

Most at lunch blame oligarchy for coup in Honduras, but nun criticizes Zelaya

by *Ike M. Thacker IV*
and *George Morrison*

Ousted Honduran president Manuel Zelaya was removed in a coup in June by an oligarchy – perhaps as small as 15 families – because his reforms threatened their wealth, farm activist Stephen Bartlett told the FOR’s Third Thursday Lunch Sept. 17.

Bartlett, the coordinator of Sustainable Agriculture of Louisville who once farmed in the Dominican Republic, said the regime that came to power via Zelaya’s removal in a June 28 coup has been brutal in the face of massive popular resistance among many of Honduras’ more than seven million people.

Bartlett told the monthly lunch the new government’s security chief received training at the School of the Americas at Fort Benning, Ga.

Bartlett said the coup’s plotters used as a pretext Zelaya’s supposed attempts to extend his rule beyond the constitutionally limited single term, often noting that the Honduran constitution forbids amendments to presidential term limits and other sections.

(Zelaya actually has called only a non-binding “poll,” rather than a referendum, on whether people support calling a constitutional convention. But a court in the capital city of Tegucigalpa has ruled the poll unconstitutional.)

One listener took issue with Bartlett’s portrayal of the June coup, though the ex-

change between her and Bartlett was calm and civil, with Bartlett saying at the end of the exchange the two could “agree to disagree.”

Sister Lorraine Lauter, who described herself as a “radical nun” who travels to Honduras two to three times yearly and exchanges e-mails with many in the nation, said Hondurans she knows (who she said are overwhelmingly poor) think Zelaya is dangerous.

She said pro-Zelaya crowds have also committed human rights abuses and that they are small and scattered.

Bartlett said that perhaps one million Hondurans (out of a national population of about 7.3 million) protested the day prior to the lunch for Zelaya’s return to power. He added that the pro-coup crowds are orchestrated by the regime and said sources he has communicated with in Honduras have backed up his belief that the coup is unpopular and unjustified.

Walter Tillow, another person in the audience, noted that no Latin American government has recognized the regime that seized power in the coup, which Tillow said has used murder and sexual violence against women to impose its will.

Tillow also noted that far from wanting to amend the constitution, Zelaya only wanted the non-binding poll on calling a convention.

Bartlett said the coup regime is trying to organize elections in November, but that the U.S., the European Union and all other

Latin governments, along with the internal opposition, have said they would not recognize the results.

He added that one opposition leader had planned to run in November, but has backed out, saying he won’t be a candidate unless many conditions are met, including Zelaya being allowed to return.

Bartlett told the lunch that Zelaya was a member of one of the six most powerful Honduran families, but turned on his class as president, backing agrarian reforms to benefit the campesinos, or poor farmers.

Weeks after the coup, Bartlett noted, Zelaya tried to return to Honduras from Nicaragua, where he had been in exile, but authorities refused to allow his plane to land at Tegucigalpa’s airport.

He said a key way to fight against the coup is to contact the U.S. State Department (the line for leaving recorded comments is 202-647-6575 and an official blog is at *blogs@state.gov*) to demand Washington’s action.

The prospects for U.S. ratification of the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty concerning nuclear weapons will be the subject of the October 15 Third Thursday Lunch talk by Joe Volk, executive secretary of the Friends Committee on National Legislation. For reservations, call Jean Edwards at (502) 458-8056. See ad on page 6.

Sheehan: ‘robber class’ has 2 parties

by *Ike M. Thacker IV*
and *Eustace Durrett*

The wars in Iraq and Afghanistan were wrong under Bush, but are equally wrong under President Obama, who is actually increasing troop strength in Afghanistan, Cindy Sheehan said in Louisville last month.

Why is it, Sheehan asked during a four-day stay in the city, that we keep electing one or the other of the two ruling parties, both of which favor the robbers over the robbed?

The much-acclaimed and internationally-heralded peace activist was here September 8-11, speaking at colleges, coffeehouses and the Braden Center in West Louisville.

Perhaps the signature event of her stay was her hour-plus-long speech at Chao Auditorium on the University of Louisville campus the evening of September 8, in which she explained the fundamental conclusion to which she seems to have come as a result of losing her oldest son Casey in 2004 in Iraq and subsequently

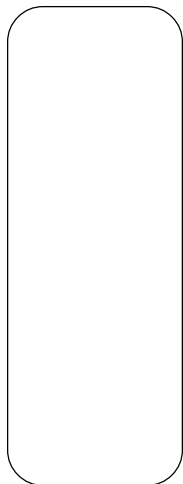
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On a memory-filled date, the voiceless lose a friend

by *Gracie Lewis*

Today is August 28, 2009 and the private memorial services are being held. What a significant date in our history this is. The Rev. Jesse Jackson reminded me that on August 28, 1955 Emmett Till was murdered.

It was on August 28, 1963 that the historic March on Washington was held where over 250,000 people from all walks of life gathered and where Dr. King delivered his stirring “I Have a Dream” speech. It was August 28, 2008 that Barack Obama was nominated Democratic presidential candidate for the United States of America.

And, today, August 28, 2009, the first of the memorial services is being held in Boston for the greatest servant we ever had! Over 25,000 mourners came out to pay their respects at the John F. Kennedy Library in Hyannis Port, Mass.

I will always remember Senator Edward M. Kennedy as the “people’s advocate.” In fact, he came from a tremendous legacy of public service. Many people state that he is “the last of Camelot” but I don’t think so. The Kennedys believed in “family.” The family is the foundation of America.

His life of service will always be remembered by the ones he loved so well, starting with his family he is leaving behind, such as his 11-year old grandson, and Teddy’s other family — the poor, the disenfranchised and the “voiceless.” Senator Kennedy shared the many blessings he received. Whenever he was knocked down, he got up and got back in the race! Senator Kennedy loved people and it was this love that caused him to change America!

When I worked on Capitol Hill for the Subcommittee on Labor Standards from 1981 to 1983, I witnessed for myself how difficult it is to get legislation passed. Yet, Senator Kennedy fought the good fight and introduced over 2,500 pieces of legislation!



Edward M. Kennedy 1932-2009

He was willing to put politics behind him and put the “people’s agenda” first. He was instrumental in passing the Civil Rights Act, the Voting Rights Act and the latter act’s extension. He was a true inspiration to labor. He understood the need for a living wage, affordable housing and universal health care.

Working on Capitol Hill is the most important job in America, for you get an opportunity to truly represent the interests of the people. Unfortunately, the people themselves do not participate in the legislative and oversight process as much as I would like to see. If I had my way, I would make sure that every student fully understands how important government is, and why they should become actively involved.

Senator Kennedy believed that “another world is possible!” He got up from his death bed and eagerly “passed on the torch to a new generation of Americans.” I leaped with joy when I saw him pass the torch on to Barack Obama, a candidate for change, at the Democratic National

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AFL-CIO transition is a time of real progress in labor

At its national convention in Pittsburgh, in mid-September, Rich Trumka, a third-generation Polish American coal miner, and former president of the United Mine Workers, was elected president of the AFL-CIO. Outgoing president, John Sweeney, spoke to the 2,000 delegates, and others: “We began this past year carrying multiple burdens. All of the mindless strategies of the far right had finally imploded.

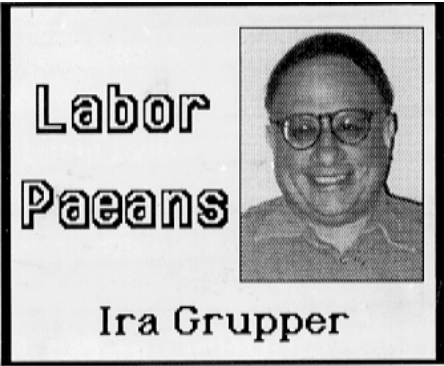
”We were mired in a money-draining war in Iraq, with thousands of our young men and women risking and losing their lives. And we were deep into the worst economic trough since the Great Depression.” (Note to Mr. Sweeney: hooray for Iraq Veterans Against the War, and U.S. Labor Against the War, for pointing out the war was not just money draining; it was also immoral — I.G.).

