and NAACP Image Award recipient, who read a poem. Raoul Cunningham then called on Jesse Crenshaw, Kentucky State Representative from District 77 and the Primary Sponsor of HB 70.

Representative Crenshaw, talked about the status of House Bill 70. He stated that the revised Senate bill would make it more difficult for felons to get their rights back. These revisions were rejected by the House on Wednesday.

Michael Hiser, ex-felon, gave a personal account. Mr. Hiser who has been out of the system for more than 7 years, is now a father and a teacher. He has received a BA degree and a master’s degree and is working. He said “I’m a taxpayer, but not a citizen.” He praised Representative Crenshaw for fighting for him.

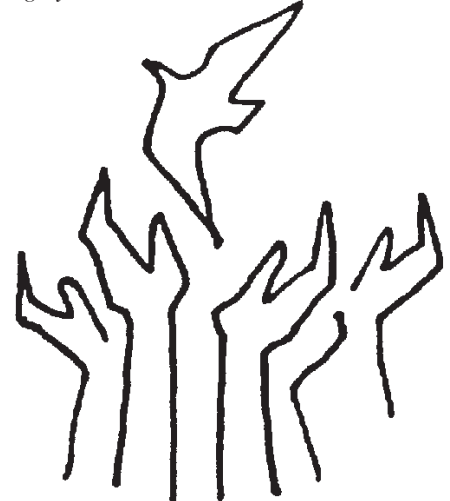
A wreath was laid symbolizing all who have died since playing an active role in the 1964 March on Frankfort. Mr. John Johnson, Chair, of the March on Frankfort and Executive Director of the Kentucky Commission on Human Rights, gave special thanks to all the participants who had helped organize the event and who came to Frankfort 50 years ago. They “communicated to the nation what it helped accomplish and how it changed our lives.” He reminded us that there are still people struggling for equality, but we will win because our struggle is right!

Nancy DeMartra, former teacher and one of the participants, said that “one of the highlights of the 50th Anniversary

Celebration was the number of teens from Frankfort’s High Schools, as well as young elementary children, with their teachers who attended. She said, “I am reminded of Roger Hammerstein’s song, “You have to be carefully taught,” as I witnessed people of all races participating in the event. If we as adults do not teach our children and teens the meaning of civil and human rights and let them see us demonstrating the value of both, we will have failed to impart the realities of equal rights. I am sure that when they look back 50 years from now, they will be proud of their involvement and their role in recognizing the continuing struggle to promote civil and human rights.”

The march was concluded with the singing of “We Shall Overcome.” Benediction was given by the Rev. Marianne Taylor, Executive Director, KY Council of Churches.

Gracie Lewis is a longtime activist for social and racial justice. She works with The Kentucky Alliance Against Racist and Political Oppression. www.louisvillepeace.org/kyalliance.html.



The Bluegrass Pipeline threatens Kentucky

By Sarah Lynn Cunningham

I spoke about the Bluegrass Pipeline at the FOR Third Thursday Lunch on March 21, 2014 at the Rudyard Kipling restaurant. Here is a summary of my talk:

The proposed Bluegrass Pipeline has been generating citizen concern and action from its start. Before asking you to take action, I offer brief answers to some frequently asked questions.

What is the proposed Bluegrass Pipeline? Companies “fracking” for natural gas in shale formations underlying Pennsylvania, Ohio and West Virginia want to build a 24-inch diameter pipeline through Ohio and Kentucky, to pump natural gas liquids (NGLs) — byproducts of natural gas extraction — to an existing natural gas pipeline running from Hardinsburg, KY, to Louisiana. There, the mixed NGLs would be separated and sold to Gulf Coast and overseas petrochemical industries.

What are natural gas liquids (NGLs)? Fossil fuels are naturally impure. The natural gas that we burn in our homes is mostly methane. Fracked natural gas contains NGLs, such as propane and butane, in liquid form when under the high pressures of wells and pipelines. (NGLs are not the same as “liquefied natural gas” (LNG), which is methane pressurized into liquid form to lower transportation and storage costs.

What is fracking? It’s short for “hydraulic fracturing,” an extraction method (developed for other purposes) now being used to exploit previously unreachable deposits of oil and, in this case, natural gas. After a well is drilled, a mixture of water, sand, and chemicals is injected into the shale formation at very high pressures to shatter the formation and liberate the natural gas. (This technology is stoking a get-rich-

quick frenzy of increased production in the northeast, Dakotas, and Canada.)

To environmentalists, fracking is a mixed bag. In combination with horizontal drilling, fracking is driving the cost of natural gas down, prompting many electric utilities to convert coal-fired power plants to natural gas. Compared to burning coal for heat or electricity, burning natural gas emits a small fraction of the air pollutants that cause smog and acid rain, and it produces only half of coal’s climate warming pollution. Still, history suggests that seemingly-low-cost energy delays much needed investments in energy efficiency.

Would the pipeline be safe? This question is the subject of much analysis, debate, and tellingly, industry-funded promotional campaigns. Its route would cross over 700 streams and go through karst — our unstable limestone geology, riddled with sinkholes and caves, which recently swallowed automobiles on display at the Corvette Museum in Bowling Green. NGLs leaks are more dangerous than natural gas leaks because their explosive vapors are heavier than air, can settle into low spots in the terrain, and are not as easily dissipated by wind. Emergency response times could be long in rural areas.

Why should we be concerned enough to take action now?

1. Pipelines permanently lower property values, even if everything goes well and no leaks or accidents contaminate the land or groundwater. Bluegrass Pipeline Company, LLC (BPC) has told Kentucky landowners that it could use the power of eminent domain if needed to obtain easements. The Kentucky Resources Council sued to test that claim. Franklin Circuit Judge Phillip Shepherd ruled last month that

BPC — a private, for-profit firm not regulated by the Kentucky Public Service Commission and whose project wouldn’t serve Kentuckians — does not have the power of eminent domain. BPC has appealed that decision.



Sarah Lynn Cunningham

2. BPC and its parent firms are spending big bucks to influence the political process. Last year, they gave almost \$43,000 to Kentucky political candidates and parties, and established business ties to Governor Steve Beshear. They had at least 10 lobbyists working Capitol halls this year. They conducted robo-calls and ran radio and newspaper ads urging the public to do their bidding before legislators. It’s no surprise that a bill blocking BPC from using eminent domain wasn’t adopted.

3. Nearly all jobs created by the pipeline would be temporary, and mostly held by out-of-state specialists. BPC has refused to commit to hire Kentuckians or unionized workers or to pay prevailing wages.

4. It would be very difficult to know whether NGLs were leaking underground or pooling in low-lying areas until it was too late. The 50-year-old pipeline from Hardinsburg to Louisiana was designed to carry gas, at lower pressures and in the opposite direction. Many engineers question whether it could carry the more erosive NGLs at higher pressures without periodic failures. The public would be left to rely on BPC to monitor the entire pipeline

adequately, detect leaks and other failures promptly, and correct failures safely.

5. Gaps in existing rules leave this industry under-regulated. For example, it isn’t required to monitor underground water quality before construction. A landowner whose well water was contaminated by a pipeline failure would be at an extreme disadvantage suing for compensation, because he or she couldn’t prove the groundwater wasn’t contaminated beforehand. The Commonwealth of Kentucky was supposed to adopt regulations to regulate the oil and gas industries more effectively years ago but hasn’t.

What can I do to help?

Please contact Governor Beshear (Capitol Building, Frankfort, KY 40601 or 502-564-2611) to call for the long overdue, much needed stricter regulations on the oil and gas industry. And please donate as generously as you can to the Kentucky Resources Council. Learn more about its work at <http://kyrc.org/>.

Please find more information at these sites:

- <http://www.nobluegrasspipeline.com/home.html>
- <http://www.kentuckyjusticeassociation.org/docDownload/659686>
- <http://bluegrasspipeline.com/about/moreinformation/>

Sarah Lynn Cunningham is an environmental engineer, educator and activist. Besides teaching and practicing engineering, she staffs the Louisville Climate Action Network and serves on the board of the Kentucky Conservation Committee. Contact her at slc@greensmarts.us or info@louisvillecan.org

Global resistance to capitalism and imperialism: a social history of anarchists and syndicalists fighting back

By Alex Bradshaw

Book review: *Anarchism and Syndicalism in the Colonial and Postcolonial World, 1870-1940: The Praxis of National Liberation, Internationalism, and Social Revolution*. Hirsch, Steven, & van der Walt, Lucien (eds.). (2010). Leiden, Netherlands/ Boston: Brill

Scholars Steven Hirsch and Lucien Van Der Walt have compiled a fine collection of left history in “Anarchism and Syndicalism in the Colonial and Postcolonial World, 1870-1940.” This volume counters the notion that anarchism and syndicalism are simply 19th century European phenomena; anarchism and syndicalism flourished in what they call the “colonial” and “postcolonial” world. This volume is a must-read for anyone interested in a nuanced history of left-wing politics, radical labor and social movements.

