

FORsooth

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November 2010

US Senate eyes stance against genocide

by Phil L. Nippert

Preventing genocides (crimes that fit one of the definitions given in the U.N. 1948 Genocide Convention) or mass atrocities is not the top priority of the United States Government. For example, the Carter Administration not only declined to lend support to a regional force to invade and dislodge the Khmer Rouge regime from power in Cambodia, it successfully lobbied the U.N. Credentials Committee to give that regime a U.N. seat in order to appease China and Thailand and deny recognition of Vietnam, whose armed forces had pushed the KR from power in an early 1979 invasion.

The Reagan Administration gave agriculture (\$500 million annually) and manufacturing credits (\$200 million annually) to the Saddam Hussein regime in order to bolster Iraq's fighting in the Iran-Iraq war, and did not try to stop Iraq from using chemical weapons and waging genocide by other means against the rural Iraqi Kurds.

In 1989 the first Bush Administration raised those annual agriculture credits to \$1 billion annually, and did nothing to stop the “ethnic cleansing” carried out by Serbs against Bosnian Croats and Muslims. And of course the Clinton Administration did not act to stop the genocide in Bosnia until 1995, and still allowed the U.N. safe areas of Srebrenica and Zepa to fall to Serbian forces.

And it not only insisted that the U.N. peacekeeping mission in Rwanda be drawn

The non-binding Senate Concurrent Resolution 71, slated for a vote in late November or early December, would urge the establishing of many approaches by the U.S. to prevent and respond to genocide and mass atrocities. Counter to the principles of the FOR, these would include military force -- as a last resort -- but the resolution's primary focus is on nonviolent methods.

– George Morrison, *FORsooth* editor

down to 270 troops during the first weeks of the radical Hutu's systematic murder of Tutsi and moderate members of their own ethnicity there, it also refused to authorize a new U.N. force later on during those 100 days in which about 800,000 people were murdered.

And the world did not successfully intervene in the last North-South Civil War in Sudan until countless civilians were attacked by Khartoum-supported militias, two million people had died and another four million were displaced over 22 years, and has yet to stop the seven and a half year-long genocide in Darfur, in which noted Sudan researcher and advocate Eric Reeves believes more than 500,000 have died from violence and other conflict-related causes.

In fact, the current U.S. Special Envoy to Sudan has gone out of his way to praise a relocation and development plan by the very regime that has broken virtually all past agreements in order to continue its genocide

there, even as there is conclusive evidence that its forces and allies are continuing to bomb and otherwise attack Darfuri civilians. (See Samantha Power's “A Problem From Hell: America and the Age of Genocide”).

Given U.S. responses to these and other catastrophes, it is no surprise that a resolution now in the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations that proposes improving federal level response capacity to genocide and mass atrocities is non-binding.

But Senate Concurrent Resolution 71 is still valuable, since it is based on the careful study and review of the U.S.'s past responses to genocides by the Genocide Prevention Task Force, a group co-led by former Secretary of State Madeleine K. Albright and former Secretary of Defense William S. Cohen, and created by the U.S. Institute of Peace, the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum and the Academy of American Diplomacy.

It condenses many of the recommendations of this report (“Preventing Genocide: A Blueprint for US Policymakers” found at www.usip.org/genocide_taskforce/index.html). The resolution is short, and is available online (go to <http://thomas.loc.gov> then search with keywords “genocide mass atrocities” and select it from the results list). It is expected to be voted on in late November, or early December.

Among recent positive legal developments the resolution cites, perhaps the most important are:

(continued on page 5)

FORsooth editor to step down in March



George Morrison

by George Morrison
FORsooth editor

Even the greatest run reaches its time to end and my wonderful, unforgettable 20-years editing the news of the progressive, nonviolent world will cease in March when I step down as editor of *FORsooth*.

I have received fulfillment and joy greater than words can express from this monthly task, but I have come to see in the last couple of years that I need to change the focus of my activism.

I hope to become more contemplative. Please don't mistake that sentiment for a desire to sit on a mountaintop all day pondering the clouds.

I wish to become more in touch with venerable values and less ruled by sudden, temporary shifts in paradigms. I am weary of buzz words and hot buttons dominating our thinking, rendering us unable to see the bigger picture.

I seek less volume and more measure in our public discourse and perhaps pulling back from a public position will reveal avenues to finding that.

I'll have no problem filling the void created by my stepping down as editor—I'll have more time for lots of other activism, reading and writing. The Louisville FOR chapter, on the other hand, has quite a task.

We're seeking a person or persons to edit *FORsooth* after March. I'll provide all the training needed and will gladly be available for help after I'm gone.

