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July-August 2014

A Louisville tribute to the phenomenal Maya Angelou, 1928-2014

By Gracie Lewis

On Friday, June 6, 2014 the Urban League featured a Tribute to Dr. Maya Angelou who was one of the greatest women of our time. She was truly a “Phenomenal Woman.” Maya was a groundbreaking author, poet and civil rights activist. She was also a dancer, a singer and an actress. She was fluent in six languages: English, French, Spanish, Italian, Arabic and West African Fanti. She was mentor to Oprah Winfrey when she was a reporter. President Barack Obama awarded her with the 2010 Medal of Freedom award, one of the highest awards bestowed by a President to a citizen for their contribution to our society.

On January 20, 1993, President William Jefferson Clinton was inaugurated the first time around. And, on June 6, 2014, the audience heard a video with her speaking from her Inaugural Poem: “On the Pulse of Morning.” Benjamin K. Richmond, President & CEO of the Louisville Urban League gave the Welcome. The Master of Ceremony was Ann Bowden, Anchor/Reporter from WLKY News. She talked about Maya Angelou’s life which is absolutely amazing. The Rev. Barbara Haigler, Pastor of Broadway Temple AME Zion Church gave the Invocation. Following the Invocation, we heard Words of Praise and Gratitude for Dr. Angelou’s Works. Her poem “Phenomenal Woman” was read by Joy Priest, an Affrilachian Poet. Felicia Dixon, Actress, Writer, Director and a student at Simmons College



Maya Angelou

of Kentucky read her poem “Abundant Hope.” Keith McGill, Comedian, Theatre Artist, Educator read “When Great Trees Fall.” Lastly, Dr. Nefertiti Burton, Associate Dean of International Diversity and Outreach Program, Professor of Theatre at the University of Louisville read “Still I Rise.” This poem was a reflection of how she triumphed over adversity.

In conclusion of this inspirational tribute, John Johnson, Executive Director of the Kentucky Commission on Human Rights left us with a “Charge to the Community.” He said, “we gather today in celebration of the life of Maya Angelou...To

heed her call and challenge to us “to reach a little higher in pursuit of creating a just and equal society.”

John Johnson stated that Maya would hope that we would acknowledge her life by not only gathering on this day...with emotions of sadness...but by allowing her words to lift our souls to address issues of social inequality that yet remain in our community...

As Maya Angelou put it...“To be a rainbow in someone else’s cloud.” John Johnson said if she were here, she would remind us that...Entrusted in our care are the dreams of our slave fore parents of a life brimming with possibility. Entrusted in our care (individually and collectively) is the future of this generation of Louisville’s youth, which is often clouded by fear and in too many instances mired in the quicksand of hopelessness. Entrusted in our care is the responsibility laid down to us as parents...to raise up our children in God’s way... Believing that when they grow up, they will not stray from it. Entrusted in our care are the hopes and aspirations of generations of Louisvillians yet unborn.

John Johnson continued by charging us with challenging our city and state to be more caring and compassionate for the less fortunate members of our society. He reminded us that 50.8% of the children living in Kentucky live at or below the poverty level.

He closed by saying that Maya Angelou reminds us that “nothing can dim the light that shines from within.” The world is a better place because of her voice. We challenge each of you today to let your light shine and your voice rise...that it may break down barriers and bring not only hope and opportunity...but equality and justice to all of our community.

The Closing Remarks were rendered by Raoul Cunningham, President of the Louisville NACCP. He stated that Maya Angelou was a “global renaissance woman” and today as we reflect on D-Day, June 6, 1944 where 150,000 allied troops invaded Omaha Beach at Normandy, France and liberated a piece of Europe from Nazism. Maya Angelou, too waged an endless war for peace, justice and equality for all.

On Saturday, June 7 a Tribute was held at Wake Forest University where President Bill Clinton, the First Lady Michelle Obama and Oprah Winfrey were among the many famous admirers who joined family and friends in the private memorial service. What a day of reflection we had here in Louisville!

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.

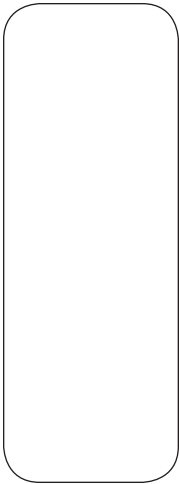


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Food Justice: Covenants for Sacred Farming and Sacred Eating

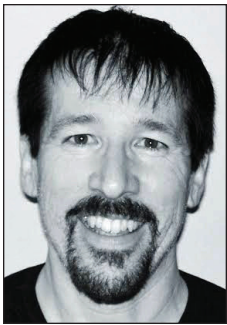
By Doug Lowry

The idea of 15Thousand Farmers, a Louisville, KY group I work with is to create, empower, and inspire 15thousand new, sustainable, urban farmers in Louisville, KY to feed their families and themselves. I also work with Sowers of Justice Network, a faith-community group working on several justice issues, including food justice. The fundamentals are important. Using simple and easy instructions, checklists, materials and ongoing support provided through local growers and resources 15Thousand Farmers helps new and once-again urban farmers grow food and other plants and animals. All of us eat, but how many of us know what it takes to grow food for ourselves or those in need? How many of us know the intimate connection between our plates and the more than human world?

The basics of food growing are important but the posture of food growing and food justice is just as important. The mechanics of growing are relatively simple

but there’s much more to farming than the procedures. It’s the same for food justice. Although important, merely talking food growing, or food policy to change hunger conditions can be very two dimensional. Personal and shared food farming makes the intention of sustainable food growing and food justice tangible.

I am often asked the difference between farming and gardening, and my simplest answer is that gardening is a hobby, but Sacred Farming is a way of life. Sacred Farmers view both food growing and food eating as hallowed acts. In an age of corporate farms, caged creatures, sprawling feedlots, chemically and



Doug Lowry

(continued on page 2)

INSIDE

- Page 3.....Deborah Denenfeld calls for the healing of Vets and their families who are dealing with Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) or Traumatic Brain Injuries (TBI) as they share the floor with others with Dancing Well: The Soldier Project
- Page 4..... Jacob Keisling is the 1st place winner of the FOR Peace Essay Contest
- Page 4..... Jamie D’Amato is the 2nd place winner of the FOR Peace Essay Contest
- Page 5..... Mukund Venkatakrishnan is the 3rd place winner of the FOR Peace Essay Contest
- Page 5..... Elli Cambron is the 4th place winner of the FOR Peace Essay Contest
- Page 6..... Kathleen Parks writes on how four young men were misidentified as police profiled them on the night that youth violence occurred at Waterfront Park and in West Louisville

WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT!

Hello *FORsooth* Reader!

Did you know that it costs \$800.00 to produce and distribute each issue of *FORsooth*? FOR and the editors at *FORsooth* work hard to bring you progressive voices from your community—providing a rare and precious platform for issues that are too often drowned out in the mainstream media. If you value the news and opinions you read here, please consider supporting *FORsooth* by making a tax-deductible donation to the Louisville FOR.

Please make checks payable to the Fellowship of Reconciliation, and mail to:

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Covenants for Sacred Farming and Sacred Eating *(continued from page 2)*

genetically modified organisms and heavy petrochemical, pesticide, and food additive use, Sacred Farming is a commitment to sustainable wholesome food growing, food purity, consideration of and inclusion of the more that human world in our eating, mindful eating, including others at our dinner table, changing conditions for the hungry, and making food growing, gleaning, harvesting, food preservation and eating personal and communal contemplative practices.

Food growing can be as simple as raising veggies in a raised bed, back yard, or communal plot. Urban farming—eating or growing—can be all about food production with little to do with interior states or changing the conditions that cause hunger, ill health, environmental degradation and plundering of the natural world. But Sacred Farming is something else. Sacred Farming asks the contemplative questions amidst the practical ones. Off-grid food growing is an act of revolution, an act of resiliency, an act of peace and an act of justice. Farming can be an act of transformational meaning-making, an act of more-than-human connection, and an act of community, spiritual, and contemplative significance. Food growing finds us in solidarity with the hungry, and also in solidarity with a generative energy that offers both source and substance for our justice work. Sacred Farming actually requires us to change our being. Planting seeds brings us fully present to the generative power of growing, the rhythms of nature, the why questions that erupt in the garden and at the dinner table, and the sense of awe, wonder, and serendipity that colors those who practice Sacred Farming.

Sacred Eating knows about and identifies cases of and causes of inequity but also identifies abundance and serendipity as solutions to overwhelming need. Sacred Eating asks the right questions. What does compassionate eating look like? Do we hunger for a different relationship with our neighbors? Do we know food pantries as symptoms, not solutions? How do we reclaim our source



Some members of 15Thousand Farmers together for a recent seed-starting workshop

as the soil, the farmer, and the farm, not the warehouse or grocery store?