While the volume concerns anarchists and syndicalists’ role in anti-imperialist struggles and union organizing, it also serves as an invaluable tool to shatter the notion that the history of socialism, as well as radical labor, is exclusive to Marxist-Leninism (i.e., centralized state socialism). Unfortunately, throughout the Western world, the history of socialism is often embedded in simplistic Cold War narratives centered on the USSR and its ally nation-states: “socialism” is typically viewed as authoritarian, centralized and top-down — which is often touted by historians and scholars who support globalization and neoliberalism.

Anarchism and syndicalism explained

This volume is scholarly and authored by an esteemed group of professors and researchers, but it is accessible to those of us outside of the academy. However, some terms will likely be unfamiliar or

misunderstood to many readers. Anarchism has been subject to many interpretations; however, Hirsch, van der Walt et al have something very specific in mind: they refer to anarchism as a political philosophy which “rejected capitalism, the state and hierarchy in general” (p. xxxvi). Anarchists seek a “democratic, egalitarian and stateless socialist order” (Ibid).

The editors also defined syndicalism as “revolutionary trade unionism, centered on the view that revolutionary union action can establish a collectivized, worker-managed social order resting on union structures” (p. xxxvii). While many anarchists were also syndicalists, all syndicalists were not anarchists per se; likewise, all anarchists were not, and are not, syndicalists.



Alex Bradshaw

The colonial and postcolonial world and the timeline’s significance

Many readers may not be familiar with the terms identifying the “colonial” and “postcolonial” world. The editors define these terms as “the regions of the world under the formal control of external powers, as well as the ex-colonies, that were ostensibly independent social formations, but remained subject to a significant degree to informal imperial power influenced by colonial legacies” (p. xxxi). More specifically, the research in the volume focuses on “Africa, Asia, Latin America, and Eastern Europe (with the exception of Ireland)” (Ibid.).

The editors offer further analysis of why this is particularly significant for the period of 1870-1940. They state that “By the early 20th century, Britain, France, Germany, Japan, Russia and the United States ruled 90 percent of Africa, 57 percent

of Asia, a quarter of the Americas, around half of East and Central Europe, and all of Polynesia” (p. xxxii).

The aforementioned 1870-1940 timeline is historically one of “unmatched mass anarchist and syndicalist influence” (p. xxxiii), which is why the timeline was chosen for exploration. Those who wish to preserve these movements in the present will have a vested interest in this volume.

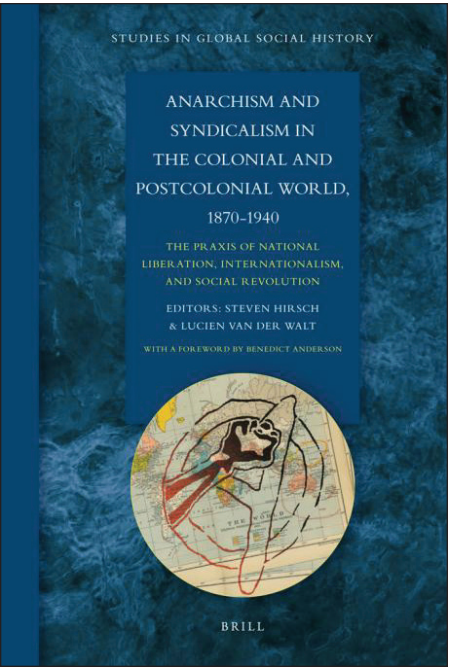
Anarchism and syndicalism across continents

To give a deep analysis of every facet of this collection would likely require volumes itself. Due to space limitations, below is a brief summation of themes and events found throughout Hirsch and Lucien Van Der Walt’s book. Omission of many aspects of this book is a consequence of such a summary.

Those chapters concerning Africa focus on Egypt and South African anarchism and syndicalism. Anthony Gorman contributes a chapter on the internationalist character of anarchism in Egypt. Those fleeing from Italy from political persecution — as well as Italian workers coming to Egypt during the 1860s for modernization projects (the most notable likely being the construction of the Suez Canal), and other European anarchists — brought the anarchist movement to Egyptian soil. Gorman states anarcho-syndicalism in Egypt “resisted nationality, religion and race as the basis of its organization...” (p. 4).

Throughout the late 20th century, anarchists and nationalists competed for influence amongst the native working-class in Egypt. This was an awkward relationship: nationalists favored the existence of the nation-state, whereas anarchists and syndicalists were fighting for a stateless socialist society.

A common theme throughout the chapters is mentioned in Gorman’s chapter: he states that “nationalism and anarchism did share a common enemy, imperialism, and on more than one occasion became de facto allies in opposing it” (p. 28). In Egypt,



Anarchism and Syndicalism in the Colonial and Postcolonial World, 1870-1940: The Praxis of National Liberation, Internationalism, and Social Revolution” Hirsch, Steven, & van der Walt, Lucien (eds.). (2010). Leiden, Netherlands/ Boston: Brill

the anarchists, syndicalists and nationalists sometimes formed coalitions to fight the British, but in all the states mentioned, these groups did the same to fight the colonial powers — in some cases in armed conflict.

Lucien van der Walt’s chapter focuses on the anarchists and syndicalist movement in South Africa. Like many movements discussed in the volume, van der Walt’s chapter argues that through written word (newspapers), political organizations and, of course, unions mobilized working-class people of color in South Africa. Van der Walt makes the case that the anarchist and syndicalist approach was to create “One Big Union” and steadily supported working-class unification over racial discrimination. Further, the “One

(continued on page 7)

A century in the making: colonialist grabs at the Arab world

By Ibrahim Imam

I recently read an article titled, “The Arab Scene 100 years After Campbell-Bannerman,” written by Awni Farsakh and translated by Adib S. Kawar. It is available at <http://www.tlaxcala.es/pp.asp?reference=4652&lg=en>

The article summarizes a report commissioned in 1907 by British Prime Minister Henry Campbell-Bannerman. The report cited common religion, language, and geographic proximity as factors that would awaken the Arab world. The report recommended that, for the European colonial powers to maintain control of the Middle East, they should make sure that the status quo of the Arab people should be maintained at what it was at that time, and that the Europeans should promote disintegration and division in the region. It called for establishing artificial political entities subservient to the European powers that created them. It also recommended establishing a foreign state that would prevent the geographic unity of the Asian and the North African parts of the Arab world.

Arabs have always felt that this report is important and damning. It was never publicly made available, probably because of its importance. The Farsakh article not only discusses its existence and its contents but also shows that the roots of what is happening in the Middle East now are merely an extension of European colonialism.

The Sykes-Picot Agreement, which was the secret understanding concluded in May 1916 during WWI between Britain and France, with the assent of Russia, seems to be nothing more than an application of the recommendations of this 1907 report. Regardless of the existence of the report or not, the Sykes-Picot Agreement serves as a blueprint for the colonialist policy followed by Europe and the U.S. in the Middle East.

The Sykes-Picot Agreement aimed to dismember the Ottoman Empire. It led to the division of Syria, Iraq, Lebanon, and Palestine into French- and British-administered areas. According to this agreement, and under the terms of the mandate granted by the League of Nations in 1922, Britain became responsible for Iraq and Palestine. Iraq was composed of Al-Mawsil in the north, Baghdad in the middle, and Al-Basra which extended south to the Persian Gulf and included what became later Kuwait. Britain separated Kuwait as a protectorate. Under the same mandate, France became responsible for Syria and Lebanon.

The Arab people rose against the deceit of the Europeans — in Syria, Iraq, Algeria,

etc. The colonialist powers resorted to brutal attempts to control the people, as in Algeria, and to establishing puppet governments, as in Iraq and Jordan.

By the mid 1950’s, after seeing what had happened to their countries — and in particular what had happened to the Palestinians — the Arabs started a slow, steady move to political independence. There was increased participation in political parties such as the Ba’ath party and the Muslim Brotherhood. These parties were characterized based on their position towards the local governments and on their external leanings. The Ba’ath party was characterized as socialist with leftist tendencies. The Muslim Brotherhood, which opposed dealing with atheist Russia or China, was seen as rightist, leaning towards the West.

During this period and throughout the ‘90s, Iraq, Syria, Egypt, Libya, Sudan and Algeria grew large and strong and became able to flex some muscle. This became disturbing not only to England and France but also to the U.S. and its two allies, Israel and Saudi Arabia.

Also, a strong religious phenomenon that the Saudis helped create in places like Afghanistan and Pakistan to aid in fighting Russia became transformed. It began calling for the liberation of Saudi Arabia and the Arab world from the influence of the U.S. That transformation became unsettling to the U.S.

Several U.S. actions followed that appear to be a re-adoption of the philosophy that led to the Sykes-Picot Agreement. The Arab countries would be reorganized into small states fighting among themselves. Large countries would be ethnically or religiously divided, so that they would be weakened internally. Countries controlled by governments sympathetic to U.S. policy would remain controlled by those governments regardless of the brutal internal policies they used to control their populations.

Examining the Arab world will reveal where these measures are implemented. Invading Iraq made it a quagmire of sectarian violence in three dueling regions: Kurdistan Al-Iraq, the Sunni middle region, and the Shia-dominated south. The government of Saudi Arabia stays in control of its people with an iron fist, and as long as it supports U.S. policy, the U.S. closes its eyes to Saudi Arabia’s violations of human rights.