“But we were also having our dreams of a better future revived by the inauguration of the most progressive United States president since Franklin D. Roosevelt — a president working people and our unions had worked hard to help elect....

“(We’ve) come back from a devastating division in our ranks by reuniting our federation at the state and local levels, and then put on powerful demonstrations of our united people-power in the 2006 and 2008 elections.... The Labor Department was reporting union membership and density notching upward for the second year in a row. President Obama was wasting no time overturning anti-worker, antiunion executive orders put in place by the Bush administration, and naming union champions to leadership positions in his administration....

“Reunification talks between our federation and the affiliates that left four years ago continue without resolution, even though we have found considerable unity around our national legislative work, especially on the Employee Free Choice Act....”

“But the fact is, we are barely scratching the surface of the needs among workers



for representation. And we aren’t doing enough organizing.... Passage of labor law reform will create vast new opportunities. We have to be ready for it.... We know nearly 60 million workers out there want to join our unions, but we’re still not effective enough in linking up with them.

“And the success of our historic partnership with the National Education Association enabled thousands of additional union members to join our mutual struggle for economic and social justice for working families.... Bringing our disaffiliated unions back into the fold and pursuing unaffiliated unions have to be top priorities. And continuing our efforts at working with and on behalf of our brothers and sisters in other countries is an absolute necessity....

“For the first time, we’re requiring delegations to this convention to generally reflect the percentages of women and people of color in their memberships. And our affiliates and state and local organizations have undertaken major programs to promote diversity and full participation.” Also of significance to your columnist is the fact that leaders of five Iraqi labor federations were at the convention as guests of the AFL-CIO. The federation’s offshoot, Working America, now has over 3 million members, and Latino organizational participation is being encouraged.

Now to Brother Trumka’s speech: “What kind of labor movement do we need to re-

build America? A younger labor movement. A greener labor movement. A labor movement that can project its power — to defend workers anywhere in the world. A labor movement that’s organizing the unorganized. A labor movement that’s winning health care for every family — and, yes, a labor movement that stands by its friends, punishes its enemies and challenges those who can’t decide whose side they’re on....”

“We want a nation where it doesn’t matter what the color of your skin is... or what sex or religion you are... or whether you’re gay or straight or what country your family’s from because here, in America, we believe everyone ought to have their chance to step into the winner’s circle.... This is our time. And we will not be denied.”

There are many inter and intra-union problems that confront Mr. Trumka. He states he will not tolerate union raiding. There are difficulties with the Carpenters Union, and SEIU. UNITE-HERE reaffiliated with the AFL-CIO, a big load off Mr. Trumka’s back.

The AFL-CIO Convention must be viewed with an eye on the past, as well as the present and the future. So let’s look back. In 1963 the lily-white officialdom running Birmingham, Alabama had a reward for African Americans exercising their First Amendment constitutional right to protest peacefully against racial segregation: snarling police dogs, high-pressure

water cannon, beatings and jail. In that same year, at the massive March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom, Rev. Martin Luther King uttered these now-famous words: “I have a dream that my four little children will one day live in a nation where they will not be judged by the color of their skin but by the content of their character.”

Fast forward to the present. Not too many weeks ago, on television, there were scenes of a raging fire in California. The devastation we face here in Louisville, and across Kentucky, and across the nation, is not coming from police dogs and batons (not at this juncture, anyhow), nor from a forest fire, although we did have floods recently. Our devastation can be seen in workers’ inability to care for their families, and nurture their souls. The U.S. government is ready to say the recession is over. Don’t just point out that those who are working are spending a little more at the mall; show us where the new jobs are to be found.

Last November we heeded Dr. King’s wise injunction about content of character, and elected the first African American president. The racists and revanchists are still reeling from their inability to keep the presidency a white preserve, And these same smarting hairballs, who knew so little about geography and political economy they favored sending U.S. troops to die in

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An “oil import” peace activists can fully support

The Louisville Committee for Peace in the Middle East has fair trade, organic, cold pressed, extra virgin olive oil, a product of the West Bank, Palestine, for sale. The cost is \$18.00 for 750ml bottle. The oil is imported through the non-profit company Import Peace. Profits from the sale of the company’s oil go to a hospital in Gaza and to buy olive trees for planting in the West Bank. Last year \$11,000 was sent back to Palestine. To purchase, please call Polly Johnson at (502) 473-8435.

Imagine seeing this in color:



Now imagine reading instantly updated news from the FOR.
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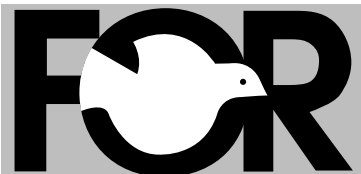
The Louisville FOR’s web site includes Action Alerts about issues of great concern to peace and justice people. It also lets you link to peace groups in many nations and look over every FORsooth going back to April 2002. And the pictures – starting with the July-August 2008 issue – are in color.

If you love blogging, contribute your thoughts and hopes to the US FOR’s blog www.forpeace.net. Keep up with the national organization’s unequalled activism for a world of nonviolence and justice at www.forusa.org.

As much as we know you love reading FORsooth, there’s no reason to wait till next month to be inspired and challenged by the FOR.

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.



Founded 1915

FORsooth is published by the Louisville chapter of the Fellowship of Reconciliation. Send submissions for news stories or commentaries to George Morrison, editor, c/o 2236 Kaelin Ave., Louisville, KY 40205, e-mail: <klm86@att.net>.

FORsooth Staff

Editor George Morrison
Calendar editor Nikki Gaines
Production manager Barbara Powers
Bulk mailing Beverley Marmion

94 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.

Cochairs: Phil Schervish 558-7175
Dennis Bricking 895-8516

Forum at Berea ties mountains, health, racial equality

by Eustace Durrett,
Peggy Kidwell,
and Ike M. Thacker IV

One of the favorite gloats of neoconservatives (and neo-”liberals”) especially in the 1990s bore a woman’s name: TINA, for “There Is No Alternative” to capitalism. Perhaps nothing symbolized this notion more fully than the so-called World Economic Forums, whose genesis was in 1971, held each winter in Davos, Switzerland, at which “select” corporate leaders and international heads of state met to discuss the world situation from a very capitalistic perspective.

But by 2001, two years after the glory of Seattle, there was another kind of forum that began to be held at the same time of year as the “economic” forum, with a much more humane tilt: the annual World *Social* Forum, with its origins in Brazil and its 75,000-100,000 heads at least partly in the “clouds” of *anti*-capitalism, even *socialism*. Each year since, the World Social Forum (WSF) has “responded” to its self-serving capitalistic counterpart.

Out of the WSF tradition have come several regional Social Forums (the Americas, Africa, etc.) and some national ones as well; but the U.S. did not come on board until 2007 in Atlanta with the first U.S. Social Forum (USSF). Another is planned for Detroit from June 22-26 next year, and, partially in preparation for this national event, some U.S. states have been holding their own Social Forums. Kentucky joined the joyous parade with the Kentucky Social Forum (KYSF), the first statewide one in the U.S. south, the weekend of July 31-August 2, at Berea College, some 40 miles south of Lexington.

And nothing could be clearer from the KYSF than that there are indeed alternatives to capitalism—in fact, *many* of them. The Forum’s statement of its mission said that, “We value ALL voices; young, old, poor communities, LGBTQ,” all races and both genders; and it wasn’t kidding. At the KYSF there were workshops on subjects as diverse and various as “The Right to Parent (or Not),” “The Fight for Fair & Healthy Food,” “Reforming Immigration for America — The Kentucky Angle,” and “Black and Brown Alliances in Appalachia.”

Others topics ranged from effective engagement with elected officials to eradicating human trafficking, predatory lending racism in criminal justice.

A “Healing and Spirituality Space” at the bottom floor of forum’s main building included coaching and instruction on meditation, yoga, reiki, flower essences and energy balancing, and acupuncture.

A Film Fest included documentaries on the young black voter, health care, the Middle East conflict, hip hop, and prisons. In short, there was truly something for everyone — except perhaps a Scrooge-capitalist — at the KYSF!