Covenants for Sacred Farming and Sacred Eating:

- Let's grow our own food, and grow the sense of community and opportunity in our neighborhoods. We'll meet our neighbors and meet their needs around a common interest – growing, cooking, and eating. We'll grow together, cook together, and eat together. We'll live and eat in voluntary simplicity – in solidarity with those facing involuntary simplicity.
- Let's invite mindful eating by eating simply, by being grateful and giving thanks before, during, and after each meal. We'll eat more slowly, savor each mouthful, and consider the people, land, plants, and creatures involved in bringing us life. We'll share our plates with the hungry, including the more than human world.
- Let's build community resiliency, self-sufficiency, and acquire new skills. We'll trade seeds, plant starts, herbs & medicinals, and share growing and raw food use techniques, pest avoidance tactics, and composting practices. We'll share food preservation skills. We'll glean food from nearby farms to feed the hungry and change the condition of those in need.
- Let's take back our power of choice and invite new ways to grow and give! We'll grow our own food and make

more abundant what we hold dear – abundant, inexpensive, delicious, nutritious sustainable food, sharing with friends, serving those in need, and saving money. We'll reconnect with the natural world, and make new friends in our neighborhoods, transforming this community and the world.

- Let's grow and buy our food locally from CSAs and food co-ops and reduce our dependence on fuel as we buy less stuff that has been shipped in from distant states or countries. We'll create opportunity for local farmers, food justice non-profits, and for others seeking to help us live sustainably. We'll improve the lives of those most in need, and help them get both fresh food and fresh starts.
- Let's expand the concept of urban farming to growing orchard and other trees and

edibles locally as well as growing native plants for rain gardens and landscaping. We'll reforest our community with trees and other plants grown locally by those in need. We'll surround a ring of parks not with a ring of homes, but a ring of farms. We'll slow and clean storm water. We'll fund projects like vermiculture, greenhouses, aquaculture, rabbit, goat and poultry growing as sustainable income generators for those in need. We'll include certified kitchens, food marketing, food delivery, and food-product launching as viable alternatives for those in need.

- Let's grow sustainably. We'll affect soil quality, urban temperatures, climate change and pollution as we grow, share, and eat our food and plants. Let's reconnect with and be abundance and healing for the more than human world and humans in need.

Doug Lowry, aka Planta Claus, a consultant with New Possibilities Associates, works with 1741 Collaboratory, Sowers of Justice Network, 15Thousand Farmers, and several other community nonprofits. A Food Justice Working Group sponsored by the Sowers of Justice Network and 15Thousand Farmers is gathering around these issues. To be part of the discussion and the action, contact Doug Lowry@15kfarmers@gmail.com

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

Annual Hiroshima/Nagasaki Commemoration Events

PRESENTED BY
Interfaith Paths to Peace & The Louisville Chapter of the Fellowship of Reconciliation

Traditional Japanese Lantern Floating Ceremony



Honoring the Victims of the Atomic Bombings of Hiroshima & Nagasaki

**8 pm, Saturday
August 9th**

**Willow Lake at Cherokee Park
(corner of Grinstead & Lexington)**

Bring a chair or blanket and experience this family-friendly event that includes reflections, prayers, readings, music by local artists, and...

Featuring an
Asian Lion Dance

**by the Louisville
Lion Dance Team**



At the conclusion, those present are invited to float lighted lanterns in the traditional Japanese fashion in remembrance of departed loved ones

AND... Join us for the annual Bell Tolling Ceremony

**Marking the 69th Anniversary
of the atomic bombings**

WEDNESDAY, AUG. 6TH AT NOON

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A dance toward healing by veterans, their families

By Deborah Denenfeld

“Swing your partner.... Now promenade.” The dancers step easily to the live music, big smiles on their faces, moving in circles and sometimes seeming to twist themselves in knots as they respond to the caller at the AmVets Hall in Germantown. Grey-haired men and women dance with young kids and everyone seems to be having a great time.

What you might not know from watching is that many of these dancers haven’t danced in years. Some have never danced in their lives. And some have faced remarkable challenges in simply getting to this place – a place where they can be around others, enjoy themselves, and just relax.

In this special dance series, veterans and families affected by Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) or Traumatic Brain Injuries (TBI) share the floor with others. The group meets ten times over five weeks, forming a close-knit community where veterans, spouses, and their children can gather in a safe place and share in the magic and fun of community dance. Dancing Well: The Soldier Project, a nonprofit organization based in Louisville, organized this free series.

“After each session I feel better overall,” says one veteran. “I enjoy the fellowship and just having the time to relax. Being able to be out of my element, I see that my depressive state changes!” Another writes, “I don’t care what kind of day I’ve had, I’m smiling from the time I come until the time I leave.” And still another: “I get to get out and be with people. Otherwise, I’d just be sitting in my apartment, staring at the walls all by myself every day.”



Deborah Denenfeld

Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder is a debilitating illness that develops after exposure to an extremely frightening, life threatening, or highly unsafe experience. Those affected report intense isolation and distress, including:

- acute discomfort in group settings
- difficulty relating to others
- feeling constantly tense and “on guard”
- re-experiencing the original trauma through nightmares or flashbacks
- inability to cope with daily living
- difficulty falling or staying asleep
- difficulty remembering things

The latest government statistics indicate that 1 in 4 soldiers returning from Iraq or Afghanistan have PTSD or TBI, along with countless other veterans from previous wars.

I originally came upon the idea that dance might help these individuals when psychiatrist Edwin Walker at Fort Knox contacted me about calling a dance series there. Walker worked with active duty soldiers with PTSD or TBI who were being evaluated for possible discharge or return to action overseas. He knew about community dance and wondered if it might help his clients.

Working together, Walker and I created a dance series attuned to the needs of afflicted veterans. The outcomes were amazing. One hundred percent of participating soldiers reported reduced anxiety, improved mood and memory, improved relationships, and a better outlook on the future. Remarkably, fifty percent even reported a decrease in their physical pain.

Based on these outcomes, I founded Dancing Well: The Soldier Project with a vision of providing dance experiences to afflicted veterans and their families. Eventually I plan to lead dances around the country and then train others to bring dance to this population in their home communities.

The program is designed to benefit family members as well as veterans. One mother brought her son and his roommate,



Vets, gals and Vets with families Dancing Well to the music and the calling of Deborah Denenfeld

both vets with PTSD, and later shared the impact of the experience:

They had a great time and I did as well. It’s been 12 years for my son with his brain trauma and 10 for his roommate. I found my son’s roommate living on the streets, and we took him in about 3 years ago. I have tried all sorts of things to see them smile – last night was the first unforced smiles I have seen from both of them. They have already thanked me numerous times and called me today to make sure we can come again tomorrow. I thank you with all my heart for what you are doing for these veterans and their families.

Other family members have shared similar stories. The young son of one of the participating veterans simply wrote, “I wish we could do this every day.”

Members of the local dance community and others served as volunteer partners for veterans attending on their own and helped fill out the dance sets. Over the course of the dances, friendships formed and veterans were soon recognized and greeted by name as soon as they walked in the door.

People with PTSD often experience anxiety in large groups and unfamiliar

settings, so the dances are kept purposely small, with volunteers returning throughout the series. Each session builds on the last and dances are reviewed frequently. It is this structured, supportive environment that creates the sense of safety and community that is so powerful for these individuals.

The veterans and families who participated in the Dancing Well series are eager to continue dancing. Dancing Well: The Soldier Project plans to create an ongoing dance for local veterans and families as soon as necessary funding is raised. To make a tax-deductible donation, please go to www.DancingWell.org.

Volunteers are also needed to help with behind the scenes tasks, at dances, and with planning, publicity, and fundraising. Those wishing to volunteer, veterans and families wishing to participate, and others wanting to learn more may contact Deborah Denenfeld at Deborah@DancingWell.org or (502)889-6584.

Deborah Denenfeld is the founder and Executive Director of Dancing Well: The Soldier Project. She has over 20 years of experience as a Teaching Artist in the Schools, dance caller, and dance educator. In addition to her work at Dancing Well and in schools, she leads dancing at the local contra dance, weddings, and private parties.



European anti-immigrant racism--and the fightback against it

By Ira Grupper

I visited nine cities, in as many countries, in Europe, from April 8 thru May 12. There is a dangerous growing movement in opposition to immigrants spreading across the continent. I wanted to know why.

What fuels it? Is it racist? Is it fascist? Is it something else?

Michael Privot, based in Brussels, Belgium, is executive director of ENAR--the European Network Against Racism. He helped me arrange my itinerary. Many wonderful people, from labor, media and other organizations, also assisted me.