Libya is effectively divided into a poor western region fighting an eastern oil-rich region, with armed tribal groups challenging the formation and authority of any government.

Egypt initially witnessed the start of a

true popular revolt against Hosni Mubarak, a tyrant who had become powerful only with U.S. help. As long as Mubarak honored the peace treaty with Israel and kept the stranglehold on Gaza, the U.S. was willing to close its eyes to everything else he did. The Tahrir Square revolt of 2011 was something the U.S. could not ignore but did not know how to handle. But once the Egyptians elected a government, the U.S. went into action, and with the help of Saudi Arabia, was able to financially choke the new government.

That new government, under President Morsi, misunderstood the reason it had been elected. It tried to move the country too much into the direction of a religion-based government. That was not the desire of most Egyptians. They wanted a secular government and a secular society. The people tried to revolt again, but the US-educated and US-trained army leadership took advantage of this attempt and imposed a de facto coup d’état, removing President Morsi and imposing martial law.

One unintended consequence of the Iraq invasion was the birth of an Iraqi government more inclined to cooperate with and be sympathetic to Iran than to the U.S. or Saudi Arabia. The Saudis felt that the Iraq war backfired and that the Saudi presence was being challenged by the presence of a strong Shia alliance among Iran, the Iraqi government, the Alawite government in Syria, and Hizballah in Lebanon. The Saudis, the Israelis, and the U.S. saw the removal of Syrian President Bashar Al-Asad as a way out of this dilemma. With the cooperation of Jordan and Turkey, opposition fighters infiltrated into Syria, and what had started as an unarmed protest by Syrians against Al-Asad became a full scale war, the brunt of which is being borne by the Syrian people.

The U.S. did not include in its calculations that this war would open the door for new actors to get involved in Syria, and that those actors would turn against the U.S. The U.S. also ignored that Syria is a melting pot of ethnicities and religions that enjoyed living together in peace under Al-Asad, and that the people saw that this religious freedom will evaporate once Al-Asad is replaced by a Salafi government



Ibrahim Imam

financed by Saudi Arabia or other gulf states.

But the U.S. has not given up and is trying to work out an understanding with the Saudis and the Turks on how to proceed. The U.S. has bridged the gap between Saudi Arabia and Egypt. Next, the U.S. will try to unify the position of Turkey and Saudi Arabia. This should not be very difficult, considering the strong ties between Turkey and NATO and the great amount of money Turkey owes the International Monetary Fund.

The question becomes: what does the U.S. stand to gain once Al-Asad is removed from Syria? The answers are: Hizballah will lose its pipeline connecting it with Iran. This should please Israel and Saudi Arabia, since without the presence of Hizballah in Lebanon, the pro-Saudi Hariri government will be in control there. It is also the case that Syria is the only obstacle to an oil pipeline that would allow Kurdistan Al-Iraq to pump its oil to Haifa on the Mediterranean Sea (in the event that it does not reach an agreement with the Iraqi government which controls the Shatt al-Arab port on the Persian Gulf).

Syria is also home to a huge number of Palestinian refugees (about one million in Syria and Lebanon), and the current Syrian government refuses to absorb them into its population. This is a major complication in the negotiations between Israel and the Palestinian Authority when it comes to the right of return of the Palestinian refugees to their former homes in Israel.

It is not hard to see that U.S. policy in the Arab world seems to be in sync with the policies of its colonizing predecessors, namely England and France. Thus, it is no wonder that most Arabs feel that the U.S. has replaced the English and the French in becoming the colonizing power in the Middle East. Most Arabs do not buy the explanation that the U.S. cannot anticipate the chaos that happens in the places it gets involved in. Most Arabs feel that this is disingenuous, and that the U.S. knows exactly what it is doing, and that the chaos, fragmentation, sectarian divides, violence, and the lackey and subservient governments are part of the U.S. plan.

Ibrahim Imam is a Palestinian American from Jerusalem who was born in 1948 as a Palestinian refugee in Damascus, Syria. He moved to the U.S. in 1971. Ibrahim has been very active in raising awareness of the plight of Palestinian people and in exposing the Louisville progressive community to the events in the Middle East and to the role we as Americans play in that. Ibrahim Imam can be reached at inimam@me.com.

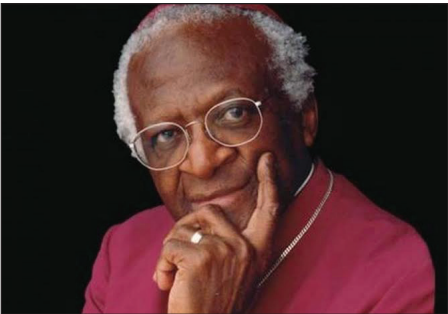
Statement by Archbishop Emeritus Desmond Tutu

By Archbishop Emeritus Desmond Tutu

I am writing today to express grave concern about a wave of legislative measures in the United States aimed at punishing and intimidating those who speak their conscience and challenge the human rights violations endured by the Palestinian people. In legislatures in Maryland, New York, Illinois, Florida, and even the United States Congress, bills have been proposed that would either bar funding to academic associations or seek to malign those who have taken a stand against the Israeli occupation of Palestine.

These legislative efforts are in response to a growing international initiative, the boycott, divestment, and sanctions (BDS) movement, of which I have long been a supporter. The BDS movement emanates from a call for justice put out by the Palestinian people themselves. It is a Palestinian-led, international nonviolent movement that seeks to force the Israeli government to comply with international law in respect to its treatment of the Palestinian people.

I have supported this movement because it exerts pressure without violence on the State of Israel to create lasting peace for the citizens of Israel and Palestine,



Desmond Tutu

Photo by jewelsofhappiness.com

peace which most citizens crave. I have witnessed the systematic violence against and humiliation of Palestinian men, women and children by members of the Israeli security forces. Their humiliation and pain is all too familiar to us South Africans.

In South Africa, we could not have achieved our democracy without the help of people around the world, who through the use of non-violent means, such as boycotts and divestment, encouraged their governments and other corporate actors to reverse decades-long support for the Apartheid regime. My conscience compels me to stand with the Palestinians as they seek to use the same tactics of non-violence to further their efforts to end the oppression associated with the Israeli occupation.

The legislations being proposed in the United States would have made participation in a movement like the one that ended Apartheid in South Africa extremely difficult.

I am also deeply troubled by the rhetoric associated with the promulgation of these bills which I understand, in the instance of Maryland, included testimony comparing the boycott to the actions of the Nazis in Germany. The Nazi Holocaust which resulted in the extermination of millions of Jews is a crime of monstrous proportions. To imply that it is in any way comparable to a nonviolent initiative diminishes the horrific nature of that genocidal and tragic era in our world history.

Whether used in South Africa, the US South, or India, boycotts have resulted in a transformative change that not only brought freedom and justice to the victims but also peace and reconciliation for the oppressors. I strongly oppose any piece of legislation meant to punish or deter individuals from pursuing this transformative aspiration.

And I remain forever hopeful that, like the nonviolent efforts that have preceded it, the BDS movement will ultimately become a catalyst for honest peace and reconciliation for all our brothers and sisters, both Palestinian and Israeli, in the Holy Land.

Archbishop Emeritus Desmond Tutu, of Cape Town, South Africa, is a legendary figure in the struggle against apartheid in South Africa. He issued this statement on April 2, 2014 condemning escalating legislative efforts in the United States to curb the freedom of speech of people who support justice in Palestine. This statement was issued by Oryx Media under the original title, “Statement by Archbishop Emeritus Desmond Tutu on US Efforts to Curb Freedom of Speech.” It is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution-Share Alike 3.0 License which may be found here: <https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/3.0/us/legalcode>



When businesses could have protected lives, but chose not to

By Ira Grupper

Ioppose a U.S. death penalty objectively targeting the poor and the non-white. What about companies that find it cheaper to allow workers to die rather than fix safety hazards? And how should we have handled mass murder of Jews, Roma and others by Adolph Hitler?

On March 25, 1911, 275 girls and women, age 13 to 23, were at work at the Triangle Shirtwaist Company in New York City. A fire broke out and 146 workers died. Most of the doors were locked to prevent “theft”. The theft of their lives by the owners was not in the picture.

The factory owners were tried for manslaughter, but were acquitted.

The International Ladies’ Garment Workers’ Union led a march of 100,000 workers to push for new legislation.

Did these factory owners get away with mass murder?

Now comes the case of Union Carbide, and its subsidiary in Bhopal, India. On December 3 1984, more than 40 tons of methyl isocyanate gas leaked from its pesticide plant in Bhopal. Estimates of the number of people killed range from 3,800 to 10,000, with 15,000 to 20,000 premature deaths in the next 20 years.

Warren Anderson, Union Carbide’s CEO, was charged with manslaughter. Anderson flew to India, was arrested, posted bail, and returned to the U.S. -- never again to return to India. The U.S. refused to extradite Anderson.

LABOR PAEANS

Well, the company paid \$470 million in fines, a relatively small amount. Mass murder — and no death penalty.