And this is a *good* thing, for (as the emblematic words of the USSF put it) “Another World *Is* Possible, Another U.S. *Is* Necessary” (emphasis added). As the Forum’s mission statement said (for its slogan, it adopted a slight change in the USSF’s: “Another Kentucky Is Possible”), “We see the KY Social Forum as both a platform and a catalyst to bring together diverse populations working to change the political and economic fabric of this state and this nation. We see the process of this Forum as building bridges between communities that have not previously been in contact.”

The main problem, and it was a major one, was that only about 300 people showed up, a result in part of natural disasters months ago (the remnants of hurricane Ike and a severe ice storm) that caused the cancellation of two early planning meetings. For those of us who were there, though, the KYSF was truly a sight to see and enlightening — despite the occasional problems with the distances between venues and the lack of elevators in some of the dormitories in which many stayed.

In addition to all of the above, there were many exhibits on efficiently-provided tables in the KYSF’s main building; and we spent most of our time staffing one of

them for the FOR. We did, though, sample five of the workshops:

Chaos in Coal Country: Mountaintop Removal and Beyond, presented by a rotation of speakers, mostly students and recent graduates of many Kentucky colleges and universities (for example, ECU and Murray State). A film with the same title as the workshop, the speakers, and the discussion that followed showed that mountaintop removal and strip mining annihilate Kentucky ecosystems, transforming the second most biologically-diverse temperate-zone forest in the world into “biologically barren moonscapes.”

They also cause depletion of fish stocks (when affected fish are cut open, their insides are black) and cause traditional mining communities to disappear as the number of jobs declines and residents are also driven away by dust, blasting, increased flooding, and the clanging and asphalt-destruction by overloaded coal trucks “careening down small, windy mountain roads,” the program said.

It was pointed out, too, that the TVA, the largest electricity producer (and thus user of coal) in the area is perhaps equally to blame as the coal companies.

So, the presenters said, use less electricity!

Single Payer Healthcare, presented by David Johnson and Rev. David Bos.

The crucial-but-simple basics of single-payer’s amazing benefits were laid out convincingly: The presenters showed how it would cover everything for everybody without interfering in any way with one’s right to choose his/her doctors, hospitals, clinics, and dentists (and how Canada already has such a system *without* wait times longer than in the U.S.; the “evidence” for these wait times is all anecdotal).

They said the pursuit of profit, reflected in ever-increasing private insurance fees here in the U.S. plus the hidden costs of the refusal to insure because of “pre-existing” medical conditions and to cover expensive but needed medical procedures wrecks lives (and causes deaths) in our country.

They presenters noted that the U.S. is the only developed country without a national health program, which causes it to have the highest per-capita medical cost in the world.

England, with socialized medicine, is lowest, they said.

The U.S. ranks, according to the World Health Organization, 35th in infant mortality and 37th for overall medical quality, they said, adding that 76 percent of the American public (and even 59 percent of medical doctors and 70 percent of nurses) support health care reform.

Further, the presenters said 59 percent of all bankruptcies are medically-related.

Fortunately, House Speaker Nancy Pelosi has promised a floor vote in this

session on Rep. John Conyers’ H.R. 676, the main single-payer bill. It may not pass this time, said Johnson and Rev. Bos, but the people’s day will come!

They urged people to phone, write, e-mail and even visit their representatives.

The Need for the New Black Panther Party in the Black Community in the 21st Century. At this workshop, three members of the Black Panthers were expected but could not attend. But those who came discussed the Black Panther movement, especially in Chicago and Los Angeles in the 1970s, when it was very, and *non*violently, active, not only among black males.

Those attending noted with interest that there is a nascent, new Black Panther movement in its formative stages, with objectives similar to those of the 1960s and 1970s.

The Idea of the Common Good: Is it Capitalist or Socialist?, presented by John Wilborn. This workshop answered its question most emphatically in favor of socialism, although most attenders spoke predominantly of small, partial steps toward that overarching system. The official KYSF workshop description summed up the main point well: “The U.S. Constitution is structurally biased to promote the interests of the wealthy, property-owning class and

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by Charles Bussey

“They’d better,” I said to myself, as there is a revival going on in Kentucky — a New Deal Revival.

She is the granddaughter of Franklin D. and Eleanor Roosevelt.

In that speech, FDR dedicated America to achieving a society that is both free and fair by focusing attention on freedom of speech and expression, freedom of worship, freedom from want, and freedom from fear.

They have succeeded. Close to 900 women across the state have already joined. TWN is a force to be reckoned with. But back to the revival.

Lil invited Anne to address TWNPAC's New Deal Dinner at The Galt House. Accepting, she found herself in Louisville on May 8 speaking to more than 400 persons. The audience was mixed. There were, of course,

political figures like Lt. Governor Dan Mongiardo, Attorney General Jack Conway, State Auditor Crit Luallen and Treasurer Todd Hollenbach, plus a small army of state senators and representatives. But the crowd also included students, high school teachers, professors, lawyers, doctors, labor union executives and workers, retirees, and small and big business people.

In a way, it was a Kentucky homecoming. Anne began her career at WKU's Kentucky Museum in Bowling Green after

At The Galt House in Louisville, Anne focused on growing up as a Roosevelt, about individual and corporate ethics, about Eleanor and Franklin's emphasis on citizenship and about her hope in today's world.

She was raised not to believe she was

“With Michelle and Barack Obama, what you see is what you get. I have known them for years. They are wonderful people, and Eleanor and FDR would be proud of them. I am.”

“I have hope now, that with the Obama leadership, this nation will once again work cooperatively with other nations and be an inspiration to the world with our emphasis on freedom of speech, freedom of worship, freedom from want, and freedom from fear.

“Your Women’s Network in Kentucky is an inspiration and a model to the rest of the nation in what we must do to re-energize this great nation and to reaffirm New Deal values to make life better for all citizens.”

Anne closed by saying, "My grandmother gave me some advice once. I was a shy child, like her, and fearful of speaking in public. She said, 'Stand up, say what you have to say, and sit down.' So I will. Thank you very much."

The writer is a retired professor of modern American history at Western Kentucky University in Bowling Green. He is a member of the FOR and the Kentucky Coalition to Abolish the Death Penalty and was a contributing writer to two books, Where we Stand: Voices of Southern Dissent and American Crisis, Southern Solutions.

Oct 24 (Sat) **FAIRNESS 10TH ANNIVERSARY X-TRAVAGANZA.** Save the date for a community-wide celebration in honor of the 10th anniversary of the passage of Jefferson County's Fairness law, with an x-travaganza of house parties culminating in a community dance party. To learn more about becoming a dinner party host, email chris@fairness.org or call 893-0788.

Oct 26 (Mon) **F.O.R. STEERING COMMITTEE.** Presbyterian Seminary, 1044 Alta Vista Road. Meets every fourth Monday. Visitors encouraged. Call Dennis Bricking, 298-0590, or Phil Schervish, 558-7175.

Oct 29 (Thurs) **FORsooth LABELING** at Beverley Marmion's, 6:30 pm. We need you for one hour! Please stop by and socialize while your fingers do the work. Bouquets to those who do this important work every month! Call 451-5658.

Nov 4-13. **14TH ANNUAL FESTIVAL OF FAITHS, SACRED WATER: SUSTAINING LIFE.** Sponsored by the Center for Interfaith Relations, this year's festival includes over 30 events and numerous special guests, including Sobonfu Somé, Coleman Barks, Dr. Timothy Keller, Tori Murden McClure, and many more! For a complete schedule, visit www.festivaloffaiths.org or call 583-3100.

Nov 10 (Tues) **ANNE BRADEN MEMORIAL LECTURE.** Michael Honey, distinguished historian and professor at the University of Washington-Tacoma, will present “From Civil Rights to Economic Justice: The Freedom Movement’s Unfinished Business.” 5:30 PM, Chao Auditorium, Ekstrom Library, University of Louisville. Free and open to the public. The lecture will also feature a musical performance and slide show. For more information, contact Jardana Peacock at jopeac02@louisville.edu or call 852- 6142.