Colleagues I knew in the U.S. Civil Rights Movement in the Deep South in the 1960s, who currently live in Europe, also helped. Advocates for peace, both Palestinian and Jewish, provided invaluable contacts in several countries.

I spent three to five days each in Athens, Greece; Budapest, Hungary; Vienna, Austria; Munich, Germany; Fribourg, Switzerland. Then I continued on to Turin, Italy; Brussels, Belgium; Paris, France; and London, England.

LABOR PAEANS

In Greece there is the Golden Dawn, a group that, I was told, openly wears the swastika. In Hungary, the neo-fascist group Jobbek got 15% of the vote a few years ago. It polled 20% recently.

Back in Athens I met with representatives of five immigrant-rights groups, Roma (Gypsies), other Eastern Europeans, and Africans. They provided much background.

I had bought a Eurail Pass, hoping to travel by train from Athens all the way to London. But the trains in Greece ran irregularly, forcing me to fly from Athens to Budapest. The Greek economy, once very strong, is now at the beck-and-call of Angela Merkel and the German economic powerhouse--or so it seems.

Unemployment is growing throughout Europe. Sad to tell, rather than blame this on an economic model that puts profits before people, too many of Europe’s “white” working class curse immigrants, people of color and others who are “different”.

In Munich I attended an anti-fascist demonstration. How wonderful to see this in Germany. I was in Brussels during May Day, that U.S. holiday celebrated all over the world, except in the U.S.

I cannot possibly, in one column, give a complete description of what I found. But I can tell you that the recent voting across Europe shows a marked right-wing and, yes, neo-fascist growth that is scary.

I was on the radio and on television, thanks to Radio Afrika, and Afrika TV--based in Vienna. On the tv program I was honored to appear with an Austrian woman, originally from Syria. She was so politically sophisticated. The director, a gentleman originally from Rwanda, and his assistant, provided invaluable help.

Soma, my Austrian co-panelist, gave a sobering view of the growth of the radical right in her country. (To access this show by computer, go to <http://okto.tv/afrikatv/12350/20140428>).

Across Europe, including France and England, the reactionaries are on the rise.

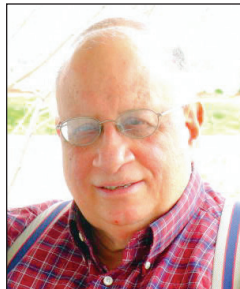
Friends in Budapest took me to the Great Synagogue, and to the side of it where

Jews, during the Hitler period, were lined up before being taken to the camps and the gas chambers. In Munich I was shown the house where Neville Chamberlain and Adolph Hitler signed the “peace-in-our-time” pact, objectively hastening the Nazi butchery.

I also visited the Dachau concentration camp, where there were imprisoned so many anti-fascists--Soviet soldiers; veterans of the International Brigades against Franco who fled Spain for France and were imprisoned when fascism came to France. There were many Jewish and Roma inmates, and a small number of Catholic priests.

I cannot predict the future. But I do know what Santayana wrote: those who refuse to learn from history are condemned to repeat it.

Contact Ira Grupper: irag@iglou.com



Ira Grupper

A Modest Proposal for the World’s Mineral Producing Nations

By Jacob Keisling
1st Place Winner, FOR High School Peace Essay Contest
DuPont Manual High School

The world, on the whole, is somewhat more peaceful than it once was. The major powers of Europe have at last ended their centuries-long quarrels and are at peace. The nations of Asia, though they still remain at an uneasy truce with one another, have definitely improved in relations since the early twentieth century, when open war and annexation was the norm in the region. Pakistan and India are, though definitely not in harmony, at least far less hostile than even twenty years ago. But nevertheless, violence and terrorism is still ongoing in much of the world, and particularly in Africa, where civil war rages on and repressive governments cling to power in dozens of states such as Zimbabwe, Angola, and the Democratic People’s Republic of Congo, where millions have been killed in bitter conflict.

The violence in these states, though certainly propelled by mutual animosity, has been historically supported by money gained from resource extraction, i.e. conflict minerals. The money gained from their sales is used to support terrorism and repression in these countries, and often the operations mining for precious metals are themselves instigators of violence; displacing indigenous people and in some cases allying with governments to arrest and kill protestors of their business activities. These outrages show no signs of abating.

Several solutions to this travesty have been attempted. In countries such as the USA and most European nations, governments have attempted to prevent the support of terrorism by restricting mineral exports



Jacob Keisling, 1st place winner of the FOR Peace Essay Contest

from states where this occurs. But these sanctions, such as the Kimberly process, are too limited and easily circumvented to significantly reduce sales of conflict minerals. The origins of most minerals are nearly impossible to verify, and it should be self-evident that repressive regimes will not reduce the means for their repression by restricting their chief source of income. International sanctions have often been enacted or proposed to prevent the purchase of resources from areas of conflict, but these sanctions often harm legitimate businesses and are often infeasible due to the reticence of members on the UN Security Council to pass such sanctions. If a solution is to be reached that will effectively prevent the sale of conflict minerals, it must be international

in nature but also have the power of a state to curtail the extraction of these minerals.

To this end, I propose the creation of a multinational organization with the charter of preventing the sale and extraction of conflict minerals. This organization will combat the spread of these resources by two missions agreed upon by a tier of signatories which at present actively participate in sales of valuable mineral resources that equal 2.5 billion dollars per year or four percent of GDP: 1) to restrict mining operations only to organizations not allied with or with ties to internationally recognized terrorist organizations, and 2) to abide by standards restricting the use of government funds gained from resource extraction to non-military organizations. To enforce these regulations, these signatories will enter into a joint policing organization which will locate and close mining operations tied to terrorist groups or active repression and will audit uses of governmental funds gleaned from tax revenue or direct income from resource sales. A second tier of signatories, which can consist of any state, will agree to allow only imports of mineral resources from the first tier and to also contribute manpower and resources to the aforesaid international policing organization. Doing so will ensure that signing this agreement is rewarded by greater trade and failure to sign will cause significant reductions in trade, encouraging nations to enter into this accord. These two measures and the system proposed above will effectively prevent any attempt to market conflict minerals by terrorist organizations or repressive governments.

The enforcement body for these regulations will primarily resemble law enforcement organizations and will be given similar authority. Once arrested, suspects

will be tried under the laws of their state of residence, but punishments and evidentiary procedures will be audited by both tiers of signatories to ensure fairness and to prevent corruption inside the justice system. Mission parameters of any crime-locating sweep will be agreed upon by majority vote and defined so as not to violate any human rights or have significant risk of causing civilian casualties as a direct consequence.

Such a compact is feasible. The two functions of the agreement espoused have already been implemented by separate organizations, with relatively high degrees of success. Firstly, the creation of a cartel to manage the production and distribution of natural resources has a precedent in OPEC, which has managed to convince former bitter competitors in the oil market (Venezuela, Saudi Arabia et al.) to agree to a set of common oil prices and quotas of resource extraction. Secondly, the unity and operational efficiency required for an international policing organization has been achieved to an extent by NATO, which has achieved high degrees of coordination and standardization in its joint military forces. The treaty proposed here is eminently achievable, as history has shown.

In conclusion, if the bitter strife and repression caused by unrestricted resource extraction is to be prevented with any degree of success, it must be prevented by the world community, and the most expedient and just way to do so is through an international accord with meaningful authority to restrict the funding of violent activity by resource extraction in this part of the world. If the world is to protect its citizens from the armed violence caused by conflict minerals, it must act swiftly to assail the sources of support for war and brutality.

The United States Wealth Gap

By Jamie D’Amato
2nd Place Winner, FOR High School Peace Essay Contest
DuPont Manual High School

Martin Luther King Jr.’s “Beyond Vietnam” speech touched upon the dangers of our nation’s increasing materialism, instructing us to “shift from a thing-oriented society to a person-oriented society”. Years later, this idea is just as relevant, if not more so. Our nation is facing the potentially dangerous problem of income inequality. There are constantly recurring debates over the topic of raising minimum wage, and with good reason; between 1979 and 2009, the most wealthy five percent of American families saw income increases of 72.7 percent, while the lowest income group in America saw a decrease of 7.4 percent in income. Meanwhile, in the same time frame; productivity has increased by 90 percent. These issues combined have caused a huge wealth gap in America. This is primarily due, of course, to the selfish

materialism of those higher ups who prefer to have millions of dollars for themselves while the very citizens that work for them barely have enough to feed themselves. While this conflict has not yet become violent, it could do so quickly. Think of the French Revolution in the eighteenth century--it was caused by the poor finally rebelling against the rich who oppressed them. Already, in the present, there are some forms of rebellion, albeit nonviolent. The Occupy Wall Street Movement has protested this income inequality.