Today's technology makes the job far less burdensome than 15 or 20 years ago. Sure, there's plenty of effort involved, but anyone with internet access, a passion for peace and justice and a fairly good penchant for organization can edit the paper—at your own hours.

You can do a little work now and then during the month or—in an image straight out of your college days when term papers were due—concentrate your labor in the final few days.

Also understand that although the editor job involves drawing the layouts on legal sheets, all the electronic layout work or “pagination” is and will continue to be done by Barbara Powers, a design specialist and progressive activist.

There is to be compensation for the editor position, though the amount would depend on, among other factors, whether one person or a team takes the job.

The Louisville FOR Steering Committee will make the hiring decision. Anyone interested should contact me at klm86@att.net or (502) 454-2752.

Kentucky Alliance dinner is Nov. 13



photo courtesy Kentucky Alliance
Boyce Watkins

Louisville native Boyce Watkins, PhD, will talk about how to build a “Peoples Economy for the 21st century” as the keynote speaker at the 13th yearly Unity Dinner of the Kentucky Alliance Against Racist and Political Repression Saturday November 13 at Wayside Christian

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Tickets for the Nov. 13 Unity Dinner in Louisville are \$45 each or \$360 for a table of eight. Contact the Kentucky Alliance Against Racist and Political Repression at (502) 778-8130 or kyall@insightbb.com.

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Three who help FOR among 31 joining civil rights hall

Three supporters of the Fellowship of Reconciliation were among 31 people inducted in October into the Kentucky Civil Rights Hall of Fame.

- They are:
- **Lee B. Thomas Jr.**, a pacifist, businessman and stalwart backer of racial equality, who became opposed to war when he saw the destruction in Hiroshima, Japan days after the atomic bombing of the city.
 - **Gracie M. Lewis**, a civil rights and labor activist and regular contributor to FORsooth who served as a national leader of the American Federation of Government Employees.
 - **Bob Cunningham**, who has worked with the national and Louisville FOR and who helped found the Black Workers Coalition in Louisville.
- The Kentucky Commission on Human

Rights regularly inducts Kentucky residents or natives, living or deceased, into the hall to honor their work for equality in race, color, religion, national origin, sex, age, disability, and family status – categories protected by state civil rights law.

Thomas, whose family founded the American Saw and Tool Company and Vermont American Corp., used his standing as a prominent business leader to march in the 1960s with Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. and demand equal rights for all, regardless of color, the commission said. Thomas was the CEO of Vermont American for 24 years.

“But his supporters say Thomas is most proud of his work as a founding member of the Board of Interfaith Paths to Peace in Louisville and supporting civil rights laws to end segregation in public accommodations,” a commission statement said, adding that Thomas refused to allow his company to do

business with firms that allowed segregation and he hired and promoted many African Americans and other minorities.

He has served on the Board of Trustees of the Lincoln Foundation in Louisville for more than 50 years. In 2004, the Louisville Urban League presented its first Arthur M. Walters Champion of Diversity Award to Thomas and his wife Joan, a medical doctor who practiced in Louisville’s West End for 21 years. Thomas is a founder of the board of the Kentucky Civil Liberties Union and has served on the board of the National Center for Family Literacy. He has received the Jewish Community’s Ottenheimer Award for Community Service.

Lewis, an officer with the Kentucky Alliance against Racist and Political Repression in Louisville, “has spent a lifetime promoting fairness and equality in employment, housing, education and criminal jus-

tice,” the agency said. “In early 2007, she helped lead a large contingent of Louisville activists to Washington, D.C., where they implored the U.S. Supreme Court to allow Jefferson County to continue its voluntary integration policy in its public schools.”

Lewis has helped win jobs and better working conditions as a union leader for the American Federation of Government Employees; she pushed for the creation of a police review board in Louisville and fought for affirmative action programs in Louisville to ensure that minorities are represented in employment. She has rallied for environmental protection and more green space in Louisville and more affordable and safe housing for low-income people.

Cunningham, a native of Trigg County and longtime Louisville resident, “has spent his life fighting for justice in the workplace, housing, public accommodations and access to finances,” the commission said. During the 1970s, he helped form the Black Workers Coalition to challenge workplace racism and win access to jobs that were denied to blacks and other minorities.

He later joined the Kentucky Branch of the National Alliance against Racism and Political Repression where he fought for prison reform, economic justice, and school equity and against the death penalty. Cunningham, a worker for the Louisville Water Company, has used his voice to bring all races together to create a just society, the commission said.

He spoke in favor of the Fairness Ordinance in Louisville that expanded civil rights to include sexual orientation as a protected class. The commission added that Cunningham has taught younger generations the importance of human rights. As the coordinator of the Kentucky Alliance Youth Program, he helped young people create the Civil Rights mural under the West Broadway overpass at 32nd Street and Broadway in Louisville.