Nov 11 (Wed) **(RE)PRESENTING SEX AND GENDER.** Silvia Martinez, Coordinator of the Nicaraguan chapter of the Latin American and Caribbean Trans Network (Red LAC Trans), and Vivian Stromberg, MADRE's Executive Director, will talk about the intersections between local activism and international advocacy for sexual rights and the rights of the LBTTTGI (lesbian, bisexual, transgender, transvestite, transsexual, gay and intersexed) community. They will also discuss the ways in which MADRE and Red LAC Trans have partnered to support transgender activists and to provide tens of thousands of condoms to transgender sex workers in Nicaragua. 3-4:15 PM, Chao Auditorium, Ekstrom Library, University of Louisville. Free and open to the public. For more information, contact Jardana Peacock at j0peac02@louisville.edu or call 852- 6142.

Nov 11 (Wed) **REMEMBERING LOUISVILLE IN THE 1960s:** Freedom Fighters, Police Repression and the Right to Free Speech. Mark your calendar and plan to join us for a community forum with Mike Honey, Bill Allison, Martha Allen, and others. Details to be announced. Jointly sponsored by the Anne Braden Institute for Social Justice Research, the Bellarmine Democrats, the Interdisciplinary Core, and the Merton Center. For more information, contact Jardana Peacock at jopeac02@louisville.edu or call 852- 6142.

Oct 2 (Fri) WORLD MARCH FOR PEACE AND NONVIOLENCE. Starting in New Zealand on Gandhi's birthday (and the UN's "International Day of Nonviolence"), an international team of marchers will travel through six continents over a period of 93 days, ending on January 2, 2010 in the heights of the Andes Mountains. Along their path, they will be joined by millions of people who feel that beyond countries, ideologies, cultures and particular situations, it is necessary to awaken a new social consciousness to build a worldwide culture of nonviolence. The March is inspiring the creation of thousands of initiatives in more than 95 countries—forums, symposia, cultural and sports events, festivals, concerts, vigils, and community gatherings—all focused on spreading the message of disarmament and nonviolence throughout the planet. Stay tuned for more details!

Oct 5 (Mon) DIRECT ACTION AT THE WHITE HOUSE AGAINST WAR & TORTURE. On October 7, 2001, the U.S. and Britain invaded Afghanistan and the war continues today. On October 5, the National Campaign for Nonviolent Resistance (NCNR), along with several other peace organizations, will mark the anniversary of the war by speaking out against it and petitioning President Obama to remove all troops

somebody special but rather that she should travel, learn as much as she could about the world around her, listen to what people said — and *do her part* to make the world a better place.

“Doing great things,” Anne said, “was not the focus. The idea was to be a good citizen where you were placed.”

Anne talked about Eleanor and FDR's emphasis on being a good citizen and suggested that was the real theme of the Four Freedoms speech. "You honor me,"

from Afghanistan and Iraq. For more information on the action and what you can do locally, visit: www.nogoodwar.org and www.warresisters.org or email octoberactions@warresisters.org.

Oct 3-10. **KEEP SPACE FOR PEACE WEEK.** International week of protest to stop the militarization of space. Modern warfare, including the U.S. occupation of Afghanistan and attacks on Pakistan, uses Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAVs) and GPS-guided bombs. Directed by space satellites, and remotely controlled far from the battlefield, these weapons are responsible for massive civilian casualties. Children today are being trained through video games to be the remote killers of tomorrow. It is time to preserve space for peace and to end war. Sponsored by Global Network Against Weapons & Nuclear Power in Space. For more information, visit www.space4peace.org.

Oct 9-11 (Fri-Sun) **KENTUCKIANS FOR THE COMMONWEALTH ANNUAL MEETING.** Family friendly atmosphere! Relax, meet new people, visit old friends, learn about KFTC, share stories, dance, listen to music, attend workshops and have fun! Kentucky Leadership Center in Jabez, Ky. For more information, visit www.kftc.org or call 606-878-2161.

Oct 23-25 (Fri-Sun) **6TH ANNUAL GANDHI KING CONFERENCE ON PEACEMAKING: Awakening the Power of Nonviolence.** Christian Brothers University, Memphis, TN. For more information about the conference, or to register, visit www.GandhiKingConference.org, call 901-725-4990, or email info@gandhikingconference.org.

Oct 28-29 (Wed-Thurs) **2009 KENTUCKY AFFORDABLE HOUSING CONFERENCE.**
Sponsored by the Kentucky Housing Corporation, conference will be held at the Hyatt Regency and Lexington Convention Center. For more information, contact Mary Kay Meagher at 614-224-8446 or mmeagher@occh.org.

Nov 20-22 (Fri-Sun) **VIGIL TO CLOSE THE U.S. ARMY'S SCHOOL OF ASSASSINS.** Thousands will gather at the gates of Fort Benning in Columbus, Georgia for the vigil and the nonviolent direct action to close the School of the Americas. Massive rally on Saturday with musicians and speakers from across the Americas, followed by a Puppetista Pageant. Dramatic procession on Sunday remembering the victims of SOA violence. Deadline to apply for a seat on the Louisville bus is October 31, 2009. For more information, call Dotti Lockhart, 897-9680, or David Horvath, 435-3265.

Name _____

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Fellowship of Reconciliation
2236 Kaelin Avenue • Louisville, KY 40205
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E-mail: EdwardsFOR@bellsouth.net

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Sheehan *(continued from page 1)*

traveling the world and running as an independent congressional candidate against Nancy Pelosi in 2008. That conclusion: the only really relevant division in this country is by class, and the division is quite simply between “robber” and “robbed” classes.

The process by which Sheehan, who has had a play, *Peace Mom*, written about her by Nobel Literature laureate Dario Fo, has come to understand this is symbolized by the titles of two of her books: *Not One More Mother’s Child* (2005) and *Myth America: 10 Greatest Myths of the Robber Class and the Case for Revolution!* (2009).

From being pretty much a single-issue activist on the subject of peace, Sheehan has evolved into a sort of fire-breathing progressive/radical, even attending an annual banquet of the *People’s Weekly World*. She is currently expanding the more recent book to include the 20 greatest myths, and said at the Chao Auditorium on September 8 that she was about up to number 14.

In her run against Pelosi (undertaken because the speaker would not bring articles of impeachment against then-president Bush) she advocated a very broad set of radical ideas, including single-payer health care.

But the genesis of all this was, and remains, the Iraq and Afghanistan wars. Sheehan said September 8 that she was against the wars all along, even before Casey was killed (soon after his arrival in Iraq), and even when (as with Muhammad Ali on the Vietnam War) it was hugely unpopular to be so.

The result of this wondering about why we elect parties which favor the robber class was the following list of her first ten myths:

- The “foundational myth” that the U.S. is better than any other country on this Earth or anywhere else (even than any that *could* exist on another planet elsewhere in the vast universe!).
- ”Elections matter” (Emma Goldman said that if they did they would be made illegal, Sheehan said).
- “There’s a difference between robber class Democrats and robber class Republicans.”
- “It’s noble to die in a robber-class war.”
- “The Federal Reserve cares about you.”
- “It’s a privilege to pay income taxes to the robber class” (nonsense, Sheehan said).
- “Housing, health care, and education are privileges, too;” if you don’t have them, there’s something wrong with *you* — after all, you, too, can become a member of the robber class if you’re smart enough and/or work hard enough (in reality, housing, health care, and education are human rights, Sheehan noted).



AFL-CIO *(continued from page 2)*

Iraq when they really meant for them to die in Afghanistan, are determined to push an otherwise-enlightened President Obama to continue the slaughter in Afghanistan.

Well, if we feel, as do John Sweeney and Rich Trumka, that Mr. Obama has the potential to be a great president, we must have felt the same way when Lyndon Johnson signed the Civil Rights Act and Voting Rights Act in the 1960’s. But Johnson will best be known for the napalm and murder and mayhem he visited upon Southeast Asia—a disgraced presidential ship wrecked on the shoals of Vietnam. Do we want Mr. Obama to suffer the same fate?