While there are many different viewpoints on the subject, one solution to this issue is simple in theory: those with more must give to those with less. If the millionaire CEOs, whose incomes have more than quadrupled since the 1980s, would be willing to sacrifice some of their money so that the workers could just afford to live, the conflict could be solved. Raising the minimum wage and allowing workers a higher income is the simplest and easiest solution that would have good results for

all. While it seems clear that this idea would not be easily approved of by those CEOs, it has actually happened in the past, and is even happening right now.

In 1914, Henry Ford more than doubled the daily pay for his factory workers in Detroit. While they had previously earned \$2.25 per day, he raised wages to five dollars a day. Five dollars is approximately \$120 in today’s terms. This decision was revolutionary and memorable, and had positive results for all. His main argument was that he wanted his workers to be able to afford the products that they were making. While that was a valid reason, “It was mainly to stabilize the workforce,” according to Bob Kreipke, the corporate historian for Ford. It did just that, and very well. Prior to the raise in pay, car production was 170,000; in the year of the pay raise, it was 202,000. Ford as a company became even more renowned and wealthy, and workers were making double the average wages of that time period.

This solution has not become less applicable with the time; even today, some companies already pay far over minimum wage to their workers. Take Costco, for example. The president himself, in his recent State of the Union speech, praised Costco for their payment of employees. Costco workers, upon entrance, earn about \$11.50 per hour. On average, a Costco worker earns around \$21 per hour. As a result, Costco employees are loyal and 82 percent of them are covered by health insurance. Meanwhile, at companies like Wal-Mart, who pay approximately \$9.18 per hour to a full time employee. The only “negative” result is that the Costco CEO makes about 2.7 million dollars in one year (in 2004). In the same year, the CEO of Wal-Mart earned 17.9 million dollars. While 2.7 million dollars is more than enough to live on,--seeing as the average American earns about 40,000 dollars per year--many of these materialistic CEOs who, in contrast to what MLK Jr. instructed, value things over people, may be reluctant to sacrifice those extra millions of dollars. Still, this solution has been proven as a viable answer to the issue.

In a society in which people care more about themselves and their own possessions



Jamie D’Amato, 2nd place winner of the FOR Peace Essay Contest

than about the people around them, a solution must be found to close the wealth gap and help lessen income inequality. Today, the richest 400 Americans have approximately the same combined wealth as that of the nation’s poorest--a group consisting of 150 million people, which is half the population of the United States. This issue, leaving the bottom 80% of the population with only 7% of the nation’s wealth, has a clear solution; if CEOs (who make millions of dollars per year on the backs of their employees and whose income has increased exponentially over the past few decades were to give some of their money back to those who got them there by increasing the wages of workers, everyone would benefit. As made clear by previous examples such as Henry Ford in the early twentieth century and Costco in the present, this answer is feasible and will work efficiently and to everyone’s benefit. We are slowly moving toward this solution under the leadership of our president, who is already actively attempting to raise minimum wage to \$10.10 per hour. However, it will take a lot more effort on everyone’s part in order to close this wealth gap and end income inequality.

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A Pathway to a Lasting Peace

By Mukund Venkatakrishnan
3rd Place Winner, FOR High School Peace Essay Contest
DuPont Manual High School

Kashmir is located on the border between India and Pakistan and has been a continuous source of tension since the birth of the two countries in 1948. In the past two years, there have been 541 armed attempts to infiltrate the border, 65 terrorists killed in skirmishes with the Indian army, and dozens of civilians killed while trying to cross the border. It is necessary to de-escalate the current situation before it gets out of hand and progresses to war or other forms of armed conflict.

The Indian Subcontinent was granted independence from Britain and the region was carved into two countries, India and Pakistan. The region had several hundred princely states, and they were given 3 options; join India, join Pakistan, or remain independent. Most of the states in the south joined India as they had a Hindu majority, and most of the north-eastern and north-western states joined Pakistan because they had a Muslim majority population. After the majority of the princely states had made their decision, there remained a few states that were undecided. Kashmir was one of these states. Ultimately, although it had a majority Muslim population the Maharaja of Kashmir who was a Hindu, decided to remain independent.

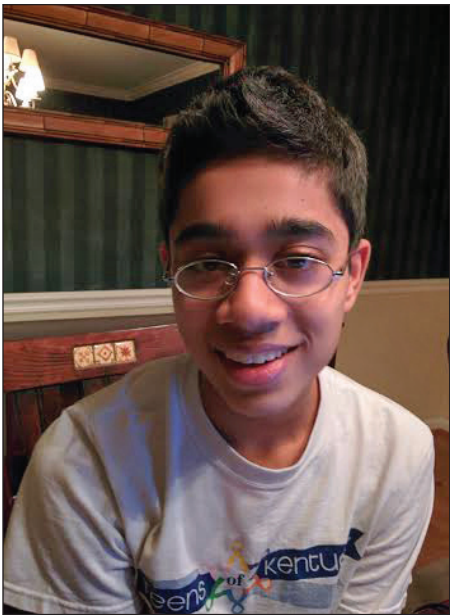
A few weeks after Kashmir’s decision, a group of Pakistani tribesmen, with support from Pakistani government, made rapid advances toward the Baramulla district (an administrative district) in Kashmir. The maharaja, who was in dire need of military assistance, appealed to India for help. India agreed to provide assistance to Kashmir on the condition that the maharaja cede

Kashmir to India. Out of desperation, the maharaja agreed and signed the Instrument of Accession, making Kashmir a part of India. Pakistan has never accepted that Kashmir is a part of India, and three wars have been fought over the issue.

The three stakeholders to finding a lasting solution regarding Kashmir are Pakistan, the people of Kashmir, and India. Pakistan wants a plebiscite to be held to determine the will of the Kashmiri people. It claims that since Kashmir’s decision to join India was made under duress, the decision is invalid and therefore a plebiscite in accordance with the series of resolutions the U.N. passed regarding the issue should be conducted. India on the other hand, maintains that the conditions in Kashmir are not conducive to the holding of a plebiscite. In addition, the holding of a plebiscite implies that India doesn’t have a legitimate claim to the region.

In the years since 1948, the people of Kashmir have become weary and skeptical of both India and Pakistan. The significant presence of the Indian armed forces coupled with that of terrorists has led to very harsh treatment of the local Kashmiri people. A section of them want to be free from both India and Pakistan; and still others are looking to join Pakistan. The Hindu minority of the population is the primary group that wants to remain part of India.

In addition to these three parties, the U.S. has a significant interest in fostering a peaceful relationship between India and Pakistan. Pakistan is a major ally of the U.S. in the War on Terror and the U.S. has many military bases in Pakistan. India is a major trade partner with the U.S. and acts as a counterbalance to the influence of Russia and China in the region. Thus, the de-escalation of the situation in Kashmir is important to the U.S., as it is heavily



Mukund Venkatakrishnan, 3rd place winner of the FOR Peace Essay Contest

invested in both countries.

To de-escalate the conflict, India and Pakistan need to come to a negotiation table where areas of mutual interest could be identified. The U.S. would act as mediator and function to create an atmosphere of congeniality and trust. Terms of engagement would be set by the U.S. and the rest of the international community, and they would hold the parties accountable to any breach.

The first step to de-escalating tension would be to loosen visa regulations between the two countries. Current visa regulations state that no traveler under the age of 12, over the age of 65, or travelling for business, needs to check in with police while traveling. While this is a good step to fostering trust between the two nations, an even better one would be to ease visa restrictions for tourism, student exchanges, and sports.

This would allow the people from the two nations to mingle which would reduce hostility between them.

After loosening visa regulations, a free trade agreement (FTA) should be created between the two countries. In situations similar to this, a FTA has decreased tension between the opposing parties and fostered good relations. In addition, FTAs substantially increase the amount of trade between the parties in question. This is because FTAs eliminate the tariffs between the parties making goods cheaper for them. This would be especially beneficial to India and Pakistan as the value of trade between them is a mere \$2.6 billion; however, with the implementation of a FTA, this number would increase exponentially. Although this wouldn’t eliminate all the tension in the region, it could lead to unwillingness toward armed conflict.

Partial demilitarization and the removal of troops from the Siachen Glacier would be the next step to reduce tension between the countries. The glacier is another contested region between India and Pakistan, but due to the physical conditions of the glacier, there are next to no armed attacks. Skirmishes are almost non-existent so even after troops have been removed, security is unlikely to be a problem. The demilitarization of the border here would save both countries resources and mutual trust.

The above three measures are small but significant steps that the U.S. and the rest of the international community could facilitate to de-escalate the situation enough to bring both India and Pakistan to a negotiation table regarding Kashmir. A lasting peace in the sub-continent would increase the economic strength of two already growing global powerhouses and contribute to the greater good of the international community.