Other inductees include:

(continued on page 5)

Day-Merton friendship intense, playful

FORsooth staff report

Two giant figures in Catholic social justice apparently never met, but enjoyed a “homey” relationship by regularly corresponding, James Forrest, a friend of Dorothy Day who also had met Thomas Merton, said of the two during an informal talk and potluck at Central Presbyterian Church Oct. 14.

Forrest, former general secretary of the International FOR, and currently secretary of the Orthodox Peace Fellowship, chatted at Central Presbyterian one night after delivering a lecture at Bellarmine University on Merton and Day’s relationship.

At the church, Forrest said the postal friendship between the founder of the Catholic Worker movement and the monk who wrote groundbreaking books apparently went back to the time Merton published his acclaimed “The Seven Storey

Mountain” in 1948.

One of Day’s earliest letters to Merton thanked him for sending copies, Forrest said. It was one of the earliest of many shipments from Merton’s monastery, the Abbey of Our Lady of Gethsemani in Nelson County, Ky. to the Catholic Worker House, he added.

“Merton would send up boxes of things to The Catholic Worker -- clothes that had been cast off by their novices. Once there was a box of tooth paste, his books, cheese from the monastery, occasional... fruitcake,” Forrest told the potluck. “I can remember opening up this box and seeing this nice card inside from ‘Uncle Louie and the boys.’ Merton’s name as a monk was Father Louis.”

Serious, sometimes intense correspondence often characterized Day and Merton’s relationship, Forrest added.

“There was no piddling around with things. He went right for the main dish-no appetizers. And Dorothy was pretty

much the same,” he said. “He sometimes wondered if his writing was of any real value and she assured him it was. And I think hearing it from her was different from hearing it from most people – someone decidedly out in the world.”

Forrest recalled reading a letter from Day, whose autobiography was called “The Long Loneliness,” to the father of her only child. “She was indeed a very lonely person. She missed him.”

Although he said Day was a very “direct” person who readily expressed disagreement with Merton where she thought him wrong, Forrest said mutual respect for each other’s spirituality and intellects cemented their friendship.

“She was somebody he could talk to without having to explain things. Almost anything she was interested in, Merton understood and vice-versa. And I think he had enormous confidence in her wisdom.”

Imagine seeing this in color:

Now imagine reading instantly updated news from the FOR.

You can do both at www.louisville-for.org

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 unequaled 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>.

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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.

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FORsooth

4th Annual Anne Braden Memorial Lecture

The Civil Rights Movement and Students: Creating a Vital Transformative Change In the Struggle For American Freedom



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Black Caucus awaits jobs, seeks progress in education

by Gracie Lewis

Appearances by President Obama and First Lady Michelle Obama highlighted the Congressional Black Caucus 40th Annual Legislative Conference in September in Washington, D.C., the theme of which was: “Celebrating the Vision, Continuing the Journey, Advancing the Mission.”

The gathering at the Walter E. Washington Convention Center also included appearances by Harry Belafonte, Judith Jamison, members of the Congressional Black Caucus, and others. Nearly 12,000 attended. With more than 100 sessions, the ALC tackled a multitude of issues directly affecting our communities.

The National Town Hall on Education and Jobs, with the theme: “Educating Our Way to Prosperity” included panelists U.S. Reps. Diane Watson, Elijah Cummings and Chaka Fattah; Brenda Dann-Messier, assistant secretary, Employment and Training Administration of the U.S. Dept. of Labor; and other government officials, professors and CEOs of companies.

One panel examined the progress being made in education to close the achievement gap and address issues such as pre-school prep, poverty, the dropout rate and other issues that remain as serious barriers to success. Another focused on: Where Are the New Jobs Projected for 2011-2012? The Recovery Act has allocated \$500 million in competitive grants for green job training,

including a Pathways Out of Poverty grant specifically for community-based organizations that offer green job training to hard-to-serve youth and adults.

The Recovery Act provides \$4 billion in additional funding for the Workforce Investment System, which supports job training for adults and dislocated workers, summer jobs for young people and opportunities for Americans to find career jobs.

Rep. Fattah noted that the majority of employment opportunities for African-Americans are in black-owned businesses, and that consequently the community needs to be in the position of not just seeking jobs, but handing out jobs. Dr. Danny Boston, a professor of economics at Georgia Tech, said the only job you’re going to be able to count on is the one you create for yourself. Rep. Weston said that many of those opportunities will be in the new green economy, pointing out that the Obama Administration has earmarked \$77 billion in initiatives for green business. The question for our community is: Do we wait for the president and Congress to create jobs or do we take the initiative to use our creative spirits to create opportunities?