Continuing on in the wonderful world of production for profit instead of use, we come to the Ford Pinto Case. Ford elected not to redesign a defective product in order to maximize its bottom line; it used “cost/benefit” analysis to defend this decision.

Ford knew that if the Pinto was struck, for example, by another car on its gas-tank side, it could explode.

One student of the case, Christopher Leggett, wrote: “...(Ford) chose not to implement (a new) design, which would have cost \$11 per car, even though it had done an analysis showing (it) would result in 180 less deaths.

“The company defended itself on the grounds that it used the accepted risk/benefit analysis to determine if the monetary costs of making the change were greater than the societal benefit. Based on the numbers Ford used, the cost would have been \$137 million versus the \$49.5 million price tag put on the deaths, injuries, and car damages, and thus Ford felt justified not implementing the design change.”

Next case. On March 25, 1990 87 patrons of the Happy Land Social Club, in the Bronx, New York, were killed in a fire. There was no sprinkler system. The

windows had iron bars on them. Did the owners get away with mass murder?

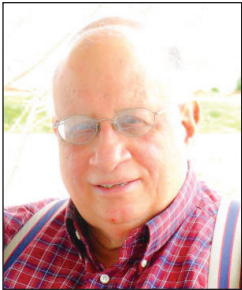
We are not thru just yet. On September 3, 1991, in Hamlet, North Carolina, 25 workers died in a poultry factory. The workers couldn’t get out in time. Is this not mass murder?

Let’s turn to Toyota. This past March Toyota settled with the U.S. Department of Justice, agreeing to shell out \$1.2 billion to settle a criminal investigation. There were unintended acceleration problems that led to recalls of 8.1 million vehicles beginning in 2009.

Attorney General Eric Holder: “Today, we can say... that Toyota intentionally concealed information and misled the public about the safety issues behind these recalls...” One car at issue, but not the only one: Toyota Corolla.

Space permits only mention of a fire in a garment factory just outside Dhaka, Bangladesh in early March. One-Hundred Twelve workers will no longer be able to sell their labor power for a wage: they were burned to death.

And so we come to a letter, published in this newspaper in 2009, from a prominent millionaire businessman, and 50-year



Ira Grupper

member of the FOR who wrote that he was «getting tired of the anti-business bias that you permit Ira Grupper to put in the paper.» adding, «He uses the term ‘greedy business’ as a general description of business. In these many years I have observed that greedy corporations usually fail. The ethical succeed because we all want to do business with them.

“We must be citizens of the world. ‘Buy America’ campaigns do not serve the cause of world peace.... Peace is good for business.”

In reply, I suggested a debate over the role of business in peace and justice, adding that I would raise such points as the knowingly beneficial issuance of insurance policies during the U.S. slavery era by ACE USA, Aetna Life Insurance, New York Life, Penn Mutual Life, Providence Washington Insurance, and others.

I said I’d also discuss how George W. Bush’s grandfather, a U.S. senator, helped Hitler’s rise to power; the relationship of National City Bank and Chase National Bank to Hitler’s Reichbank; the relationship of the former Big Three automakers, and G.E., Kodak and Shell Oil, to Nazi Germany; and allegations ‘philanthropist’ Bill Gates stole DOS and defrauded Apple.

I ended with: “‘Peace is good for business.’ But so is corruption, theft, war and genocide.”

Contact Ira Grupper: irag@iglou.com

Regaining the know-how to live well from the land in Nicaragua

By Dr. Judy Heitzman

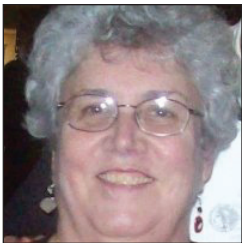
In 2004 a delegation from St. William Parish went to Nicaragua to visit the sister parish, Our Lord of Esquipulas (Parochia de Nuestro Senor de Esquipulas -NSdE). They met a four-year-old child, Antonio, who was covered with open sores caused by malnutrition. After a brief treatment with vegetable juice by a dermatologist in Managua (the nearest large city), Antonio’s sores went into remission. Antonio’s condition was a severe example of a widespread problem in rural Nicaragua, malnutrition due to poverty. Sadly, Antonio’s reprieve was short-lived. Lacking access to medical care and a healthy diet, he died at age 6.

In 2006 St. William delegates visited Nicaragua, touring farms and early phases of the organic farming initiative. During their visit, members from NSdE and St. William’s met with SoyNica, the clinic doctor, and a local malnutrition specialist. Interested Nicaraguan community members were invited to workshops in which the Louisville visitors prepared vegetables that were

available in the local market. Workshops were held three per week in the campo, each with 40 to 50 people in attendance. Most attendees did not recognize or had never eaten the fruits and vegetables that were available in their own local markets.

The NSdE Projects Advisor, Pablo Hernandez, presented an idea for a project to improve nutrition by teaching families to grow vegetables and incorporate them in their diet and requested help with funding it. His proposal included alternative farming methods that would preserve the land and minimize health risks from toxic chemicals.

Barriers to good nutrition include loss of the ability and knowledge to farm. Much of this loss is due to war, natural disasters and corrupt government. Poor people no longer grew food because they had no land, seeds, or fertilizer, and had lost the farming



Dr. Judy Heitzman

know-how of previous generations.

In November 2006 Pablo’s proposal, including a widespread nutrition education program, was submitted. The Nicaraguans recommended the project educate women to grow and prepare vegetables, and teach their children to eat them. These women would learn organic gardening techniques, including worm farms and composting. The poorest families with children under six years of age would be eligible to participate. Surplus crops were to be shared with neighboring families, or sold to improve family finances. Quickly, other families wanted to join the nutrition project.

Currently, the Nutrition with Vegetables project includes 70 families (most are single head of household), and serves over 600 people. Members use either their own or borrowed land for growing crops. They share surplus harvest. The cost for the nutrition program includes the salary for a full-time manager/trainer, plus seeds and fertilizer.

Joana Cruz Mercado has been in the Nutrition Project for two years. She lives

about two hours away from town. She has two children – Karina (13) and Vilma (3). She says, “The project is very beautiful and very good. It has helped give us the seeds: carrots, celery, cucumbers, cabbage, squash, and onions. We have workshops on cooking and eating raw vegetables.”

Her oldest daughter and her partner, Augustino, help her with the garden. “Sometimes we sell some of the vegetables in the farmer’s market and of course we share with our neighbors.” There are eight families in their community and none of the children has lost weight since the project started. They are healthier and get sick less frequently. (The clinic physician monitors the growth and health of children participating in this project.)

Dr. Judy Heitzman served as Committee Chair of the Nutrition Project for Friends of Esquipulas. She can be reached at swartsdc@gmail.com. For more information on the Esquipulas Projects and for donations see the website friendsofesquipulas.org.

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Wastewater commission means more expense, less public input

By Teena Halbig

Another layer of bureaucracy, i.e., the creation of a sewer pipeline by forming a Regional Sewer Wastewater Commission— encompassing these counties: Henry, Spencer, Oldham, Jefferson, Bullitt, Nelson, Meade, and Hardin to Ft. Knox. Spencer and Nelson have already said, “No”. Shelby County has not made a decision. Louisville & Jefferson County Metropolitan Sewer District (MSD) Executive Director Greg Heitzman revealed a conceptual map on May 28, 2013. This map (Salt River Potential Sewershed Map) can be seen at www.floydsfork.net on Facebook. However, this proposed sewer pipeline is not shown in Oldham and one half of Jefferson but is sure to affect these heavily populated areas! Each county that joins will have a seat on its board. The “fees” levied by this commission will be in addition to MSD charges and rate increases. Citizens need to know that local control and efficient management will have a hard time keeping up with this Pipeline train once it leaves the station.

State legislators denied House Bill 221 for a several years, and then it became known as House Bill 26 where the commission, when formed, can levy annual fees up to 5 percent plus costs for capital improvements (sewer lines, sewer plants, etc.). Costs have had a 5 percent cap plus ten percent capital costs equaling fifteen percent increases per year for ratepayers in Northern Kentucky where a Regional Sewer Commission formed 3 years ago. Yes, that adds up to forty-five percent increase!

Ratepayers will pay costs for a secretary, treasurer, annual audit, general manager, for each commissioner to attend each meeting, seminars (local or out-of-town) plus expenses. MSD Director Greg Heitzman is meeting with powerful politicians in surrounding counties in hopes of forming a “working group” who are potential contract signees.

Our 22 year old organization, Floyds Fork Environmental Association (FFEA), followed the legislation for 4 years and managed some changes. On August 20, 2013, FFEA representatives met with Director Heitzman to point out our concerns:

1. This sewer authority would not

be under the PSC that would afford the public an opportunity to speak regarding rate increases.

2. “Home rule” is lost since our Mayor is but one at a table of commissioners and thus only has one vote on this board.

3. No provision to be under state ethics rules.

4. Small cities are far less likely to obtain grant monies since deference is to the regional commission, possibly forcing small cities to join.

5. Potential for expensive legal entanglements.

6. Nongovernmental organizations like FFEA or even elected officials cannot speak before the commission or hearing officer (Mr. Heitzman offered to put it in the bylaws that we could – but bylaws can be changed).