It is not just the Afghanistan-Pakistan mess that Mr. Obama inherited from the debacle that was George Bush. He also was bequeathed a financial mess, about which he addressed Wall St. tycoons and others on September 14. The New York Times reported the following day: “President Obama... sternly admonished the financial industry and lawmakers to accept his proposals to reshape financial regulation to protect

- “America has a free press.”
- “The environment, who needs it?” (we all do, really, she said).
- “Nineteen Muslims with box cutters were responsible for 9/11” (which sort of brings us back around to number one, the “foundational myth”).

This “mythology” leads Sheehan to call for what Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. dubbed a “revolution of values.” War, she says, is a *racket*: the children of the poor and middle class get killed to make the robber class richer — and then veterans are the biggest chunk of the homeless!

Even more “respectable” folks are not immune from being ripped off, though, Sheehan added, explaining that banks make more in ridiculous “fees” (God forbid that you bounce a check) than most of us will see in a lifetime. And credit is the lifeblood, not (as Obama claims) of the American economy, but of the *robber* economy, she added. The \$700-billion (plus) “saving” of the banks, insurance companies, et al, is really the government giving them “my” money so they can lend it back to “me” at interest, Sheehan said.

With such an appropriate attitude, it should be no surprise that Sheehan does not pay her income taxes (“produce my son, who died in your illegal and immoral war and I will,” she said). She asks repeatedly of anyone who will listen, “What ‘noble cause’ did my son die for, damn it!?”

Some conservative commentators have claimed that there was a George Soros or Michael Moore behind Cindy Sheehan, pulling her strings as with a puppet. But this is simply not the case, to all appearances: Sheehan is just a simple mother “speaking her truth” and drawing her own conclusions. She said September 8 for all of us to do the same and she “guarantees” we’ll have a profound impact on our world.

Thus did she support Green Party presidential candidate Cynthia Mckinney in 2008 (Al Gore for no discernible good reason *gave up* the presidency in 2000, she said, recalling the scene from Moore’s “Fahrenheit 9/11” in which U.S. representative after U.S. representative begged him to support the challenges in Florida etc.); Obama versus McCain was truly for her a Hobson’s choice.

The anti-war, anti-robber-class, anti-capitalist Ms. Sheehan certainly provides all of us, much for the better, with one that is otherwise.

Ike M. Thacker IV and Eustace Durrett, both of Louisville, are advocates for political, social and economic democracy. Thacker focuses on housing and Durrett on transportation issues.

the nation from a repeat of the excesses that drove Lehman Brothers into bankruptcy and wreaked havoc on the global economy last year. ‘We will not go back to the days of reckless behavior and unchecked excess at the heart of this crisis, where too many were motivated only by the appetite for quick kills and bloated bonuses.’ ”

Is it simply a matter of having pushed a \$787 billion stimulus plan, and of increased regulation? The article continues: “One major difficulty is that many of the issues do not break along party lines — they tend instead to force disagreements between industries and their various supporters in Congress. So the fight is as much among Democrats as it is between parties.”

We must hold Mr. Obama accountable, yet support his presidency in the face of racist and right-wing attacks. It is our responsibility to coalesce a progressive majority, a united front of progressive forces, to see that this happens.

Contact Ira Grupper at irag@iglou.com.

Forum *(continued from page 3)*

it was intentionally [so designed] at the Constitutional Convention of 1787.

The common good, despite the preamble to the Constitution, has never been an objective of the ruling class. Once one understands these concepts, [one can properly] evaluate legislative proposals and policies at all levels of government. Further, socialism is a viable, workable alternative to capitalism and is the form of government that has the concept of the common good as a fundamental principle.”

Organizing in the Age of Obama, presented by Walter Davis, executive director of the National Organizers Alliance (NOA). This was a participatory workshop (as many at the KYSF were) which noted the wild enthusiasm with which many greeted President Obama — 2.5 million people attended his inauguration, after all — and focused on three aspects of organizing for progressive and radical causes in the new age: “what’s working,” “obstacles,” and “solutions.” One of the main organizers of the KYSF, Attica Scott of Kentucky Jobs with Justice, said that one thing that is working is coalition-building; Kentuckians for the Commonwealth representatives, relying on their experiences especially in the areas of tax justice, voting rights for ex-felons, and mountaintop removal, spoke of people “expressing themselves” and of improved communication (especially via computers, e-mail etc.).

An attender from the SEIU spoke of using the many techniques pioneered in the 2008 elections, while one from the FOR — using as examples programs in counter-military recruitment and another training teachers in solutions to all forms of violence - suggested that youth might be a common denominator.

Organizing at the grass roots, rather than “inside the Beltway” seemed generally agreed to be the main source of recent successes; and it was pointed out that the millions of youth who were mobilized to vote in 2008 will have important beneficial effects for us for decades to come.

Obstacles to our success that were discussed included the fact that many Bush appointees and hires are still on the job and many cultural habits in enforcement etc. haven’t changed; overly hopeful expectations of Obama; special-interest lobbying and campaign money; entrenched (often old) politicians; the lack of training of good people to replace those politicians; a lack of organization; and racism. Solutions to these problems, meanwhile, focused on training and mentoring new politicians and activist leaders; focusing on the local-grass-roots level; and, perhaps above all, *unity* among people from various specific movements who agree on most things: don’t fight each other, or focus on single issues!

That last point might serve as sort of an expression of the watchword for the entire Kentucky Social Forum of 2009: accept diversity not only of race, gender, sexual orientation, disability level, etc., but even of the primary issues on which your organization focuses as compared to what other progressive/radical groups emphasize. The TINA idea is nonsense — there are *many* and various alternatives to capitalism (and conformism) — and there is much more that unites than divides us. Remember that!

Kennedy

(continued from page 1)

Convention in Denver! Then I cried when I went to the inauguration and saw him standing there proudly during the Inauguration of President Barack Obama.

Now Teddy, go on and take your rest. We know that our destiny is tied up with America’s destiny!

The writer, of Louisville, is an activist for racial justice and a clean environment.


Benefit Concert Featuring

Anne Feeney and David Rovics

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\$15.00 per person



"Anne Feeney is the best labor singer in North America."-- Utah Phillips

"David Rovics is the musical version of Democracy Now!"-- Amy Goodman

For tickets or more information call
502-568-6758 or
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All proceeds benefit St. John Center for Homeless Men

Festival of faiths' theme is on water

Faith will flow Nov. 4 to 13 as religious and spiritual leaders from many nations gather for an expanded 2009 Festival of Faiths in Louisville, the 14th in the yearly series of festivals.

This year's theme is: "Sacred Water: Sustaining Life."

Presenters of the more than 30 programs of the festival, put on by the Center for Interfaith Relations, will include:

- Sobonfu Somé of Burkina Faso, who teaches the rituals, practices and wisdom of her Dagara tribe. "Come prepared to move, laugh and sing as Somé weaves a ceremony of true connection and spirit through ritual drumming, song and dance," a brochure said.
- Coleman Barks, who will explore the connection between the sacrament of friendship and the poetry of the 13th century Persian mystic Jelaluddin Rumi.
- Masaru Emoto, who has published five books on the relationship of water crystals to negative or positive words, emotions and music (Some web sites call Emoto's work unsound, even a hoax, but others said it contributes to peace and international understanding).
- Members of the International Council of Thirteen Indigenous Grandmothers, who are from North, South, and Central America, Africa, Asia, and the Arctic Circle. They represent a global alliance of prayer, education, and healing and travel the world to bear witness to the wounds of people and the Earth.

Some program are free (donations accepted) and open to the public and others will require tickets, the brochure said.

Many events will be at the Henry Clay Building at 604 S. 3rd St. in Louisville. Some locations and times have yet to be chosen.

For more information, go to the Center for Interfaith Relations website at www.interfaithrelations.org or call the center at (502) 583-3100 ext. 10.



Third Thursday Lunches

presented by the

Fellowship of Reconciliation & Interfaith Paths to Peace

September 2009 to January 2010

October 15

The Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty: Prospects for U.S. Ratification

Joe Volk, Execuive Secretary, Friends Committee on National Legislation (FCNL), will explain the treaty which now has its best opportunity ever for ratification by the U.S. Senate. He will encourage us to do what we can to ensure ratification. Joe Volk has more than three decades of experience working for peace and social justice. He has lobbied Congress to support peaceful prevention of deadly conflict, nuclear disarmament, peace in Iraq and many other issues. He is a past chair and current member of the Steering Committee of the US Campaign to Ban Landmines. FCNL, a nonpatisan Quaker lobby in the public interest, was founded in 1943 to bring the spiritual values of Friends into the public policy process.