First Lady Michelle Obama talked about her Childhood Obesity Program which was launched in February 2010. Her “Let’s Move” campaign involves a wide variety of people, including educators, doctors, mayors, food producers, and restaurant owners. The goal is to solve the

childhood obesity problem with annual benchmarks. Solutions include putting more healthy foods in schools and backing farmers’ markets.

The first lady said activities to reduce the problem of obesity include cleaning up a park, planting a community garden and raising money for a school salad bar.

- Other events included:
- The 10th yearly Jazz Issue Forum Concert. A bill to preserve knowledge and promote education about jazz in the United States and abroad is being introduced in the House of Representatives by U.S. Rep. John Conyers, (D-MI). This program will be carried out by the secretary of the Smithsonian Institution through the director of the National Museum of American History to preserve knowledge and promote education about jazz. Jazz education would be taught in elementary and secondary schools in collaboration with local educational agencies. The bill includes an Ambassador of Jazz program to send jazz artists and jazz orchestras from secondary schools abroad to perform for diverse audiences on mission of goodwill, education and cultural exchange.
 - Rep. Conyers’ Judiciary Braintrust Forum on “Advancing the Civil Rights Agenda.” The Tea Party has attempted to roll back the gains of the civil rights movement. Consequently, the panelists focused on “Marching Toward Justice: The Centrality of the 14th Amendment.” There was

also an Inaugural Exhibit on display of the Damon J. Keith Law Collection of African American Legal History. It brought to life stories about how persons of African descent in North America and their advocates have struggled for justice.

- Advance information about the NAACP’s “One Nation Working Together Rally” which was held on the National Mall, October 2. Under the banner of “Jobs, Justice and Public Education,” thousands of people from across the country marched on Washington. This march was needed to galvanize the forces to get-out-the-vote.
- An issue forum led by U.S. Rep. Danny Davis of Chicago called “Ex-Offenders; Upward Economic Mobility, the Intersecting of Policy and Opportunity.” This was a fantastic forum and will enable the Kentucky Alliance Against Racist and Political Repression Prison Justice Committee to join up with the Shawnee Justice Reinvestment (JRI) Pilot Project and churches to move forward in implementing the Second Chance Act. The Second Chance Act reduces barriers to employment and housing for ex-offenders.

This trip was just wonderful and we look forward to going again next year. It’s a great opportunity for educators, community organizers and faith-based organizations.

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



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Kentucky Alliance dinner *(continued from page 1)*

Mission’s Hotel Louisville, 120 West Broadway in downtown Louisville. Watkins is a People’s Scholar who specializes in finance, education, and black social commentary. Watkins is a professor at Syracuse University in New York.

Watkins has presented his message to millions, making regular appearances on CNN, CNBC, MSNBC, ABC News, BET and writing in The New York Times, The Washington Post, Black Enterprise Magazine and many more national media outlets.

“Brilliant, articulate, and practical, Watkins is a world-leading authority in finance and investing,” The Kentucky Alliance said in a news release.

Watkins has impeccable credentials to support his financial advice, the alliance said, adding that in college, he earned BA and BS degrees with a triple major in Finance, Economics, and Business Management. He was also selected by the Wall Street Journal as the Outstanding Graduating Senior in Finance.

He then earned a Masters Degree in Mathematical Statistics and a PhD from the Ohio State University. During his year of graduation, he was the only African-American in the country to earn a PhD in Finance, the organization said.

Also at the Nov. 13 dinner, Suzy Post will receive the Carl and Anne Braden Lifetime Achievement Award at the Unity Dinner. Post was a founding member of the Kentucky Alliance and worked closely with Carl and Anne Braden on many important social issues.

Post is one of the best-known living white anti-racist activists, the alliance said, and was a plaintiff in the lawsuit that desegregated Jefferson County schools. Post has been a social justice advocate since the 1950s and was an early supporter of the open housing movement in Louisville.

Louisville was the site of many open housing marches while Post was President of the Kentucky Civil Liberties Union (later the ACLU of Kentucky) and hostile crowds followed the marchers down Broadway, into the Highlands, and down Cherokee Road. The KCLU provided legal representation for those arrested and Post worked with others to raise bail before an open housing law was finally adopted, the organization said.

While President of the KCLU, Post organized the first statewide women’s conference. Representatives came from a cross section of Louisville’s social justice community and Mayor Harvey Sloan was pressed to provide the Human Relations Commission with

funds to employ a staff person to monitor discrimination against women.