7. Eminent Domain issues.

8. Potential for monopoly formation.

9. Need for more transparency (provision for posting monetary figures on a website is only a beginning and not enough transparency).

While Mayor Fischer may save a small percent and “keep a lid on water bills” with the Louisville Water Company, sewer bills will exponentially escalate like rates did in Northern Kentucky and it will be impossible to keep a lid on them.

On March 17, 2014, a meeting was held by MSD at Kentuckiana Regional Planning & Development Agency (KIPDA). MSD Director Greg Heitzman was the presenter; he showed multiple powerpoint slides. Elected officials from various counties (8 elected officials that included Judge/Executive Melanie Roberts from Bullitt County and Judge/Executive John Black from Oldham County plus eleven wastewater personnel) and a few citizens and FFEA were in the public’s “peanut gallery”. He wanted these folks to sign up for a “work group” meeting. At the end, I asked how the public would be treated in future meetings like knowing when this work group would meet and if the public could speak at those meetings. Mr. Heitzman said the first work group meeting would not allow any of the public to sit in on the meeting. He said the next work group meeting would allow the public. After that, he said he would not allow the public to the next meeting, and then allow the next and

so on – like he did when he formed the Louisville Water Company work group. He never commented on the public being allowed to speak or not. I was not allowed to sign up to attend the work group meeting. KIPDA said I could not sign the signup sheet.

All of this is the public’s business and affects the public and every ratepayer not only in Jefferson County but many counties.

The March, 2014 MSD Power Point was entitled “Regional Sewer-Wastewater Commission, Salt River Basin, Greg C. Heitzman, Presentation to Salt River Regional Wastewater Providers, KIPDA Office, Louisville, KY March 28, 2014” (although this was given on March 17). The entire power point is available at www.floydsfork.net but the sewer pipeline map was not shown at this time! Mr. Heitzman is targeting the following 5 counties (for now): Oldham, Jefferson, Bullitt, Hardin and Meade.

Do you really think each elected Mayor or Judge/Executive of each county will actually sit in the seat at the commission’s board meetings? Or do you think wastewater personnel will sit in these seats to vote on rates and other matters? Or will their deputies fill their seats?

Fee increases lack transparency for rate increases because there can and will be additional costs for ratepayers for Capital Infrastructure. This was proven in Northern KY Sanitation District #1 where there was a Regional Sewer Commission formed; ratepayers paid the 5% cap but then ten percent capital infrastructure costs were added to equal fifteen percent. MSD must give pertinent information like this to have transparency! There is a difference in a partial truth and the whole truth – FFEA gives the whole truth.

In one slide, that lists his initial meeting (arranged by Senator Dan Seum) at the Homebuilders of Louisville on May 13, 2013, there were no environmental



Teena Halbig

organizations represented (Courier reporter’s blog). Only because FFEA requested a meeting were we listed for August 20, 2013. Also, Spencer County is listed as “not eligible” but Spencer opted out long ago!

Since Mr. Heitzman has already met with city and county elected officials and key constituents, he planned to hold his first work group April, 2014 but FFEA will not get a notice and I was not allowed to sign the sign-up sheet per Mr. Heitzman and was refused by KIPDA. Consideration of forming this Sewer Commission will take place after a study is completed in 2015.

KIPDA is playing a big role now and will be the Facilitator and will issue the Request for Proposal to develop and request the study that will cost about \$100,000 with MSD paying up to \$50,000 of this. Other counties will be asked to give \$2,500 to \$10,000 each. They will also look for small grants, KIPDA, Lincoln Trail ADD, and KY Division of Water for \$15,000 each. KIPDA will evaluate proposals and select the consultant.

Finally in November, after all the work is done, the public will see the findings! I see only that a public MEETING – not HEARING will occur. Then in December when all people are interested in family and Christmas, the report will be finalized and released.

Look for more upsizing of sewer pump stations (some proposed are on the map) and many sewer basins are to be dug!

I encourage you to look at FFEA concerns and see if there is a way you can chime in before Turkey Time and Christmas Time! Example: FFEA worked to get better public speaking at MSD board meetings so you can speak for 5 minutes before the MSD Board if you sign up before 12:50 p.m. but call MSD beforehand at 540-6000.

Teena Halbig is President of Floyds Fork Environmental Association, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit founded in 1991 with the mission to protect, conserve and preserve Floyds Fork Creek and its watershed. Teena can be reached at 267-6883 or through FloydsForkCreek@aol.com or at www.floydsfork.net. You can write to her at Teena Halbig, 6505 Echo Trail, Louisville, KY 40299

“Ode to a Fallen Tree”

by Sharon Grant

Beautiful tree
that was...
whose center
toppled
by lightening strike,
yet branches
left
and right
held strong.

Woodsmen came.
Cut down...
not just the broken part...
but living limbs as well.
They cut
and chipped
and chopped away
with ugly gashes
at the wood,
couldn’t leave
the healthy part...
solid,
strong,
and true.

It breaks my heart
to see a friend
so dear

thus mangled
by the need
to eradicate
a living,
wounded one
from passing view.

How many other creatures
are treated thus,
when age creeps up
and they no longer
stand and move about
with agile grace?

But her stump
stands still,
jagged,
reaching to the sky,
sawdust at her feet,
a stray vine,
winding up one side,
grateful that she’s there.

I touch her wounds,
whisper words of love
and hold precious memories
of her former days.

July 27, 2013



Sharon Grant

Nature Hums

By Sharon Grant

Day after day
the searing sun
pours down on
cracked land.

The rain comes...
miserly
at first

counting out the drops,
then pours.

The earth soaks in
the draft,
like a thirsty man
at an Irish pub.

And for a brief moment
nature hums.

March on Frankfort



Folks at 50th Anniversary March on Frankfort want HB 70 passed

photo by Bud Dorsey

Chavez *(continued from page 1)*

presents the brutal conditions under which the farm workers lived and worked. There were numerous sequences in the movie that helped to inform the viewer of why power, wealth and influence left unchecked can create a social and economic abusive situation. It is important to also keep in mind that the successes on behalf of the workers came about because various workers were unified and eventually forced the power structure to have to make a decision leading them to treat the workers in a more ethical and economically beneficial manner.

The movie offers a good balance of how the struggle for fair treatment came to be in relation to the reasons successful

changes came about. The movie serves as a way to introduce Cesar Chavez to people unaware of who he was and what he did, and it displays how a unified group of oppressed people can work to improve their condition.

Charles “Randy” Nichols, Ph.D. is a professor of Management with Mid-Continent University and a member of the editorial staff of FORsooth. He has also served as a contributing writer for the St. Louis (MO) Small Business Monthly and the African-American Journal for People of All Cultures. He can be contacted at: randynic@gmail.com

Anarchists *(continued from page 3)*

Big Union was to be the proletarian [i.e., working-class] forge in which a common society embracing all, regardless of colour, would be created” (p.35).

Chapters on Asia focus on Korea, China and Japan’s anarchist and syndicalist movements –from roughly 1910-1940. Dongyuon Hwang’s chapter focuses on the nationalist character of the Korean struggle, with Korea’s notable colonial relationship with Japan. Japan was the colonial power in Korea from 1910 onward. Anarchists fought alongside with nationalists in Korea, too, with a goal of independence, but also creating a new egalitarian society. As Hwang states: “There is no doubt that independence was the primary, and immediate, goal of Korean anarchists, but it does not mean that it was their only, or ultimate, goal. They aimed not just to gain independence through a political movement, but also to achieve a social revolution based on anarchist principles” (p. 97).

Hwang also points to the importance of radicals and revolutionaries meeting in cities like Tokyo and Shanghai: these cities were well-known as spaces where activists and students could exchange radical ideas, as well as find translated anarchist works in their native languages. Arif Dirlik’s chapter states “Tokyo served as a location for radical education and activity that is quite reminiscent of the role played by London for radicals in Europe” (p. 133). In this case, he is talking about radicals in China, who often were introduced to European anarchist texts in Tokyo.

While China’s socialist history usually focuses on Maoism (a form of state socialism associated with Marxist-Leninism, with a stronger emphasis on the peasantry’s role in revolution), in the early 20th century, it was anarchism that was “the dominant ideology during the first phase of socialism in Eastern Asia” (p. 134).

Moving from Asia to Latin America, Steven Hirsch’s chapter articulates, anarcho-syndicalism flourished in Peru within the early 20th century. Hirsch states that anarcho-syndicalism “would become the dominant radical ideology of Peru’s fledgling labor movement” (p. 227). Anarchist study groups – secondary to talented and charismatic activists like Manual Gonzalez – helped spread the ideas of anarchism and syndicalism to the working-class in Peru.

Kirk Shaffer describes an anarchist “Caribbean network” throughout Mexico, Puerto Rico, Cuba and even Spanish-speaking regions in the US. In Cuba, Havana was regarded as a “hub” for Spanish-speaking anarchists in the region – something of a comparison to Tokyo’s location in Asian anarchism and syndicalism. Shaffer states that Havana was a crucial city to anarchists in the early 20th century: “Key to Havana’s central role as the network hub was the anarchist weekly newspaper Tierra! (“Land!”), the longest running (1903-1914) and most widely circulated organ for communication and fundraising” (p. 274). In this we see a common theme amongst late 19th, early 20th century radicals: the importance of the newspaper and written word for communication between networks of leftists (in this case, anarchists). Like China, this is a

history relatively unknown: revolutionary left history of Cuba typically centers on state socialism and the ideology of Castro and his comrades (i.e., Marxist-Leninism).