A Lesson in Peace

By Elli Cambron
4th Place Winner, FOR High School Peace Essay Contest
DuPont Manual High School

A small girl, no more than eight years old, sits in her home. It is not really much of a home, because her community has been ripped to pieces by violence and war. All she knows is violence. She will grow up and if she’s lucky, she may be able to work in a factory, making barely enough to live on and continuously stuck in a rut because of an infrastructure that relies on violence. So what can she do? She has two equally destructive choices, she can either engage in the violence and tear her community further, or become a victim of it.

We cannot simply end violence, we have to construct peace. Unlike the way in which darkness is the absence of light, peace is not simply the absence of violence. Peace is a continual state of mind, which must be constantly carried out and practiced. What we are truly trying to teach the world is that they do not need violence to solve anything and therefore they should cast it aside. Peace will open doors for them, and knowing that with all confidence will allow them to actually use peace to create a new world for themselves. Nonviolence saves lives, but peace creates lives.

We need a structure that can be distributed to every country of the world. That structure is education in peace. “A good education is another name for happiness,” said writer Ann Plato. By showing the youth of the world that knowledge of how to attain what they want peacefully will lead to opportunity and happiness, we will be able to build the platform of a nonviolent generation. We can accomplish this with a long-term antiviolence education system.

It is evident in the current conflicts of the world the great extent to which an education of peace can affect a movement. In Canada, for example, a conflict over language in Quebec has been going on for decades. Canada is a developed country with an equally developed education system. No violence has occurred as a result of this conflict.



Elli Cambron, 4th place winner of the FOR Peace Essay Contest

In comparison we can see less developed countries with less developed education systems strongly rely on violence to solve problems. Take Rwanda, for example, a developing country which saw conflict between Hutu and Tutsi ethnic groups. The conflict resulted in over 800,000 deaths. This is because violence was the only way Rwanda’s people believed they could solve anything. With an education structure, coinciding with a strong emphasis on peaceful problem solving, the next generation of leaders will seek to solve conflict with calm words and not machetes.

The United Nations is a supranational organization which holds great global influence, and is an organization in which 192 out of the world’s 194 sovereign countries are involved. One way to institute this initiative would be to cooperate with the United Nations. With their help they will be able to implement a program that educates the youth of each and every country so that violent groups have no one to recruit toward their violent agendas. In my opinion, establishing this program first within the countries of the U.N. Security Council would be the most effective way to gain favor of this idea in the largest number of

countries. Once countries adopt this idea, we can start teaching children the essential doctrines of peacefulness.

We cannot underestimate the importance of the actual teaching itself. There are few things more inspiring than a person who wishes to change something, and with the power of peace and persistence, is able to make a tremendous change to a system. Such examples have inspired me since I was a small child, and could do the same for children all around the world. Teaching children the effective and pacifistic ways of leaders like Martin Luther King Jr, Gandhi, and Nelson Mandela will be some of the most important parts of this program.

Students can start learning these things as soon as they enter school. Each year they will be able to explore these doctrines further in depth. If we start on a micro level and work our way up to the macro, children will be able to see how peace in aspects of their own community, eventually leads to

peace around the entire world.

Students making personal connections to peaceful leaders and movements will teach them that peace is a crucial component for an efficient and content society, and in turn they will grow to respect peace, and then in turn will refuse violence. If children are able to understand how to use peace within their own community, they will be able to use it when they are the leaders of their country, and find nonviolent solutions to global issues.

A woman sits in her home. But now, instead of in a torn-up shack, she lives in what feels like a home. Because she believes in peace, and so does the rest of her generation, they are able to build a safe and knowledgeable public. Knowing how peace will make the entire community better has given her hope, and has made her part of a cycle that will educate the generation after, and after. She is not a victim; she has built a life with peace, and has begun to save a community.

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‘Our sons were targeted to take the fall,’ parents of 4 say

By Kathleen Parks

On March 22, 2014, the lives of four young men — Shaquazz Allen, Tyrone Booker, Jr., Jerron Bush, and Craig Dean — were forever transformed when they were misidentified by police on the night that youth violence occurred at Waterfront Park and in West Louisville. These young men were charged with alleged crimes they could not possibly have committed. Consequently they were arrested, and their faces appeared on television. As a result, they lost jobs, cars, and for several of them, opportunities to attend college.

Their dreams were shattered, while the police and the mayor’s office claimed to be creating a safer city as they prepared for the upcoming Kentucky Derby festivities.

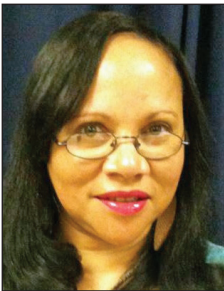
Several days after the incident, the parents and a cousin of these young men contacted the Kentucky Alliance against Racist and Political Repression and the newly founded National Action Network Metro Chapter (NAN) seeking help, saying they had no other organizations to turn to. As chairperson and president of these two organizations, I responded to the families.

Having seen the images on television, I was somewhat familiar with the charges. I thought about what had happened to Reverend Al Sharpton when he hastily took on the Tawana Brawley case, a rape case which turned out to be a hoax in the 1980s. (He discussed it in his latest book, “The Rejected Stone: Al Sharpton and the Path to American Leadership.”)

I proceeded very cautiously and just listened to the parents as they described from their perspective what had occurred. Upon coming into the office and filling out civil rights complaints, they informed me that they had an attorney working on the case. Attorney Jan Waddell had taken the case when no one else would. According to Waddell, the judge refused to hear cell phone record evidence proving that several of the young men were not in the vicinity of the alleged crimes when they happened.

The facts of the case are that these young men were simply sitting on the front porch with their cousins when the police pulled up and detained them because they seemed to match a general description of suspects of an armed robbery that had taken place in the area between 8:40 pm and 8:55 pm on March 22, 2014.

The police report indicates that the police then brought the robbery victims there. The victims remained seated in the back seat of the police car while the young men were made to stand side by side in a “line up format” as the police shined a spot light on their faces. The two robbery victims allegedly identified them as the four young men who had robbed them at gunpoint. The alleged identification was not recorded



Kathleen Parks

on the police video camera, although the vehicle was equipped with a camera. Two police officers later testified that the audio equipment in their car was defective.

Attorney Waddell said it was the highly suggestive nature of the identification procedure that led to the misidentification and the arrest of his clients.

Innocent black men racially profiled

After studying the facts of this case, I am convinced that these four young men were racially profiled. There were two descriptions given by two different witnesses. Neither description matched the other nor matched these four young men. The only match was the color of their skin.

In two probable-cause hearings, one LMPD officer rendered contradictory testimony in which his first sworn statement indicated that the robbery victim gave a description of her assailants as being between 5’-8” and 5’-10” tall. In the second hearing, the same officer stated the assailants were of medium build, and he assumed that to be between 5’-5” and 6’-0” tall. He revised his statement after seeing that one of the four young men accused is 5’-6”, and the other three are over 6’-0” tall.