Post got the job and stayed at the Commission for eight years, working on both the implementation of the school desegregation lawsuit originally filed by KCLU, in which she was a plaintiff, and then compliance with Title IX prohibiting sex discrimination in education. When Post was elected to the National ACLU Board of Directors, she organized a women’s caucus to improve the status of women on the national board and was able to move the national organization to make women’s rights its number one priority in 1972.

After leaving the Human Relations Commission in 1982, Post became the Director of KCLU. She stayed there until 1990 when she accepted a job as founding Director of the Metropolitan Housing Coalition where she organized a Fair Housing Committee to monitor local compliance with fair housing law.

She resigned from MHC in 2006, and remains its director emeritus. She has received awards from many state and local organizations, and remains a loyal member of the NAACP, the ACLU of Kentucky, and the Kentucky Alliance Against Racist and Political Repression, working on many social justice issues, the alliance added.

The dinner will also honor a couple departing the city soon for work in Florida after leading Louisville in the areas of health and social justice, Dr. Adwale Troutman and Denise Vazquez Troutman.

Dr. Troutman will be honored for his service as director of the Metro Louisville Department of Health and Wellness. He identifies himself through his commitment to social justice, human rights, community activism, health equity and national and global health.

“Dr. Troutman has over 40 years of dedication through action to the principles of universal freedoms and the elimination of racism, injustice and oppression,” the alliance release said. “His unique educational background has been a major factor in this quest.

Dr. Troutman has an MD from New Jersey Medical School, a Masters in Public Health from Columbia University, a Masters in Black Studies from the State University of New York in Albany, and as of October 2009, a Certificate in Public Health from the National Board of Public Health Examiners.

He is a residency trained Family Physician graduating from residency at the Medical University of South Carolina.

His career has included clinical emergency medicine, hospital administration, academic and public health practice. He also served as an Associate Professor in the University of Louisville’s School of Public Health and Information Sciences while directing the Metro Louisville Department of Public Health and Wellness. Dr. Troutman is leaving Louisville for new challenges in Florida.

Denise Vazquez Troutman will be honored for her service as President/CEO of the Center For Women and Families. The center, a private nonprofit organization, works to eliminate domestic and sexual violence and economic hardship through service, education and advocacy.

“Ms. Troutman is a seasoned executive who has held positions in both the nonprofit and corporate environments,” the release said. “Before assuming leadership of The Center for Women and Families, she was vice-president of human resources with the YMCA of Greater Louisville, where she provided employee and fiscal leadership for the organization’s 12 branches, 60 programs and 1500 employees.”

Ms. Troutman also has held leadership and management positions with Starbucks Coffee Co. in Atlanta and Oracle Corporation, a database technology product company.

She was born in Belize, Central America. She moved with her family to Chevy Chase, Md. at a young age when her father accepted a position with the World Bank. She attended boarding school in Kenya and then in India, returning to the United States only briefly before attending the University of Windsor in Canada.

Louisville transgendered rights activist Yana Baker will be honored at the dinner. She is a political science major at Indiana University Southeast in New Albany, the alliance said, and has been a civil rights/social justice organizer and activist since 1997.

“In 1999, she was part of the youth delegation that lobbied the former Jefferson County government to pass the Fairness Ordinance,” the alliance said. “Baker has a passion for justice and a desire to serve parts of the community that have been under-represented.

In 2007, Baker founded TECK (Transgender Education Center of Kentucky), whose mission is to empower and edify the transgender community while educating the broader community on transgender issues. Baker serves on the coordinating committee of the Fairness Campaign and is a Student Senator at Indiana University Southeast.

Use of outlawed phosphorus on civilians led to protest

This article was published on the website Mondoweiss on September 27, 2010. Mondoweiss is one of the best websites for the very latest in progressive Jewish thought on the Israel-Palestine conflict. See www.mondoweiss.net.

by Russ Greenleaf

I’m not anti-Israel. I’m not a self-hating Jew. When Israel launched the Gaza war in 2008, I was a member of Brit Tzedek v’Shalom. We were committed to working politely within the Jewish community, promoting a two-state solution, stressing our pro-Israel credentials, refusing to do street protests.

The Gaza war was a wake-up call for me, and for thousands of other Jews. I was jarred by the sight of white phosphorus exploding over Gaza – the most densely populated place on earth. White phosphorus shells made in the USA, fired by the Israeli army. White phosphorus – the incendiary chemical weapon that burns flesh down to the bone – banned for use against people, even against soldiers. Now it was being used against Palestinian children. An illegal weapon. A terror weapon. Right on my TV screen – video evidence that Israel was committing war crimes.

Someone in Louisville called an urgent meeting of concerned Jews. We adjourned the meeting without doing anything. There was no Jewish group in town that was willing or able to organize a protest demonstration (although Jews were joining protests organized by others.)