November 19

Bread Before Bombs: A Discussion on Building Human Security

Frida Berrigan, a Senior Program Associate at the New America Foundation's Arms and Security Initiative, will discuss how to cut the military budget and fund human needs. An estimated \$1.3 trillion dollars goes into military coffers each year. Today, even as once powerful economies teeter on the brink of collapse, and the impacts of financial meltdown ripple into every community, precious resources continue to be diverted from human need to fund war and preparations for war. The United States alone accounts for half of global military spending. But, the gulf between the resources controlled by the military and those allocated to the people is large and growing in poor and rich countries alike.

January 21

The Israeli Military Attack on Gaza: The Occupation Continues

Dr. Sharon Wallace will share her experiences and photos from her trip to occupied Palestine during the Israeli assault in January of 2009. Sharon Wallace, activist, teacher and mother has been traveling to, and working in, the occupied West Bank and Gaza strip since 1990. She has worked with direct action groups, Palestinian media and non government organizations.



The Rudyard Kipling • 422 West Oak Street • Louisville
Buffet Lunch at 11:30 • Presentations at Noon • \$6.00
For reservations, call Jean Edwards (458-8056)



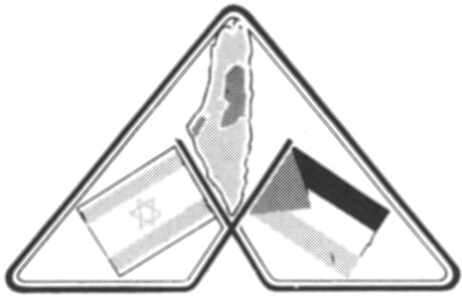
The Israeli/Palestinian Conflict is an AMERICAN Issue

Call upon the U.S. to be a friend to both Israelis and Palestinians

at the VIGIL

Every Friday: 12 Noon – 1:00 PM

**Corner of 6th Street & Broadway
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Louisville Committee for Israeli/Palestinian States (502.451.5658) www.louisvillepeace.org/twostates.html

Fellowship of Reconciliation (FOR)/Louisville Chapter (502.458.8056) www.louisville-for.org

American-Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee (ADC)/Kentucky Chapter (502.893.9828) www.adckentucky.com

WHAT FUTURE FOR
OUR DYING
ECONOMY?
Thoughts inspired by
Wendell Berry.

Since the down turn in our economy, we have read many articles, heard countless discussions as to what might have caused it and what must be done to get it back on track. Every night on the evening news, President Obama brings us up to date as to how the government is coping. He is always optimistic.

However nothing can compare with the scorching analysis presented by Wendell Berry in his article “**Inverting the Economic Order**” which we discovered in the September 2009 issue of *The Progressive*. My interest was aroused immediately when he started talking about putting *nature first* in ordering the economy of a nation. Then he cites “the law of return” as the first principle of such an economy.

“**This law requires that what is taken from nature must be given back; the fertility cycle must be maintained in continuous rotation. An authentic economy, then, would be based upon renewable resources: land, water, ecological health.**

These resources, if they are to stay renewable in human use, will depend, in turn, upon resources of culture that also must be kept renewable: accurate local memory, truthful accounting, continuous maintenance, un wastefulness, and a democratic distribution of now-rare practical arts and skills.”

Berry then continues to describe a “proper economy” in which certain things are designated as priceless, referring to things of absolute value, beyond and above any price that could be set upon them by any market. These things would be *fertile land, clean water and air, ecological health, and the capacity of nature to renew itself*. Land owners would be expected to use the land as its servants and on behalf of all the living.

Berry then explains, “**The present and now-failing economy is exactly the opposite of the economy I have just described. Our economy has become an anti-economy, a financial system without a sound economic basis and without economic virtues. It has inverted the economic order that puts nature first. This economy is based upon consumption, which ultimately serves not the ordinary consumers but a tiny class of excessively wealthy people.**

In the five pages following this introduction, Berry goes into detail about some of the glaring failures in our present economy. At this point with limited space, I can only give leading sentences that may entice you to get the article and read it for yourself.

Remedies now being proposed for the failure of this consumption based economy include *stimulate, spend, create jobs*. What is to be stimulated is spending. But spending is not an economic virtue. Saving is. Not-wasting is. To encourage spending with no regard to what is being purchased may be pro-finance, but it is anti-economic.

The gullibility of the public thus becomes an economic resource. The category of things sold that are not needed now includes legally marketed foods and drugs.

This economy has made itself absolutely dependent on resources that are either exhaustible by nature or have been made exhaustible by our wastefulness and our refusal to husband and reuse: fossil fuels, metals, and other mined materials.

The longest infamous example of a no-product financial system is the product of usury — the lending of money at exorbitant interest. In the Hebrew Bible ... usury is understood as an injustice and an offense against charity. It is a way for people of wealth to exploit the poor, whom they have been instructed to care for.

In a locally owned bank, the lender is a neighbor of the borrower. You don’t put your neighbors into trouble or into ruin by misleading them to assume debts they cannot pay.

Agriculture is forced to subserve the rule of industrialism. ... Agribusiness is immensely more profitable monetarily than agriculture, which almost customarily for the last fifty or sixty years has been barely profitable or unprofitable. Hence the drastic decline in the agricultural population.



The land is forced to produce but is not maintained; the fertility cycle is broken; soil nutrients become water pollutants; toxic chemicals and fossil energy replace human work.

The farm population has now declined almost to non-existence because, since the middle of the last century, we have deliberately depressed farm income, while allowing production costs to rise, for the sake of “cheap food” and to favor agribusiness.

Since the end of the Great Depression, and even more since the end of World War II, country people have crowded into cities. ... Immense numbers of them have ended up in slums. Some, the homeless or insane or addicted poor, sleep in doorways or under bridges. Some beg or steal.

There is no good reason, economic or otherwise, to wish for the “recovery” and continuation of the economy we have had. There is no reason, really, to expect it to recover and continue, for it has depended too much on fantasy.

From now on, if we would like to continue here, our use of our land will have to be ruled by the principles of stewardship and thrift, using as the indispensable measure not monetary profit or industrial efficiency or professional success but ecological health.

Note: This sketchy outline is a disgrace to the brilliant article by Wendell Berry which is too priceless to set aside. Read and share the original which appeared in *The Progressive* (September 2009). Go to www.progressive.org

A BLESSING FOR GANDHI’S BIRTHDAY

In her column (C-J 9-20-09) Ellen Goodman tells a remarkable story of an incident that took place in a Virginia schoolhouse where President Obama was speaking recently. A ninth-grader asked him a question that had nothing and everything to do with his presidency: “And if you could have dinner with anyone, dead or alive, who would it be?” His answer was **Gandhi**, and adding “It would probably be a really small meal because he didn’t eat a lot.” (Thanks to Genny Scheldorf for sharing this story.)

We are reminded also that on Gandhi’s birthday, October 2, the WORLD MARCH FOR PEACE AND NONVIOLENCE begins, starting in New Zealand. An international team of marchers will travel through six continents over a period of 93 days, ending on January 2, 2010 in the heights of the Andes Mountains. Along their path, they will be joined by millions of people who feel that beyond countries, ideologies, cultures and particular situations, it is necessary to awaken a new social consciousness to build a worldwide culture of nonviolence. The March is inspiring the creation of thousands of initiatives in more than 95 countries — forums, symposia, cultural and sports events, festivals, concerts, vigils, and community gatherings — all focused on spreading the message of disarmament and nonviolence throughout the planet.

Vigil again
to protest
atrocities
via SOA

The time is at hand to board the bus bound for the Nov. 20-22 Vigil at the Gates of Fort Benning, Ga., a yearly protest at the site of the Western Hemisphere Institute for Security Cooperation, formerly known as the School of the Americas.