Shaffer points to a common, aforementioned theme throughout the book: the awkward tension between nationalists and anarchists. This centered on the colonial relationship between Cuba and Spain. As Shaffer states: “The outbreak of war in 1895 found most anarchists in Cuba supporting the liberation struggle, seeing the conflict beyond ‘nationalist’ terms and instead viewing the conflict as an anti-colonial struggle for freedom against Spanish imperialism” (p. 277).

Other chapters concerning Latin America focus on South American countries Argentina and Brazil. Buenos Aires became “one of the world’s... great anarchist publishing centres, and Argentina became the only country to sustain to two anarchist dailies” (p. xli). Further, the “dominant labour federation” in Argentina in the early 20th century, the Regional Workers Federation of Argentina (the FORA) – boasting a membership of 250,000 – was candidly anarchist and in structure. As the editors state, at the time it was active, the FORA had “no significant rival centres” (Ibid.). Geoffrey de Laforcade describes the importance of Argentina to South America’s anarchist movement: “Argentina was the main ‘port of entry’ of anarchist ideas and activists in late 19th century South America” (p. 327).

In Sao Paulo Brazil, anarchists and syndicalists were active in many strikes and the struggle for the eight-hour workday for Brazilian workers. Ediline Toledo and Luigi Biondi mention the Workers’ Federation of Sao Paulo (FOSP) as particularly significant as earning the approval of many anarchists and syndicalists. Further, the FOSP was “the main local labour federation in the country between 1905 and 1912” (p. 367). In fact, the authors state, it was the anarchist Giulio Sorelli (a carpenter, as well) who helped founded the FOSP with others. The anarchist Sorelli was FOSP’s “president for many years” (p. 380).

Transnational radicals and visionaries

This volume should be seen as a history of transnational radicals and visionaries, who saw the need to unite the entire international working-class to dismantle both capitalism and imperialism. While their lofty aspirations have not been actualized, these movements planted seeds for future militant movements, which continue to fight for a truly democratic economy and free society. For contemporary radicals and visionaries fighting for social and economic justice, Hirsch and van der Walt’s volume comes highly recommended.

Alex Bradshaw is an editor with FORsooth Newspaper. Alex is also a co-founder of Louisville’s NO BORDERS Radical Lending Library. He has been published in the periodical Perspectives in Anarchist Theory and Z Magazine. Alex also works as an occupational therapist in community health care with individuals with traumatic brain injuries. You can reach Alex at alexbrad11@hotmail.com.

Regular Meeting Times for Area Organizations

- ADDICTION RECOVERY ADVOCATES OF KENTUCKIANA – (485-1248)
- AIDS INTERFAITH MINISTRIES (AIM) OF KENTUCKIANA, INC. – (635-4510)
- AMERICA 2000 DEMOCRATIC CLUB –4th Tuesday. Contact Enid Redman at 459-0616 or John Mine at pappajohn15@gmail.com. Also see www.America2000plus.net.
- AMERICANS UNITED FOR SEPARATION OF CHURCH AND STATE – Every month at noon (contact Paul Simmons: 608-7517)
- AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL – 1st Saturday (Sharon: 637-8951) at Heine Bros. on Douglass Loop
- APPAF [American Palestine Public Affairs Forum] – 2nd Thursday (773-1836)
- BREAD FOR THE WORLD – Last Monday every other month (239-4317 for details)
- CAPA [Citizens Against Police Abuse] –2nd Thursday (778-8130) Meet at Braden Center, 3208 W. Broadway
- CART [Coalition for the Advancement of Regional Transportation] – 3rd Wednesday, Union Station, TARC Board Room
- CLOUT [CITIZENS OF LOUISVILLE ORGANIZED AND WORKING TOGETHER] – (583-1267)
- COMMITTEE FOR PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST – 2nd Monday (456-6586)
- COMMON CAUSE – Ad hoc discussions. Continuous engagement. www.commoncause.org/ky
- COMMUNITY FARM ALLIANCE OF JEFFERSON COUNTY – 2nd Tuesday (223-3655)
- COUNTER RECRUITMENT, “Aim Higher” – 1st Sunday, 7pm (899-4119)
- EARTH SAVE LOUISVILLE – 2nd Saturday (299-9520) www.LouisvilleEarthSave.org
- FAIRNESS CAMPAIGN – Quarterly community dialogues and volunteer opportunities (893-0788)
- FDR/LINCOLN LEGACY CLUB – 1st Thursday, papajohn15@bellsouth.net
- FELLOWSHIP OF RECONCILIATION – 4th Monday (609-7985 or 291-2506)
- FRIENDS FOR HOPE (Support Group for Adult Cancer Survivors) – 4th Wednesday at 6:30 PM (451-9600).
- FRIENDSHIP FORCE OF LOUISVILLE – 2nd Tuesday (893-8436)
- GREATER LOUISVILLE SIERRA CLUB – 3rd Tuesday, 7pm. (502-644-0659)
- HUMANISTS OF METRO LOUISVILLE – 2nd Monday, 7:00pm (896-4853)
- INTERFAITH PATHS TO PEACE – 3rd Wednesday, every other month. (214-7322)
- IRFI [ISLAMIC RESEARCH FOUNDATION INTERNATIONAL, INC.] – Sundays at 6:00 PM (502-423-1988)
- JEWISH VOICE FOR PEACE (jvp.org) – 1st Friday and 4th Thursday. Contact 256-525-5290 or sonrevolution@aol.com
- JOBS WITH JUSTICE KENTUCKY (582-5454)
- JURISDICTIONARY CLUB OF LOUISVILLE – Know the law and how to use it (500-8161)
- JUSTICE RESOURCE CENTER – (345-5386)
- KFTC [KENTUCKIANS FOR THE COMMONWEALTH] – 2nd Monday (589-3188)
- KITOD [KENTUCKIANA INTERFAITH TASKFORCE ON DARFUR] – (553-6172)
- KY ALLIANCE AGAINST RACIST & POLITICAL REPRESSION – 3rd Monday (778-8130)
- KY COALITION TO ABOLISH THE DEATH PENALTY – (541-9998)
- KITLAC [KY INTERFAITH TASKFORCE ON LATIN AMERICA & THE CARIBBEAN] – 2nd Wednesday (479-9262)
- LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS (502-895-5218), www.louisville-orglwv
- LOUISVILLE COMMITTEE FOR ISRAELI/PALESTINIAN STATES – 3rd Sunday (451-5658)
- LOUISVILLE PEAK OIL GROUP – 2nd Saturday (425-6645)
- LPAC [LOUISVILLE PEACE ACTION COMMUNITY] – (456-6914)
- LOUISVILLE WOMEN CHURCH – Meditation every Sunday (473-8435)
- LOUISVILLE YOUTH GROUP – Friday nights (502-587-7755), louisvilleyouthgroup.com
- LOUISVILLIANS IN FAVOR OF EQUALITY (LIFE) – 4th Sunday (384-3875)
- METRO SWEEP FOR ACCESS – 3rd Tuesday (895-0866 or 899-9261)
- METROPOLITAN HOUSING COALITION – 4th Wednesday (584-6858)
- MIGHTY KINDNESS – mightykindness@gmail.com (235-0711)
- MUHAMMAD ALI INSTITUTE FOR PEACE AND JUSTICE, at UL (852-6372)
- NAACP [NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF COLORED PEOPLE] – 3rd Monday (776-7608)
- NAMI [NATIONAL ALLIANCE FOR THE MENTALLY ILL] – 2nd Monday (245-5287)
- PARENTS, FAMILIES & FRIENDS OF LESBIANS AND GAYS (P-FLAG) – 3rd Sunday (329-0229)
- PEACE & COMPASSION BUDDHA CIRCLE/CML – (451-2193, brozier@bellsouth.net)
- RCRC [RELIGIOUS COALITION FOR REPRODUCTIVE CHOICE] – (866-606-0988)
- RESULTS (a hunger lobby) – 2nd Saturday (451-4907)
- SIERRA CLUB INNER CITY OUTINGS – 2nd Thursday, 7:30 PM (558-0073)
- WOMEN IN TRANSITION (WIT) – every Wednesday, 6-8 PM (636-0160)

Note: If your group would like to be added to this list or if information needs to be updated, please let us know by emailing calendar.peace@gmail.org

Calendar for peacemakers

Please e-mail us information about your peace and justice events to calendar.peace@gmail.com

May 1 & 2 **IMAGES OF PEACE AND EQUALITY.** The Kentucky Center for African American Heritage, Monday to Friday. Drawings and illustrations by Bob Weber an inductee of the National Directory of Artists of Color. Visit www.kcaah.org

May 1 to 9 **TELLING THE STORY OF ASIA THROUGH HATS.** The Crane House. An exhibit of hats from China, India, Thailand, Malaysia, Central Asia, Japan, Korea and others. Explore Asian cultures and traditions. Visit www.cranehouse.org

May 1 to 11 **STIRING THE FIRE.** Muhammad Ali Center, Monday to Saturday. Photography on the lives of woman and girls worldwide. <http://alicenter.org>

May 1 to 26 **GIVE PEACE A CHANCE.** Muhammad Ali Center, Monday to Saturday. Join John Lennon & Yoko Ono's "Bed-In" for peace in 1969 through stories and photos. <http://alicenter.org>

May 1 to 31 **IDENTITY EXHIBIT.** Weber Gallery, Mon to Fri. Artists self-identified as a "person with a disability" display their artwork in all media and reflecting the many ways they learned their art form. Visit <http://webergallery.org>

May 1 (Thurs) **KENTUCKY SINGLE PAYER HEALTH CARE.** Every first & third Thursday, 5:30PM at Main Public Library. Call Kay Tillow 636-1551.