As the death toll of Palestinian children killed by the IDF rose to almost 400, a group of right-wing Jews and Christian Zionists staged a demonstration in downtown Louisville waving Israeli flags and cheering the IDF on – and blaming the children’s deaths on the Palestinians. (‘Blaming the victim’ taken to a new level of chutzpah and absurdity.)

We started a Jewish Voice for Peace (JVP) chapter in Louisville so there will be a Jewish peace group here to stand in protest across the street from those cheerleaders next time, to stand with the other peace groups in town, and to make it clear that most Jews don’t support war crimes.

The Torah says, “You shall not stand idly by the blood of your neighbor.” Those 400 Palestinian children were my neighbors. Joining Jewish Voice for Peace was a mitzvah for me. Starting a JVP chapter in Louisville was a mitzvah. I did it for the children, and for the Torah. We did it to save Judaism from being hijacked by war criminals who use it to drum up support for their crimes. I did it to save my own soul. Because “If you are neutral in situations of injustice, you have chosen the side of the oppressor” (Bishop Desmond Tutu). And “If not now, when?” (Rabbi Hillel).

Fifty-thousand people added their names to the JVP email list during the Gaza war. Now the Jewish peace groups in America have more supporters than AIPAC. JVP chapters are popping up spontaneously in various cities.

The author is a member of Louisville Jewish Voice for Peace.

The Torah says, “You shall not stand idly by the blood of your neighbor.” Those 400 Palestinian children were my neighbors.

More on Louisville JVP

Below is a statement from Louisville JVP about a protest it held because AIPAC, which lobbied in support of the Gaza war, is now lobbying for war with Iran:

Louisville Jewish Voice for Peace (JVP) organized a Demonstration Against Another War on Tuesday, September 14, at 7 pm on the sidewalk in front of 21c Museum Hotel, 700 West Main Street.

This demonstration was in response to a fundraiser being held in the hotel at that time by AIPAC (the American Israel Public Affairs Committee, also known as the Israel Lobby).

The money raised at that fundraiser will be used by AIPAC to lobby against JVP’s efforts to promote peace between Israel and the Palestinians. AIPAC routinely lobbies

Congress to support everything the Israeli government does, regardless of whether it undermines peace.

AIPAC’s lobbying provides political cover for pro-war elements in Israel to pursue destructive policies like the invasion of Lebanon, the Gaza war, and the continuing expansion of Jewish settlements on Palestinian land. These all undermine prospects for peace. They all advance AIPAC’s view that the only way to ensure Israel’s security is to use pre-emptive war and violence as a first resort.

The money raised at the fundraiser also will be used by AIPAC to lobby the US government to start a war with Iran. AIPAC is claiming that war is the only answer to Iran’s nuclear program. AIPAC is pushing for the US to bomb Iran or give Israel the green light to do it.

JVP was not demonstrating in support of the current Iranian government or President Ahmadinejad. JVP was demonstrating against AIPAC’s proven track record of

supporting war and violence as the first solution to problems.

JVP believes the real solution to Iran’s nuclear program is comprehensive negotiations between America and Iran that will guarantee Iran’s security against a US invasion (which was threatened by George W. Bush) and that will guarantee the security of Iran’s neighbors.

Any country that was threatened with invasion by the United States might be motivated to want a nuclear bomb for self-defense and deterrence against that invasion. The solution to this problem is not to start the very war that Iran fears, but to negotiate with Iran.

JVP believes an American or Israeli attack on Iran would be disastrous for Israelis, Americans, Iranians, and the world.

The attack could kill or injure many

Iranian civilians, including the 30,000 Jewish citizens of Iran who are currently safe and enjoying the protection of the Iranian government and do not want to leave Iran.

The attack could trigger violence and retaliation that could engulf the Middle East. This would harm Israelis, Palestinians, and Americans, especially U.S. troops stationed in the region. It would harm many other innocent people as well.

An attack on Iran could trigger retaliation against Americans and Jews throughout the world. For many reasons, war is not the answer. It would cause many more problems than it would solve.

For all these reasons, Jewish Voice for Peace organized this demonstration against another war, and invited many other peace groups in Louisville to participate.

Jewish Voice for Peace (JVP) is inspired by Jewish tradition to work for peace, social justice, equality, human rights, respect for international law, and a U.S. foreign policy based on these ideals.

JVP opposes anti-Jewish, anti-Muslim, and anti-Arab bigotry and oppression. JVP seeks an end to the Israeli occupation of the West Bank, Gaza Strip, and East Jerusalem; security and self-determination for Israelis and Palestinians; a just solution for Palestinian refugees based on principles established in international law; an end to violence against civilians; and peace and justice for all peoples of the Middle East.