Reservations for the Louisville bus can be arranged by calling Dotti Lockhart, (502) 897-9680, or David Horvath at (502) 435-3265. The deadline for reservations is October 31.

Thousands will gather to protest this school, whose graduates have committed horrible crimes. One was the brutal murder of eight people, including six Jesuit priests, in their residence at a university in San Salvador, where they taught.

A rally Saturday, Nov. 21, will include musicians and speakers from across the Americas, followed by a Puppetista Pageant. A dramatic procession the next day will remember the victims of SOA violence.

The School of the Americas is a U.S. military training school for Latin American security personnel. It was renamed the Western Hemisphere Institute for Security Cooperation in 2001. The school has been producing death squad leaders and human rights abusers since 1946. Graduates of the school have a long history of killings, rapes and the suppression of popular movements for social change.

Among those targeted by SOA graduates are those who work for the rights of the poor. Hundreds of thousands of Latin Americans have been tortured, assassinated, raped, “disappeared,” massacred or forced into refuge by those trained at the School of the Americas.

Advocates of closing the school scored a victory in the U.S. House of Representatives in June with a vote of 224 to 190 in favor of forcing the Pentagon to release the names of graduates and instructors of the SOA/WHINSEC.

More pressure is on with the introduction of H.R. 2567, which would suspend the school’s operations and investigate the SOA/WHINSEC. So far, there are 58 cosponsors.



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Mark Your Calendars!
October 20 & 24-25, 2009
Additional events to be announced




**The Human
Cost of Low
Prices**

Free Trade Agreements have promised lower prices for consumers and greater economic prosperity for Central America. Were the promises kept? Hear about the real effects of CAFTA on small farmers from Nicaraguan cooperative movement leader Eddy Gutierrez.

October 20 - 11 AM Noon
Bellarmine University, Hilary s in Horrigan Hall

Nicaraguan Eddy Enrique Gutierrez Zavala represents small-scale producers in Jalapa and northern Nicaragua. He is director of CCAJ the Confederation of Jalapa s Agricultural Cooperatives and represents coffee producers in CONACAFE- the National Council on Coffee and the International Coffee Organization. Galen Baynes WFP Nicaragua International Team Member accompanies Eddy as his interpreter and as a Witness for Peace organizer.



Contact David Horvath (502) 479-9262, davidh40204@yahoo.com for details. Specifics will also be updated on the calendar at louisvillepeace.org

Sponsored by The Kentucky Interfaith Taskforce on Latin America and the Caribbean and Witness for Peace Southeast
Image by Rini Templeton <http://www.riniart.org>

Calendar for peacemakers

Oct 1 (Thurs) **ACLU 2009 BILL OF RIGHTS DINNER.** Mark your calendar and save the date! To be held at the Hyatt Regency in downtown Louisville. Keynote speaker will be Morris Dees, co-founder of the Southern Poverty Law Center. For more information, visit www.aclu-ky.org or call (502) 581-1181.

Oct 2-4 (Fri-Sun) **ST. JAMES COURTART SHOW.** Bringing more than 700 artists from around the country. 10 AM to 6 PM on Friday and Saturday, 10 AM to 5 PM on Sunday at St. James Court in Old Louisville. For more information, visit www.stjamescourtartshow.com.

Oct 3 (Sat) **ENGLISH CONVERSATION CLUB AT IROQUOIS LIBRARY.** Volunteers needed to help English language learners with basic conversation skills. No long-term commitment. Meet people from all over the world! Saturdays in October at 3 PM at the Iroquois Branch Library, 601 W. Woodlawn, Louisville, 40215. For more information contact Sophie at 574-1701.

Oct 3 (Sat) **“TITANIC: THE ARTIFACT EXHIBITION.”** This major touring exhibit includes over 100 artifacts recovered from the Titanic wreck site. The exhibition will run through February 15, 2010. Tickets are on sale now at the Louisville Science Center. For more information, call 561-6100 or visit www.louisvillescience.org.

Oct 4 (Sun) **SUSTAINABLE LOCAL PUBLIC POLICY.** Every Sunday at 2 PM at the Legal Aid Society, 416 W. Muhammad Ali. Become a part of this grassroots movement bringing principles of sustainability into local public policy. For details, contact: j@bikecourier.org.

Oct 4 (Sun) **VIGIL FOR PEACE** every first Sunday evening, remembering all those suffering from conflicts in the Middle East. Bring a sign. 7-8 PM, Bardstown Road at Douglass Blvd. Sponsored by LPAC (Louisville Peace Action Community). For more information, call Judy Munro-Leighton at 456-6914.

Oct 5 (Mon) **SUSTAINABLE LOCAL PUBLIC POLICY.** Every Monday at 6 PM at the Center for Neighborhoods, 610 South Fourth Street, #701. Become a part of this grassroots movement bringing principles of sustainability into local public policy. For details, contact: j@bikecourier.org.

Oct 7 (Wed) **THE LOUISVILLE SUSTAINABILITY FORUM.** Meets the first Wednesday of each month. The forum’s purpose is to hold and promote the intention of sustainability for Louisville; establish and nourish relationships that strengthen community and create change; and create a space for discussion that inspires, motivates and deepens our ability to catalyze social change. Bring your lunch and enjoy the company of like-minded community members. Noon to 1:45 PM, Passionist Earth & Spirit Center, The Barn at 1924 Newburg Road.

Oct 8 (Thurs) **EMPTY BOWLS SOUP SUPPER AND AUCTION.** To benefit the Individual and Family Assistance Program of Highlands Community Ministries. 5 PM, Frazier Hall, Bellarmine University. For more information, contact Linda Bowles at (502) 451-7535 or lcbowles@bluegrass.net.

Oct 8 (Thu) **THE FDR/LINCOLN LEGACY CLUB.** Meets the second Thursday of the month, for those interested in learning about fair trade and the American system of economics of Hamilton and Clay. 6:30 PM, 1838 Frankfort Ave. For more information, contact John Miller at papajohn15@bellsouth.net.

Oct 8 (Thu) **FINDING PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST: Pragmatism vs. Human Rights.** The World Affairs Council of Kentucky will present Dr. Nadia Hijab of the Institute for Palestine Studies. 7:00 PM at the Galt House, East Tower, Carroll Ford Room. Tickets \$15. Call 561-5422. For more information, please visit www.worldkentucky.org.

Oct 8 (Thurs) **APPAF (American Palestine Public Affairs Forum).** Every second Thursday. A documentary film exploring the situation in Middle East will be presented. 7:30 PM, Louisville Presbyterian Seminary, 1044 Alta Vista Road, Nelson Hall, Room 119. For more information, call Bashar Masri, 773-1836.

Oct 9-10 (Fri-Sat) **BELKNAP FALL FESTIVAL.** Featuring juried arts & crafts, food, music, family fun, educational exhibits, and the Deer Park Environmental Village. Douglass Loop at Dundee, Harvard, Yale and Wibben. From 6-10 PM on Friday and 10 AM to 7 PM Saturday. For more information, contact Linda Bowles at (502) 451-7535 or lcbowles@bluegrass.net.

Oct 9-10 (Fri-Sat) **14th GARVIN GATE BLUES FESTIVAL.** Come with lawn chairs and enjoy the largest free neighborhood street music festival in Louisville which attracts a multi-racial, intergenerational audience to the intersection of Oak Street & Garvin Place (between 4th & 6th Streets). Food, drink, Blues memorabilia, crafts for sale. Friday, 6:45-11 PM; Saturday, 3-11 PM. For more information, go to www.garvingatebluesfestival.com or email info@garvingatebluesfestival.com.

Oct 10 (Sat) **PEAK OIL.** Every 2nd Saturday, Main Library, 4th & York, Mezzanine, Boardroom. 9:00 AM. Call George Perkins, 425-6645.