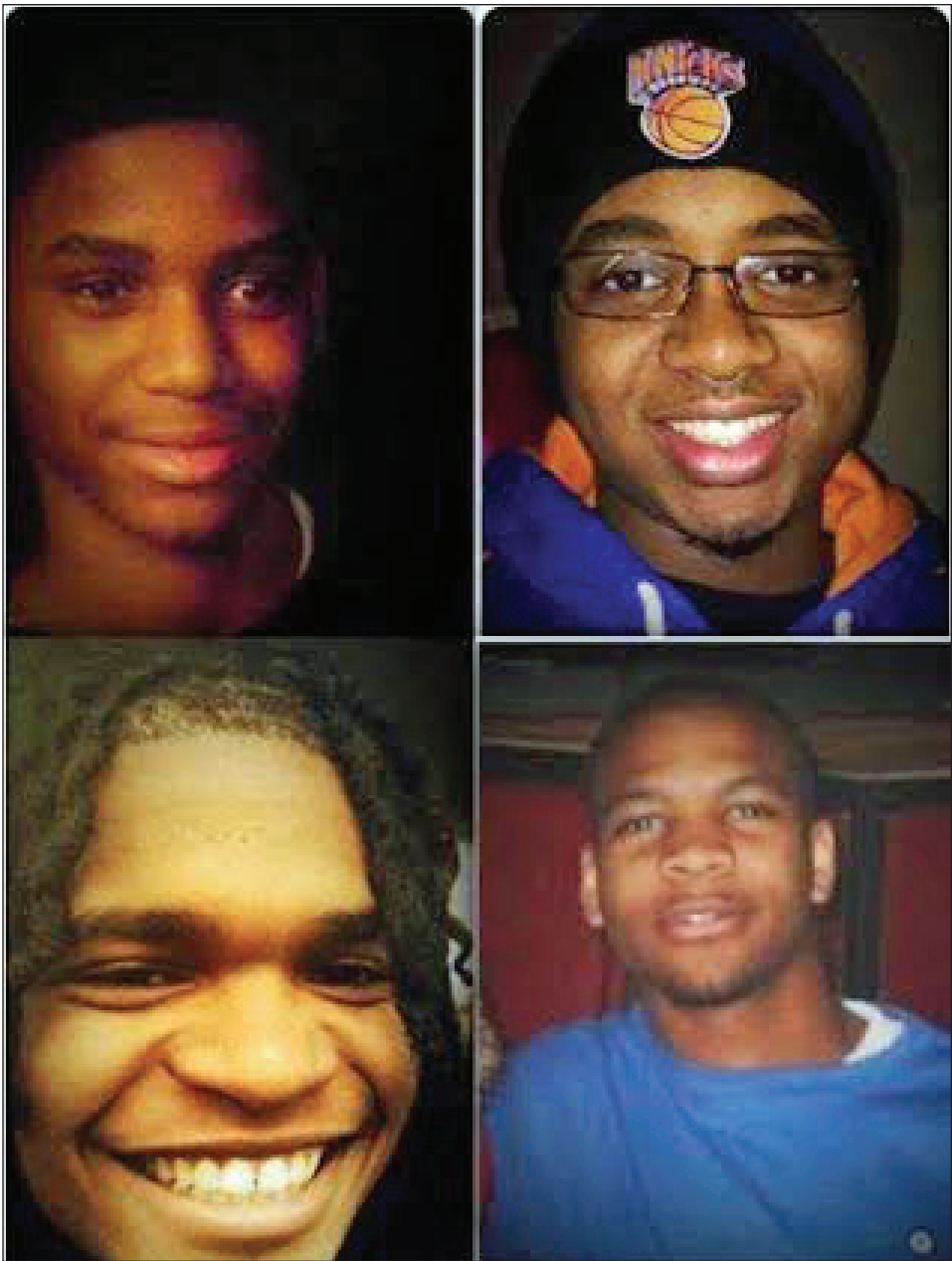
Later, a review of cell phone records revealed that two of these young men, Tyrone and Shaquazz, were miles away from the crime scene when it happened. And WLKY-Channel 32 reported that an in-store surveillance video camera clearly showed Tyrone at a Thornton’s Food Mart in St. Matthews miles away at the time of the robbery.

These young men had no knowledge of these crimes taking place and had no criminal backgrounds. They had no criminal records as juveniles or adults.

The parents of the young men said, “Our sons just happened to be visiting their cousin that night. The police seem to have just arrested the first four young black men they saw. The police never looked for anyone else. Case closed. Our sons were targeted to take the fall for a police department that failed to protect and serve you, me, and these tax-paying young men — yes, they had jobs.”

One of the parents said, “The media has portrayed my son and nephews to be violent young men. My sisters and I raised our boys to be respectful and very well-mannered. These four young men would never do the things they are accused of. They treat women the way they want us (their moms) treated. They were taught that if a man does not work, he does not eat. So since age 14, they have had jobs. They don’t sag their pants. They are leaders, not followers. They have respect for adults. They say, “Yes ma’am/sir” and “No ma’am/sir.” Two have graduated, and two are to graduate this year. Two are going to the military, and one is accepted at college. These are young men of dignity and great character. Take the time to get to know them before you judge them.”

Attorney Waddell said, “I have issued a subpoena to Sprint Corporate Security in Overland Park, Kansas to provide the defense with copies of the stored GPS records associated with the cell phones my clients were carrying on March 22, 2014, which is the date



The Misidentified Four: Shaquazz Allen (top left), Craig Dean (top right), Jerron Bush (bottom right), and Tyrone Booker, Jr. (bottom left)

they were arrested, and which will establish a “scientific alibi” for the defense. The Sprint GPS records (the program “Family Locator”) should show that my clients were not in the area of the mob violence when it occurred, were not at the scene of the robbery when it occurred, and that my clients are the victims of being misidentified and arrested for crimes they did not commit. That my clients are in fact innocent.”

After this information was revealed, Assistant Jefferson County Attorney J.P. Ward stated to Judge Gina Calvert that, “given the path this information may be taking,” they were in agreement to reduce the bond to home incarceration and school release. All of the young men have now been released on home incarceration or school release. Tyrone Booker, Jr. was able to walk with his Waggener High School graduating class on June 7 at Freedom Hall.

But the charges have not been dropped. Even though there is overwhelming evidence that they are innocent, these young men could still face eight- to ten-year prison sentences. Please join us in asking the authorities to drop the charges and clear their names.

What you can do

A legal defense fund has been set up to help the families with legal expenses. We are asking churches, community leaders and citizens to donate what you can. Please make your check out to “KY Alliance” with “Misidentified 4” in the memo line. Mail to: KY Alliance, P.O. Box 1543, Louisville, KY. Donations can also be made online at: <http://www.gofundme.com/misidentified4>

You can pick up petitions at the Carl Braden Memorial Center located at 3208 West Broadway, Louisville, Kentucky 40211. For more information call 502-778-8130.

And please call Mayor Greg Fischer at 574-2003 and ask him to do what he can to stop this injustice, drop the charges, and clear the names of these innocent young men.

Information for this article was taken from Attorney Jan Waddell’s fact sheet.

Kathleen Parks is Chair of the Kentucky Alliance against Racist and Political Repression and President of the National Action Network, Metro Chapter. You can reach her at KYAllChair@yahoo.com

At century mark, fraternity brings uplift to Frost Middle School

By Randy Nichols

January 9 marked the centennial year of the Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc., a predominantly African-American organization (which includes men of all races and creeds).

Social action being one of the fraternity’s national programs, its Epsilon Beta Sigma Alumnus Chapter in Louisville responded to Mayor Greg Fisher’s “Give-A-Day volunteer community service week” in April by speaking to classes at Frost Middle School.

The chapter includes a range of men, from professionals to entry level positions, who understand that there is an ongoing issue within the community at large whereby young males of all races and socio-economic conditions need to have more positive images in their lives.

Brother Ron Anthony and I spoke to sixth, seventh and eighth grade classes at Frost. The presentations focused on: goal setting, career expectations, team building, moving from consumers to producers and setting a positive image in the classroom as well as in the students’ personal lives.

The chapter has selected Frost Middle as its adopted school to provide Black male mentorship to those students.

Phi Beta Sigma for years has sought out unique men to join its “wondrous band,” and it is hoped that bringing positive Black male role models to Frost students (male and female alike) will encourage them to go to college, trade or professional school and seek career opportunities that will let them contribute to uplifting their community.

The commitment to Frost is not a onetime activity; fraternity members have



Randy Nichols and Ron Anthony

been encouraged to give of their time so the chapter can provide presentations on a regular basis at the school. It is hoped the organization’s sister activity, Zeta Phi Beta sorority will also join in and give an emphasis to female students.

Sigma’s commitment to Frost and other area schools is its own effort, but

it will correlate with President Obama’s “My Brother’s Keeper” initiative, which is designed to work with Black males (in particular) who come from troubled backgrounds. The President’s program, along with Sigma’s Social Action activities, will help reach out to a generation of at-risk youth not only in minority communities, but through all walks of life.

Frost Principal Faith Stroud encouraged the fraternity to come into the school and offer a positive, uplifting message to her students. The fraternity also looks to establish a foundation for a beta club at the school as a way to encourage scholarship and service by students.

Professor Charles “Randy” Nichols, PhD is an editor with FORsooth Newspaper and can be contacted at randynic@gmail.com.

Chief Justice Roberts and the deconstructing of the Constitution

By Craig Barnes

When the delegates to the American Constitutional convention met in 1787 to discuss a new order of the ages, they had a healthy concern for both human virtue and human flaws. Thus, they developed a scheme that would separate the powers of government in the hope that if the masses became too strong through the popularly elected Congress, the Supreme Court might restrain them. If the president grew too strong – say, too much like King George III – both the Congress and the courts might restrain him. This gave rise to the balance of powers.

Clear functions were delineated. The Congress would do legislation. The president would enforce the legislation. The Supreme Court would be neither the enactor nor the legislator but would provide legal oversight. In this scheme, it was very clear that the Supreme Court was not to become the legislative body. If some enactment were held unconstitutional it could send it back to the Congress, but it would not be responsible for enacting legislation itself.

Over the course of the next 200-plus years, this restraint upon the Court has not worked well. The court has evidenced a consistent bias on behalf of corporate enterprise as opposed to enterprises emanating from the people, opposing the Congress, the president and the rights of people who are not in positions of economic advantage.