See www.jewishvoiceforpeace.org.



Stance against genocide *(continued from page 1)*

- The 2005 U.N. General Assembly's endorsement of a Responsibility to Protect (in which nations intervene diplomatically, financially, with aid or military force if endangered civilians' governments cannot or will not protect them).
- The creation of the Genocide Convention Implementation Act of 1948 (which makes genocide illegal according to U.S. law).
- The 2010 National Security Strategy's directing the U.S. to improve its ability to prevent mass atrocities internally and internationally by diplomatic, humanitarian aid, financial support and, if these tools do not work, by force (National Security Strategies are foreign policy mission statements on which the Departments of Defense and State, as well as the U.S. Agency for International Development all base their own strategic plans).
- The conclusion of the 2010 Quadrennial Defense Review that the Department of Defense should prepare Presidential Options for preventing suffering from mass atrocities or large natural disasters in other countries.

The resolution urges the U.S. President to lead in setting up a holistic government approach to anticipate, prevent and mitigate, in part by having all relevant agencies and departments improve and coordinate their abilities to forecast, prepare for, prevent and respond to genocide and mass atrocities.

The GPTF says repeatedly in its report that response to genocide should mean strong action taken right away, so that the perpetrators know the U.S. means business. This requires advance coordination among the Departments of State, Defense, Justice,

Treasury, as well as USAID, the intelligence agencies, meeting at least twice a month (what the GTPF calls the Atrocities Prevention Committee).

The State Department is asked to work closely with USAID to train all foreign officers on early warning, conflict prevention and mitigation, and to otherwise improve its response ability based on an evaluation published in its Quadrennial Diplomacy and Development Review. The GPTF report also asks the intelligence community to make early warning and prevention a priority, and improve training, efficiency and emergency access to high level policy makers.

It even cites a list of early warning signs from a 2003 *American Political Science Review* article by Barbara Harff (“No Lessons Learned from the Holocaust? Assessing Risks of Genocide and Political Mass Murder Since 1955”) and analysis by the Political Instability Task Force. The warning signs are: armed conflict, state-led discrimination, genocide/mass atrocities in a place's history, exclusionary ideology, an autocratic regime, leadership instability, non-violent protest, high infant mortality, an ethnically polarized elite, low trade openness/not a member of the WTO's Agreement on Tariffs and Trade.

The resolution also asks the Secretary of State to work closely with relevant regional and global groups, the U.N. Special Advisor for the Prevention of Genocide, and civil society experts in order to improve its multilateral early warning systems, information sharing, and rapid response diplomacy. The Senate document also calls

on the international community to support multilateral efforts toward prevention and mitigation, while the GPTF report calls for a permanent network of governments, NGOs and other organizations to compliment the work of the U.N. in this area. The Secretaries of State and Treasury must together decide how sanctions and other financial tools can best be used against nations and businesses perpetrating or supplying.

The Defense Department likewise must evaluate its current response capacity and make any changes in its mission statement, organization, training, personnel, arsenal and other resources in order to improve it.

The GPTF report suggests that protecting civilians be included in the Joint Chiefs of Staff Rules of Engagement (which would get funding and training for this type of work), that regional commanders coordinate their own genocide prevention plans with the Atrocities Prevention Committee's crisis response plans, that it and the State Department should help increase the prevention abilities of regional entities (such as the African Union) and then have them participate in U.N. missions, and, again with the State Department, build U.S. and U.N. capacity to restore peace and stability in the wake of genocidal violence (and require exit strategies).

The State and Defense Departments must work with Congress to make sure than any U.S. security assistance and training goes to legally accountable forces for whom protection of civilians is its highest priority.

The writer is an activist with the Kentuckyana Interfaith Task Force on Darfur.

Civil rights

(continued from page 2)

- Broadcaster Nick Clooney, from Maysville, who championed bringing more minorities and women into the television news profession.
- Former state representative and Louisville alderman Paul Bather, who helped create better opportunities for minorities in government and the private sector and worked in programs to help felons and neglected and abused children.
- Retired Jefferson County teacher Nancy Dematra, who used innovative strategies to integrate Murray State University and nearby restaurants.
- James Bond, who was born a slave in Woodford County and rose to become one of the nation’s premier educators, researchers and civil rights activists.
- Baseball legend Harold “Pee Wee” Reese of Louisville, who befriended and strongly backed Jackie Robinson and other black major league players in the early days of the game’s integration.

State’s heart in the struggle for 50 years, but funding?

Following is the original text of Ira Grupper’s remarks at the opening panel of a conference sponsored by the Kentucky Commission on Human Rights, celebrating its 50th year, November 13. The conference’s theme was “50 Years Later: Where Do We Go From Here?”