May 1 (Thurs) **DEADLINE FOR THE NEXT ISSUE OF *FORsooth*.** Contact John Hartmann, editor, at 296-1793 or johart.john@gmail.com. Please email new or updated calendar listings to calendar.peace@gmail.com.

May 3 (Sat) **SATURDAY ACADEMY.** DuValle Education Center, 11AM, every Saturday. African American history, culture, and current issues. Free. Call Prof. Ricky L. Jones for more information, 852-5985.

May 3 (Sat) **HOME REPAIR VOLUNTEERS.** Fuller Center for Housing of Louisville. Every Saturday. All skill levels. Ask about our other volunteer opportunities. For more information, call 272-1377.

May 3 (Sat) **ENGLISH CONVERSATION CLUB.** Every Saturday at the Iroquois & Newburg Public Library Branches, 3PM. Also Main Library & Bon Air Library on Thursdays at 7PM. Practice conversational English with neighbors and friends from many parts of the world. Visit www.lfpl.org

May 3 (Sat) **SACK LUNCHESES FOR THE HOMELESS.** Every Saturday, 12pm to 2PM, Bates Community Development Corporation, 1228 S. Jackson Street. Call 636-0573 for more information.

May 3 (Sat) **CANVASS NEIGHBORHOODS FOR FRESH FOOD.** Saturdays and Sundays. Join us any time. Fresh Stop Project volunteers take orders door to door for locally grown fruits and vegetables. Visit <http://newrootsproduce.org>

May 3 (Sat) **JEFFERSON MEMORIAL FOREST VOLUNTEERS.** Land Stewart Project. Every first Saturday, 9AM to Noon. Also, Wednesdays. Help improve landscape and protect native flora. Visit www.louisvilleky.gov/metroparks/jeffersonmemorialforest/

May 3 (Sat) **LOUISVILLE COMMUNITY AGRICULTURE.** Every Saturday morning. Also, other days and times. 26 farmers' markets from California neighborhood to Norton Commons. Visit www.louisvilleky.gov/HealthyHometown

May 4 (Sun) **"AIM HIGHER"** focusing on military counter-recruitment. Every first Sunday at 7 PM, 2236 Kaelin Avenue at the FOR office. Discuss conscientious objection, military recruitment, and the possibility for high school students to "opt out" of having their names given to recruiters. Call Jim Johnson, 262-0148.

May 4 (Sun) **CONCERT FOR CONTEMPLATION.** Francis of Assisi Catholic Church, 7PM. Music by Jazz musician Harry Pickens to fill your need for compassion. Re-connect to your source within. Visit <http://paths2peace.org>

May 5 (Mon) **BICYCLES FOR HEALTH AND CLEANER AIR.** Louisville Bicycle Club, Every Monday, weather permitting. Fat Forty at 8:45AM. Recovery Ride at 6:45PM. Visit www.louisvilleky.gov/bikelouisville.

May 5 (Mon) **SISTERS WHO CARE SUPPORT GROUP.** Parkland Family Scholar House, 6PM to 8PM. Every Monday, Enhancement, communication, healthy relationships and family management in a supportive environment. Call 583-6820 for more information.

May 5 (Mon) **COMMUNITY COALITION ON THE HEALTHY HOMETOWN.** Metro Health & Wellness Dept., 5:30PM. Committees meet every Monday on community goals for Mental Health, Violence Prevention, Tobacco Cessation, or Fitness & Nutrition. For more information, call 574-6209.

May 5 (Mon) **Y-NOW CHILDREN OF PRISONERS MENTORING,** YMCA Safe Place, after school any weekday. Help break the cycle through mentoring and encouragement. Call 635-5233 for more information.

May 6 (Tues) **HOOR OF POWER BOOK DISCUSSIONS.** Newburg Public Library, every first Tuesday, 1PM. Discussions of books by contemporary authors on personal efforts to overcome the challenges of abuse, oppression, deprivation, discrimination, or disabilities. Visit www.lfpl.org

May 7 (Wed) **START A VEGETABLE GARDEN.** St. Matthews Public Library, 2:30PM. Join master gardener Judy Buckler for practical ideas on growing vegetables at home. Visit www.lfpl.org

May 7 (Wed) **NOONTIME INTERFAITH MEDITATIONS.** Every Wednesday from 12:10 to 12:30 at Christ Church Cathedral, Downtown. Weekly rotation includes Zen Buddhist silence, Lecto Divina, Vipassana Buddhist practices, and Creative Visualization. Visit <http://paths2peace.org>

May 7 (Wed) **NATURE PRESERVE VOLUNTEERS.** Blackacre State Nature Preserve. Every Wednesday, 9AM to Noon. Help care for gardens, trails, and farmland. Visit www.blackacreconservancy.org

May 7 (Wed) **CITIZENSHIP TUTORS.** Kentucky Refugee Ministries, 6:30 to 8:30PM. Every Wednesday & Thursday,

11AM to 1PM. Help students study for the citizenship exam. Ask about our other volunteer opportunities. Call 479-9180 Ext 57 for more information.

May 7 (Wed) **THE LOUISVILLE SUSTAINABILITY FORUM.** Every first Wednesday. Sustainability and relationships that create a community for change. Bring your lunch. Noon to 1:45 PM, Passionist Earth & Spirit Center, the Barn at 1924 Newburg Road.

May 7 (Wed) **MEETING OF THE MINDS.** Crescent Hill Public Library, 7 PM. A group discussion on many of today's most challenging public issues. Visit www.lfpl.org

May 7 (Wed) **REAL PEOPLE, REAL CHALLENGES, REAL SOLUTIONS.** Volunteers of America Family Emergency Shelter. 4PM to 5PM.. One hour interactive tour of VOA's work and programs for self-determination. For more information, call 636-4660

May 8 (Thurs) **AMERICAN PALESTINE PUBLIC AFFAIRS FORUM (APPAPF).** Every second Thursday. A documentary film exploring the situation in Middle East will be presented. 7 PM, Louisville Presbyterian Seminary, Nelson Hall, Room 119. For more information, call Bashar Masri, 773-1836.

May 8 (Thurs) **FRIENDSHIP FORCE OF LOUISVILLE.** 2nd Thursday in odd months, 6:30PM. Help plan and participate international goodwill exchanges. Visit www.thefriendshipforce.org

May 9 (Fri) **AFRICAN AMERICAN ARCHIVES TOUR.** Western Public Library, 10:30AM. Peruse the African American book collection. Short documentary. Light refreshments. Visit www.lfpl.org

May 9 (Fri) **A GLIMPSE OF ETERNITY.** The Louisville Astronomical Society at dusk in Tom Sawyer Park. Every 2nd Friday. Look through telescopes at planets, our moon, stars, double stars, the Orion nebula and other wonders. Visit www.louisville-astro.org

May 10 (Sat) **OLMSTEAD PARK VOLUNTEERS.** Bingham Park, 9AM to Noon. Help maintain and restore our urban forests. Visit www.olmsteadparks.org

May 10 (Sat) **EARTHSAVE POTLUCK.** Crescent Hill Ministries, 6PM to 8PM. Every 2nd Saturday. Bring a plant-based dish and share your recipe. Discuss healthy food and behavior change. Mix, mingle, music. For more information call 299-9520.

May 10 (Sat) **PEAK OIL.** Every 2nd Saturday, St. Matthews Public Library, 10 AM to Noon. Call George Perkins, 425-6645.

May 10 (Sat) **BIRDS, ECOLOGY AND RELATIONSHIPS.** Beckham Bird Club at the Clifton Center, 7PM. Every 2nd Saturday. Deepen your personal relationship with nature by observing and studying local birds. Visit www.beckhambirdclub.org

May 11 (Sun) **VETERANS FOR PEACE.** Every second Sunday, 3PM to 4PM. Heine Bros. Coffee at the Douglas Loop, Call 632-2177 for more information.

May 11 (Sun) **VIGIL FOR PEACE.** Every second Sunday. A remembrance of all those suffering from conflicts in the Middle East. Bring a sign. 5PM to 6 PM, Bardstown Road at Douglass Blvd. Sponsored by LPAC (Louisville Peace Action Community). For more information, call Harold Trainer at 387-9490.