Oct 10 (Sat) **“ELABC DE LAS Y LOS MEXICANOS.”** A fun-filled lecture IN SPANISH about the Mexican people: How do they think? How do they act? What common words do they use? Referring to key books for understanding Mexican culture, such as Octavio Paz’s *El laberinto de la soledad* and Roger Bartra’s *Anatomía del mexicano*, Francisco Juarez will provide an exploration of what makes Mexicans tick. Free and open to the public. 1 PM, Iroquois Branch Library, 601 W. Woodlawn, Louisville, 40215. For more information contact Sophie at 574-1701.

Oct 11 (Sun) **“AIM HIGHER”** focusing on military counter-recruitment. Every 2nd Sunday at 7:00 PM, 2236 Kaelin Avenue at the FOR office. This group welcomes invitations to speak about 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.

Oct 11 (Sun) **“BE THE CHANGE” CONCERT & COMMUNITY CHOIR.** With special guests: the Troubadours of Divine Bliss, Carol Kraemer, and John Gage. 4-5:30 PM, First Unitarian Church, 809 South Fourth Street. Benefits the Peace Education Program. For more information, call 502-589-6583 or visit www.peaceeducationprogram.org.

Oct 14 (Wed) **KITLAC (Ky Interfaith Taskforce on Latin America and the Caribbean).** Every second Wednesday at the Presbyterian Seminary. 7:30 pm. Call David Horvath, 479-9262, or Pat Geier, 456-6586.

Oct 15 (Thurs) **THIRD THURSDAY LUNCH: “The Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty: Prospects for U.S. Ratification.** Joe Volk, Executive Secretary, Friends Committee on National Legislation (FCNL), will explain the treaty, which now has its best opportunity ever for ratification by the U.S. Senate. He will encourage us to do what we can to ensure ratification. Joe has more than three decades of experience working for peace and social justice. He has lobbied Congress to support peaceful prevention of deadly conflict, nuclear disarmament, peace in Iraq, and many other issues. The Lunch is sponsored by the Fellowship of Reconciliation in cooperation with Interfaith Paths to Peace. Rudyard Kipling, 422 West Oak. Buffet lunch at 11:30; presentation begins at noon. \$6. For reservations, call Jean Edwards at 458-8056 or email edwardsfor@bellsouth.net.

Oct 15 (Thurs) **KENTUCKY SINGLE PAYER HEALTH CARE.** Every third Thursday, 5:30 PM. Main Library, 4th & York Streets, Mezzanine Board Room. Call Kay Tillow, 636-1551.

Oct 18 (Sun) **DARE TO CARE HUNGER WALK.** Festivities start at noon; walk begins at 2:15 PM. Waterfront Park, Festival Plaza. For more information, visit www.thehungerwalk.org.

Oct 18 (Sun) **LOUISVILLE COMMITTEE FOR ISRAELI/PALESTINIAN STATES.** Every third Sunday. First Unitarian Church, 4th & York Streets, 3:00 PM. Call Beverley Marmion, 451-5658.

Oct 19 (Mon) **DEADLINE FOR THE NOVEMBER ISSUE OF FORsooth.** Contact **George Morrison, editor,** at 454-2752, or klm86@att.net.

Note: Please email new or updated calendar listings to calendar.peace@gmail.com, or call Nikki at 451-3402.

Oct 21 (Wed) **BARDSTOWN/TRAPPIST MONASTERY TOUR.** Visit the Basilica of St. Joseph, enjoy a buffet meal at the Stephen Foster Restaurant and visit the Trappist Monastery. Bus leaves at 9 AM and returns about 4:30 PM. \$24 due by September 1. For more information or to register, call the Highlands Community Ministries at 451-3695.

Oct 22 (Thurs) **EDWARDS-PRESLER LECTURES ON PEACE AND JUSTICE.** Dr. Terry Muck and Dr. Frances S. Adeney will lecture on themes from their new book, *Christianity Encountering World Religions: The Practice of Mission in the Twenty-first Century*. Dr. Muck will present “The New Mission” at 11 AM, and Dr. Adeney will present “The New Mission Worker” at 7 PM. Both events will be held in Caldwell Chapel and are free and open to the public. Louisville Seminary, 1044 Alta Vista Road. For more information, visit www.lpts.edu or call 895-3411.

Oct 23 (Fri) **BENEFIT CONCERT WITH ANNE FEENEY AND DAVID ROVICS.** All proceeds to benefit the St. John Center for Homeless Men. 7:30 PM, 700 East Muhammad Ali. \$15 per person. For more information, call 568-6758 or 583-5147.

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Regular Meeting Times for Area Organizations

- ADDICTION RECOVERY ADVOCATES OF KENTUCKIANA – 2nd Thursday (485-1248)
- AIDS INTERFAITH MINISTRIES (AIM) OF KENTUCKIANA, INC. – 1st Tuesday (574-6085 or 574-6086)
- AMERICA 2000 DEMOCRATIC CLUB – 4th Tuesday (459-0616)
- AMERICANS UNITED FOR SEPARATION OF CHURCH AND STATE – 3rd Thursday, every other month at noon (608-7517)
- AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL – 1st Saturday (637-8951)
- APPAF (American Palestine Public Affairs Forum) – 2nd Thursday (895-8155)
- BREAD FOR THE WORLD – Last Monday (239-4317)
- CAPA (Citizens Against Police Abuse) – 2nd Thursday (778-8130)
- CART (Coalition for the Advancement of Regional Transportation) – 3rd Wednesday, 1578 Bardstown Road (895-5172)
- CLOUT [Citizens of Louisville Organized and Working Together] -(583-1267)
- COMMITTEE FOR PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST – 2nd Monday (456-6586)
- COMMON CAUSE – 1st Tuesday, every other month (454-7797)
- COMMUNIST PARTY USA – First Sunday at 2:00 PM (384-3875)
- COMMUNITY FARM ALLIANCE OF JEFFERSON COUNTY – 2nd Tuesday (775-4041)
- CONVERSATION CAFE – Wednesday evenings (560-0085)
- COUNTER RECRUITMENT, “Aim Higher” – Second Sunday (893-2334)
- 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 (558-7175 or 895-8516)
- FRIENDSHIP FORCE OF LOUISVILLE – 2nd Tuesday (893-8436)
- GREATER LOUISVILLE SIERRA CLUB – 3rd Tuesday (897-3335)
- HABITAT FOR HUMANITY – Wednesdays, Thursdays, Fridays & Saturdays (637-6265)
- INTERFAITH PATHS TO PEACE – 1st Tuesday (214-7322)
- IRFI (Islamic Research Foundation International, Inc.) – Sundays at 6:00 PM (502-423-1988)
- JOBS WITH JUSTICE KENTUCKY (582-5454)
- JURISDICTIONARY CLUB OF LOUISVILLE – Know the law and how to use it (500-8161)
- JUSTICE RESOURCE CENTER – 3rd Saturday (562-6737)
- KFTC [KENTUCKIANS FOR THE COMMONWEALTH] – 2nd Monday (589-3188)
- KY ALLIANCE AGAINST RACIST & POLITICAL REPRESSION – 3rd Monday (778-8130)
- KY COALITION TO ABOLISH THE DEATH PENALTY – Last Tuesday (541-9998)
- KITLAC (KY INTERFAITH TASKFORCE ON LATIN AMERICA & THE CARIBBEAN) – 2nd Wednesday (479-9262)
- KY RAINBOW/PUSH COALITION – (245-2272)
- LOUISVILLE COMMITTEE FOR ISRAELI/PALESTINIAN STATES – 3rd Sunday (451-5658)
- LOUISVILLE PEAK OIL GROUP – 2nd Saturday (425-6645)
- LPAC (LOUISVILLE PEACE ACTION COMMUNITY) – (558-9124)
- LOUISVILLE WOMEN CHURCH – Meditation 1st & 3rd Sundays (473-8435)
- LOUISVILLE YOUTH GROUP – Friday nights (893-0788), www.louisvilleyouthgroup.org
- 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)
- 911 TRUTH LOUISVILLE (502-609-6020)
- US DEPARTMENT OF PEACE CAMPAIGN OF KY – 3rd Sunday (472-1772)
- YOUNG DEMOCRATIC SOCIALISTS – every Friday at 2:30 PM (712-2338)

Note: If your group would like to be added to this list or if information needs to be updated, please let us know by calling 458-8056.