In the 19th century, for example, the Court declared Dred Scott, a slave, to be merely property and not a human with rights. In 1895 it went on to declare unconstitutional a measure providing for an income tax, and then it gutted the Sherman Antitrust act. In 1905, it killed a New York state law limiting working hours. In 1917 it did the same to a prohibition against child labor. In 1923 it wiped out another law that set minimum wages for women; in 1935 and 1936 it struck down early New Deal recovery acts. Throughout this whole period the court evidenced a hostility to anything that interfered with corporate profits, including: rights of labor to organize, equal rights of women, health protections for children, or provisions for the elderly.

Then in the 1970s, Justice Lewis Powell literally took the United States Chamber of Commerce into the chambers of the United States Supreme Court and pioneered a complete, consistent corporate rights theory. In 1976 the Court struck down portions of a congressionally approved campaign finance law. In 1978 it struck down limits on corporate spending at the state level in citizen’s referendum campaigns.

Thereafter, and consistently, Justice Powell led a majority of the court to overturn the legislation by Congress, states, or school districts that regulated oil, coal, utility corporations, tobacco corporations, chemical and pharmaceutical corporations, alcohol corporations, banking corporations, all of which had claimed corporate rights to free speech. In every case federal, state, or local laws, duly authorized by their legislatures, were invalidated.

These decisions indicate that over the 200-plus year history of the republic one of the institutions intended to balance the powers of the Congress. The presidency has become much more than a balancer; it has become the high citadel of corporate privilege. Unfortunately, nowhere has this usurpation of power become more egregious than in the recent decisions of the John Roberts court. This court has not just acted like an extension of the Chamber of Commerce; it has become the guardian, and enactor, of corporate privilege.

In a few short years, John Roberts has become the most active legislator of conservative opinion in the history of the Republic. As a consequence, this Court has made it more difficult to sue employers for workplace harassment, has barred remedies for pay discrimination, rejected a class-

action suit of women who were denied raises and promotions by Walmart and has declared unconstitutional a 1988 law that subjected corporate officers to fraud charges.

Recently the Roberts Court entered full-fledged into the business of the Congress and effectively preempted that legislative body. The Congress had spent months on hearings and deliberations in order to establish certain limits on campaign finance contributions. Under the constitutionally guaranteed separation of powers declared by the Founders to be bedrock of the new Republic, those deliberations and that fact-finding were to be the province, not of the courts, but of the legislative body.

The campaign-finance law which established these campaign-finance limits was bipartisan, authored by Senators McCain and Feingold – a Republican and a Democrat, respectively. Those senators, and the Congress as a whole, had concluded that massive amounts of money poured by single individuals into multiple campaigns distorts and corrupts the election process. They declared that massive amounts of money from any single individual was both corrupting and gave the appearance of corruption.

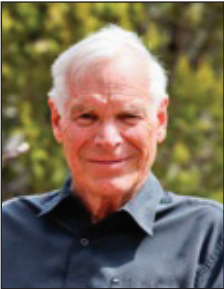
However, in *McCutcheon vs. FEC*, the Roberts court enacted its own standards for corruption, displacing the legislatively determined standards set in place by McCain-Feingold. It did so without finding new evidence that might have been different than or contradictions of the evidence gathered by Congress.

Justice Roberts simply substituted his own judgment and imagination regarding what defines corruption. He said that the only a bribe is corruption. If there is not a quid pro quo for the money, then it is not corrupt; further, it does not have the appearance of corruption. If the contributor does not leave a bag of money on the Congressperson’s desk and get a vote in return, it is not corruption. If millions are spent to elect a congressperson without a specific vote to return the favor, this isn’t corruption – according to Justice Roberts.

Chief Justice Roberts did this without reciting a single fact that would rebut the Congressional record and did so without the slightest hesitation or self-doubt. The first egregious case of this kind was in the 2010 *Citizens United* decision where the Court again simply discovered that no corruption existed, or would appear to exist, if corporations were donors to political campaigns. The Court then, too, ignored one hundred years of legal history and the extensive findings of the Congress. In effect, this court – at first in *Citizens United* and now in *McCutcheon* – has engaged in usurpation of powers. The leading usurper has been Chief Justice John Roberts. The unpleasant reality is that the Supreme Court has almost absolute power, and this is one of those cases where absolute power corrupts absolutely.

Chief Justice John Roberts is not only attempting to deconstruct the New Deal; he is also deconstructing the Constitution. Justice John Roberts has, in effect, evaded and substantially destroyed the constitutional separation of powers.

Craig Barnes is a former civil rights attorney, negotiator on ethnic cleansing and nuclear issues in the former Soviet Union, leader of a group called WeArePeopleHere!, author (Democracy at the Crossroads), public speaker, playwright and radio host of Our Times with Craig Barnes heard on KSFR, 101.1 FM on Saturday mornings. His website is craigbarnes.com.



Craig Barnes

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)
- KENTUCKIANS FOR SINGLE PAYER HEALTH CARE – 1st and 3rd Thursdays of each month, 5:30 PM. Board Room on the Mezzanine of the Louisville Free Public Library. www.kyhealthcare.org 636-1551
- 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-org/lwv
- 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)
- SOWERS OF JUSTICE NETWORK – sowersofjusticenetwork.org, sowersofjusticenetwork@gmail.com
- VETERANS FOR PEACE, Louisville Chapter 168 – (502) 500-6915, CRawertTrainer@twc.com
- 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

July 1 to Sept 7 **EAT WELL, PLAY WELL**. Muhammad Ali Center, Monday to Saturday. Healthy choices are all around us. Children and families learn the science of nutrition. Activities for fun. Visit <http://alicenter.org>

July 1 to 31 **SUMMER READING VOLUNTEERS**. Newburg, Parkland, Shawnee and Jeffersonville with the Boys & Girls Clubs of Kentuckiana. Weekdays between 10AM and 4PM. Give us just one hour. Kids move through activities and workstations. Visit www.metrounitedway.org

July 2 (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>

July 2 (Wed) **NATURE PRESERVE VOLUNTEERS**. Blackacre State Nature Preserve. Every Wednesday, 9AM to Noon. Help care for gardens, trails, and farmland. Visit www.blackacreconservancy.org

July 2 (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.

July 2 & Aug 6 (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.

July 3 (Thurs) **KENTUCKY SINGLE PAYER HEALTH CARE**. Every first & third Thursday, 5:30PM at Main Public Library. Call Kay Tillow 636-1551.

July 5 (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.

July 5 (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

July 5 (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.

July 5 (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>

July 5 (Sat) **SUPPLIES OVER SEAS RECYCLING**. SOS office in Clifton. Every Saturday, 9AM. Help sort through surplus medical supplies for distribution to overseas agencies. Other volunteer opportunities too. Visit www.suppliesoverseas.org

July 5 (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/

July 5 (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

July 6 & Aug 3 (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.

July 7 (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.

July 7 (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.

July 8 (Tues) **LUNCH & LEARN AT CATHOLIC CHARITIES**. Catholic Charities Migration and Refugee Services, 11:30AM. Tour facilities and learn more about our community programs. Call 636-9786 for more information.

July 8 & Aug 12 (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.

July 8 & Aug 12 (Tues) **FREE HOME ENERGY EFFICIENCY SEMINAR**. Energy Pros Sustainable Home Education Group, 6:30PM to 8:30PM. Learn the basics. Visit www.theenergypros.net

July 8 & Aug 12 (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

July 8 & Aug 12 (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.

July 8 & Aug 12 (Tues) **MOVIMENIENTO 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.

July 9 & Aug 13 (Wed) **Y-NOW CHILDREN OF PRISONERS MENTORING**. Luncheon at YMCA Safe Place. Learn how you can help break the cycle through mentoring and encouragement. RSVP to 635-4404.

July 9 & Aug 13 (Wed) **KENTUCKY INTERFAITH TASK-FORCE 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.

July 9 & Aug 13 (Wed) **LOUISIVLLE FORUM**. Every 2nd Wednesday, Noon at Vincenzo's Downtown. Speakers on current public issues. nonpartisan discussion. For details, call 329-0111.

July 9 & Aug 6 (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

July 9 (Wed) **REAL PEOPLE, REAL CHALLENGES, REAL SOLUTIONS**. Volunteers of America Family Emergency Shelter. 9AM to 10AM. Also, July 15th and 31st. One hour interactive tour of VOA's work and programs for self-determination. For more information, call 636-4660.

July 10 & Aug 14 (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.