May 12 (Mon) **URBAN LEAGUE YOUNG PROFESSIONALS.** Louisville Urban League, Every 2nd Monday, 6PM. Networking opportunities for emerging leaders of all minority backgrounds. Call the Urban League office for more info: 561-6830.

May 12 (Mon), **CANVASS FOR CIVIC ENGAGEMENT.** Kentuckians For The Commonwealth, Jefferson County Chapter, 7PM. Help plan a canvass of the Smoketown neighborhood to identify concerns and opportunities for engagement. Call 589-3188 or visit <http://kftc.org>

May 13 (Tues) **FOOD IN NEIGHBORHOODS COMMUNITY COALITION.** Shawnee Public Library, every 2nd Tuesday at 6:30PM. Help assess hunger needs and organize community action. For more information, call 819-2957.

May 13 (Tues) **FREE HOME ENERGY EFFICIENCY SEMINAR.** Energy Pros Sustainable Home Education Group, 6:30PM to 8:30PM. Learn the basics. Visit www.theenergypros.net

May 13 (Tues) **GREEN CONVENE.** Every second Tuesday at The Highland Green Building, 6:30PM. Join residents and policymakers in examining ways to connect the health of our community with our environment. Visit www.greenconvene.org

May 13 (Tues) **AMERICANA COMMUNITY CENTER.** Orientation at 7pm every second Tuesday. Learn how you can help immigrant families learn practical skills, join social networks, and improve language skills. Call 366-7813 to RSVP.

May 13 (Tues) **MOVIMIENTO DE MUJERES LATINA – LATINA WOMEN'S MOVEMENT,** La Casita Center, Every second Tuesday, 5:30PM. Network, mentor, find friends and share. Call 322-4036 for more information.

May 13 (Tues) **LUNCH & LEARN AT CATHOLIC CHARITIES.** St. Anthony Campus, 11:30AM to 1PM. Tour the refugee family center and learn more about community programs. Call 636-9786 for more information.

May 13 to 18 **FESTIVAL OF FAITHS.** Center for Interfaith Relations. This year's festival begins with an interfaith service at the Cathedral of the Assumption and continues with programs at Actors Theatre of Louisville. Visit <http://interfaithrelations.org>

May 14 (Wed) **KENTUCKY INTERFAITH TASKFORCE ON LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN (KITLAC).** Every second Wednesday at the 1741 Building on Frankfort Avenue. 7:30 PM. For more information, call David Horvath at 479-9262 or Pat Geier at 456-6586.

May 14 (Wed) **LOUISVILLE FORUM.** Every 2nd Wednesday, Noon at Vincenzo's Downtown. Speakers on current public issues. nonpartisan discussion. For details, call 329-0111.

May 15 **GROWING FOOD AND COMMUNITY.** 15 Thousand Farmers, at Dismas St. Ann's on Algonquin Pkwy, the 15th day each month. Share ideas and experiences about growing your own food. Taste samples. Visit www.15thousandfarmers.com

May 15 (Thurs) **MENTAL ILLNESS SUPPORT & ADVOCACY.** NAMI Louisville every third Thursday at

3PM. Also Saturdays and Sundays. Support group for families. Draw on years of experience. Visit www.namilouisville.org

May 15 (Thurs) **THIRD THURSDAY LUNCH.** Rudyard Kipling Restaurant, 11:30AM. Recognized speakers on compelling social, political and spiritual subjects. For more information, contact Cathy Ford, 458-1223, fordhoff@bellsouth.net or Polk Culpepper, 948-2077, cathyculpepper@insightbb.com

May 15 (Thurs) **FORsooth LABELING.** Presbyterian Seminary, Nelson Hall, Room 10. 6:30 PM. Every 3rd Thursday. We need volunteers! Many hands make light work, and the opposite is also true! So please join us if you can. Call 451-5658 for more information.

May 15 (Thurs) **COURT APPOINTED SPECIAL ADVOCATES FOR CHILDREN (CASA).** Orientation, Noon to 1PM. Learn how you can help defend the rights of abused and neglected children in our community. Call 595-4911 to RSVP

May 17 (Sat) **KENTUCKY WOMEN'S BOOK FESTIVAL.** UofL Ekstrom Library, 9AM to 3:30PM. A celebration of women writers and their readers. Readings, discussions and workshops. Visit <http://Louisville.edu/womenscenter>

May 17 (Sat) **CULTURAL SHOWCASE: IRELAND.** Iroquois Public Library, 1PM. Meet your neighbors who originated in Ireland. Learn more about their history and traditions. Visit www.lfpl.org

May 19 (Mon) **SOCIAL CHANGE BOOK CLUB.** Every third Monday, Heine Bros., 119 Chenoweth, 6PM. For book list, Visit www.greenlistlouisville.com

May 20 (Tues) **DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES WORKSHOP.** Every third Tuesday, 11AM to 1PM. Expressions Café at The Council on Developmental Disabilities. Learn how an Individualized Education Program (IEP) is prepared for a child with a disability. Address barriers to inclusion. Call 584-1239

May 21 (Wed) **INTERNATIONAL BOOK CLUB.** Main Public Library, Noon. Every third Wednesday. Read your way around the world. See the booklist at our webpage. Visit www.lfpl.org

May 21 (Wed) **GRANTMANSHIP BASICS FOR NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS.** Main Public Library, 6PM TO 8PM. Learn the research process, find resources, and write successful proposals. Visit www.lfpl.org

May 21 (Wed) **ARABIC SALON.** Iroquois Public Library, 7PM. Readings from the literature of Arabic culture and tradition. Meet neighbors who originated in other countries. Visit www.lfpl.org

May 23 to 26 **KENTUCKY REGGAE FESTIVAL,** 3005 River Road. Live reggae bands, authentic Jamaican food, and entertainment for kids. Visit kentuckyreggaefestival.com

May 27 (Tues) **FREE NONPROFIT STARTUP CLINIC.** Center for Nonprofit Excellence, 3:30PM. Learn about the fundaments and how to avoid the pitfalls. Visit www.cnpe.org

May 27 (Tues) **GREEN NETWORKING.** Louisville Green Drinks, 6:30PM to 8:30PM. Every 4th Tuesday. Meet ecology-minded business people. Exchange ideas. Visit www.greendrinks.org

May 28 (Wed) **COMPASSIONATE LOUISVILLE.** Noon, meeting locations rotate. Help monitor the progress of Metro Louisville's ten-year campaign for compassion. Call 214-7322 for more information.

May 31 (Sat) **FROM GARDEN TO TABLE.** Iroquois Public Library, 2:30PM. Join Ron Smith of The Root Garden for practical ideas on growing vegetables at home. Visit www.lfpl.org

June 7th (Sat) **23RD ANNUAL FLOYDS FORK CREEK SWEEP** by canoe, kayak or on foot. Contact the Floyd's Fork Environmental Association at FloydsForkCreek@aol.com for information on how to help out!

OUT OF TOWN

May 1 to 20 **KENTUCKY ACLU / FAIRNESS ORGANIZING MEETINGS.** A Kentucky law that would prohibit discrimination against LGBT people received its first-ever hearing in the House Judiciary Committee in March. Participate in meetings to build on that milestone in Berea, Elizabethtown, Morehead, Frankfort, and Campbellsville. Visit www.aclu-ky.org

May 1 (Thurs) **INTERFAITH PRAYER VIGIL FOR PEACE.** Lexington, KY at West Main and Broadway, 5:30PM to 6:30PM. Every Thursday for eleven years. For more information, Call 859-327-6277.

May 5 (Mon) **KENTUCKY MIGRANT NETWORK COALITION.** Lexington KY at the Cardinal Valley Center, 12PM. Every first Monday. Get better acquainted with Kentucky's immigrant and refugee families. For more information, call 859-258-3824.

May 10 (Sat) **KENTUCKY RIVER WATERSHED WATCH TRAINING,** KY Division of Water, 9AM to 3PM. Also may 17th. Training for volunteers who conduct surveys on streams, rivers and lakes. For more information, call 800-928-0045.

May 17 (Sat) **THE NATURE CONSERVANCY OF KENTUCKY.** Study spring wildflowers during our three hour hike through Hickman Memorial Nature Preserve in Rockcastle County. Visit www.nature.org

May 17 to 18 **METCALFE COUNTY NATIVE AMERICAN POW WOW.** Edmonton, KY. Join us as we dance for the Creator and fellowship with one another. Host drums by E.T.O.I.D Spirit Voices. All drums welcome. Visit www.powpows.com.

May 23 (Fri) **APPALATIN FUSION.** Moon Dance Amphitheater in Lexington, KY, 8PM. Hear the Appalachian and Latin fusion of performers hailing from Hazard, Richmond, & Louisville plus Ecuador, Nicaragua, and Guatemala. Visit www.appalatin.com

May 30 to June 2, **ANNUAL RIVER RALLY.** River Network and Waterkeep Alliance, Westin Convention Center, Pittsburgh, PA. The nation's largest annual gathering of grassroots environmental leaders working to protect and restore our rivers. <http://kwalliance.org>