July 10 (Thurs) **FRIENDSHIP FORCE OF LOUISVILLE**. 2nd Thursday in odd months, 6:30PM. Help plans and participate in international goodwill exchanges. Visit www.thefriendshipforce.org

July 11 & Aug 8 (Fri) **AFRICAN AMERICAN ARCHIVES TOUR**. Western Public Library, 10:30AM. Peruse the African American book collection. Short documentary. Light refreshments. Visit www.lfpl.org

July 11 (Fri) **PLAY FORE PEACE**. Shawnee Golf Course. Get a golf scramble foursome together and help raise funds for the Peace Education Program and its conflict resolution work. Visit <http://peaceeducationprogram.org>

July 11 to 13 **LIVE BLUES BANDS**. Louisville Blues, Brews, & BBQ Festival on River Road. Hear live blues performances all day long. Visit <http://louisvillebluesaandbbqfestival.com>

July 11 & Aug 8 (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

July 11 & 12 **WATER & HEALTH TRAINING**. Water Step. Obtain skills for providing safe drinking water to tens of thousands of people. Also, August 21 & 22. Visit <http://waterstep.org>

July 11 (Fri) **FRIDAY NIGHT ON THE STREET**. Wayside Christian Mission. Learn first-hand about homelessness. Hear testimonies. Ask questions. Serve a meal. Bring a sleeping bag. Visit www.waysidechristianmission.org

July 12 & Aug 2 (Sat) **OLMSTEAD PARK VOLUNTEERS**. Bingham Park, 9AM to Noon. Help maintain and restore our urban forests. Also, Tyler Park on Aug 2nd. Visit www.olmsteadparks.org

July 12 (Sat) **PADDLE FOR HUNGER**. Waterfront Park, 9AM to 6PM. Racing, floats, competitions and vendors. All proceeds go to Dare to Care and The World Food Program. Visit www.paddleforhunger.com

July 12 & Aug 9 (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.

July 12 & Aug 9 (Sat) **PEAK OIL**. Every 2nd Saturday, St. Matthews Public Library, 10 AM to Noon. Call George Perkins, 425-6645.

July 12 & Aug 9 (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

July 12 (Sat) **RALLY FOR A PLANT PURE NATION**. Iroquois Park, 6:30PM. Scientist and author Dr. T. Colin Campbell joins his son, filmmaker, Nelson Campbell, to celebrate growing public interest in the plant-based diet. Music sets performed by Driftwood. Rep. Tom Riner will speak in support of this initiative. Visit www.cultivatingconnections.org

July 13 (Tues) **HAND IN HAND MINISTRIES**. Immerse yourself in another community and experience first-hand the hardships associated with extreme poverty. Perform essential volunteer work. Make connections. Trips to Appalachia begin July 13 & Aug 17. Trips to Belize begin July 13 & Aug 10. Visit <http://myhandinhand.org>

July 13 & Aug 10 (Sun) **VIGIL FOR PEACE**. Every second Sunday. A remembrance of all those suffering from conflicts in the Middle East. Bring a sign. 4PM to 5PM, Bardstown Road at Douglass Blvd. Sponsored by LPAC (Louisville Peace Action Community) and Veterans for Peace Chapter 168. For more information, call Carol Rawert Trainer at 500-6915.

July 14 & Aug 11 (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.

July 14 to 18 **TEEN LEADERS FOR DIVERSITY SUMMER CAMP**. Peace Education Program. Learn conflict resolution skills, community building, prejudice reduction, active listening, assertive speaking, team building and problem solving. Visit <http://peaceeducationprogram.org>

July 15 & Aug 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

July 15 & Aug 18 (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

July 16 & Aug 27 (Wed) **GRANTMANSHIP BASICS**. Main Public Library, 6PM TO 8PM. Learn the research process, find resources, and write successful proposals. Visit www.lfpl.org

July 17 & Aug 21 (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

July 17 (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.

July 19 (Sat) **SICKLE CELL ASSOCIATION OF KENTUCKIANA (SCAK)** Support group meeting on 3rd Saturdays at St. Stephen Church. Call 569-2070 to RSVP.

July 21 & Aug 18 (Mon) **SOCIAL CHANGE BOOK CLUB**. Every third Monday, Heine Bros., 119 Chenoweth, 6PM. For book list, Visit www.greenlistlouisville.com

July 22 & Aug 26 (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

July 22 to 24 **CONFLICT RESOLUTION TRAINING**. Peace Education Program. Learn how to create and maintain a youth mediation program. Basic theory, hands-on activities, and conflict resolution manual. Visit <http://peaceeducationprogram.org>

July 22 (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

July 23 (Wed) **ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS OF CITIZENSHIP**. Newburg Public Library, 2PM. A representative of the USCIS office of Louisville will discuss the naturalization requirements. Visit www.lfpl.org

July 26 to Aug 16 **APH FILM FESTIVAL**. American Printing House for the Blind Museum. Explore how blindness is depicted by Hollywood. Free. Call 899-2213 to RSVP.

July 26 (Sat) **COPING SKILLS FOR NEUROLOGICAL DISORDERS**. Norton Neuroscience Institute Expo. Seminars and information on improving the quality of life for individuals and families living with multiple sclerosis, Parkinson's disease, epilepsy, ALS, Alzheimer's disease and strokes. Visit www.NortonHealthcareFoundation.com

July 28 (Mon) **JAPANESE UCHWIA FANS**. Bon Air Public Library, 6:30PM. Come make one of these Japanese fans used as props in theater, devices for sending signals, and toys. Visit www.lfpl.org

Aug 5 (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

Aug 6 (Wed) **DEADLINE FOR THE NEXT ISSUE OF FOR-sooth**. Every first Wednesday. Contact John Hartmann, editor, at 296-1793 or johart.john@gmail.com. Please email new or updated calendar listings to calendar.peace@gmail.com.

Aug 6 to 9 **HIROSHIMA/NAGASAKI COMMEMORATION EVENTS**. Interfaith Paths to Peace. Public readings, Bell Tolling Ceremony, Lantern Floating Ceremony, reflections, prayers, dance and music. Visit <http://paths2peace.org>

Aug 9 (Sat) **ANNUAL SHAWNEE--JEWELL PARK DAY**, Noon to 9PM. A day of joy and happiness in a wonderful neighborhood park that has served generations of neighborhood families. Tournaments, music, vendors and community exhibits. Call 338-1099 for more information.

Aug 20 (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

Aug 21 (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.

Aug 23 (Sat) **AFRICAN HERITAGE FESTIVAL**. Kentucky Center for African Heritage. Music, sports, dance, theater, great food, fashion, culture, And children's activities. Visit www.kcaah.org

Aug 27 (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.

Aug 28 (Thurs) **MY RECIPE FOR PEACE**. Keneseth Israel Synagogue with Interfaith Paths to Peace. Hear community leaders share their recipes for peacemaking in their daily lives. Enjoy the food they've prepared. Visit <http://paths2peace.org>

OUT OF TOWN

July 2 to Aug 27 **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

July 3 (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.

July 7 & Aug 4 (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.

July 12 (Sat) **SALT RIVER WATERSHED WATCH**, KY Division of Water, 7 AM to 10AM Join volunteers in the Summer Bacteria Sampling. Training for volunteers who conduct surveys on streams, rivers and lakes offered throughout the year. For more information, call 800-928-0045.

July 12 (Sat) **KFTC WILDERNESS TRACE DOWN HOME BARN BASH**. Kentuckians For The Commonwealth near Danville, KY, 4PM to 8PM. Live music, good food, local artists, activities, and camping options. Free admission. Help raises funds for KFTC. Visit www.kftc.org

July 17 & Aug 21 (Thurs) **ORGANIC AGRICULTURE WORKING GROUP**. KSU Research Farm, Frankfort, KY. Every third Thursday. Participate in efforts to develop local food economies in Kentucky. Visit www.communityfarmalliance.org

July 26 (Sat) **APPALATIN FUSION**. Smothers Park in Owensboro. Hear the Appalachian and Latin fusion of performers hailing from Hazard, Richmond, & Louisville plus Ecuador, Nicaragua and Guatemala. Visit www.appalatin.com

Aug 9 (Sat) **NATURE CONSERVANCY OF KENTUCKY**. Join volunteers to pick up trash and debris along the Green River near Greensburg, KY. Canoes, lunch and water bottles provided. Visit www.nature.org

Aug 22 to 24 **KFTC ANNUAL MEETING**. Kentuckians For The Commonwealth at General Butler State Park. Theme this year: Growing Grassroots Leaders. Help assess our work, celebrate victories, elect leaders, and plan for next year. Visit www.kftc.org

Aug 30 to 31 **KENTUCKY NATIVE AMERICAN POW WOW**, Corbin KY. Join us as we dance in praise, celebration, and fellowship. Visit www.powwows.com