Without prior notice, each presenter’s time was cut from ten to two minutes. Grupper spoke about four and one-half minutes, covering much of his original text...

Sisters & Brothers:

To figure out where the Kentucky Commission on Human Rights needs to go from here we need to know past history, and how this commission’s work comports with the work of city and federal agencies. I have written out my remarks, to conform to Ms. Mary Ann Taylor’s and Mr. John Johnson’s time restriction.

The U.S. Civil Rights Movement of the 1960s saw masses of African American people, with participation and solidarity of other minorities and decent white people, rise up and bring down the system of enforced racial segregation, Jim Crow--apartheid made-in-the-USA. De jure discrimination and segregation, at long last, were outlawed.

This civil rights freedom struggle was a war, sometimes resulting in casualties, its participants jailed, beaten, fired from jobs, and even murdered. It forced the powers-that-be to make certain concessions.

One such concession was a series of laws giving everyone, regardless of color, the right to vote, the use of public accommodations, and access to fair housing and employment.

The Civil Rights Movement of the 1960s inspired other discriminated-against groups, so-called “protected classes,” to also demand justice. Latinos, Asians, Native Americans, women, the disabled, older people, lesbians and gays--were on the move.

These groups had been determinedly fighting for their dignity and rights all along, but the Civil Rights Movement certainly provided inspiration and example of what a cohesive militant people’s force can accomplish.

It is within this context, the demands of the Civil Rights Movement, that the federal, state and municipal enforcement agencies, like the Kentucky Commission on Human Rights, were created.

These agencies had to contend, in the 1960s, with a society wherein the rich profited by exploiting the poor, a society that kept black and white people apart. A society that got white workers to accept their exploitation by internalizing that, as badly off as they were, at least they weren’t black.

Inheriting the detritus of the war on the poor and the non-white back then, the agencies had to develop rules and regulations to try to root out unfairness at the workplace, and otherwise.

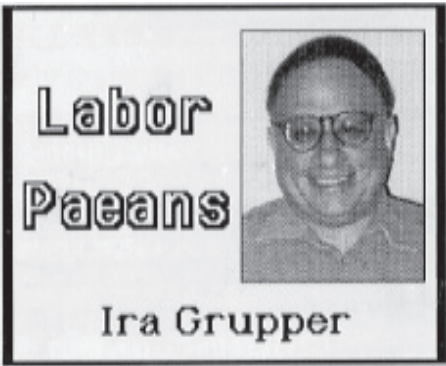
Let’s fast-forward to the present period, the year 2010. Has a climate been created whereby those who would and do discriminate with impunity now fear paying a high price for their actions? Sometimes, yes. Usually, no.

I served on the Louisville and Jefferson County Human Relations Commission from 1980 to 1986, under three municipal administrations. I chaired the Commission’s Anti-Discrimination Panel, which determines probable cause/no probable cause in discrimination cases.

After Louisville and Jefferson County merged, the commission became the Metro Louisville Human Relations Commission. I currently serve as a commissioner of this agency, although I do not directly deal with discrimination complaints.

I knew the truth back then. I know the truth right now.

During the 1980s, President Ronald Reagan was dismantling many of the mechanisms, the protections fought for and won during the Civil Rights Movement. He appointed Clarence Thomas to head the EEOC and do the dirty work of gutting enforcement, of destroying equal opportunity. Mr. Thomas was rewarded for his nefarious deeds by being appointed to the U.S. Supreme Court.



How are things today? Marcelles Mayes, president of the Metro Disability Coalition here in Louisville, recently told me: “Even with passage of the Americans with Disabilities Act, so many disabled are unemployed or under-employed. For the severely disabled, generally it’s 75 percent, and for the blind and visually disabled it is 91 percent.”

Not only is the economy wreaking havoc on poor and working people, but millions of Americans are further prevented by racism, sexism, ageism, homophobia, and anti-disabled bias from access to the workplace.

Nowadays, for every 100 people in the U.S., a little over 14 are living in poverty. For workers aged 18 to 24 it is the highest rate of impoverishment since 1965, and overall it is the highest official rate since 1994.

In this, the richest nation on earth, 48 of every 100 African-American teenagers are unemployed. Banks and other mortgage providers foreclosed on 95,364 units, the highest number since the beginning of the housing crisis.

Where do these teens wind up, to an alarming degree? They wind up in prison. I do not have time to report on the specifics. Please look up the report released just a couple of weeks ago, by the Pew Research organization, on drastically rising incarcerations with a devastating racial breakdown. Also look at the “GINI Coefficient” that measures widening income inequality. And be sure to read “THE NEW JIM CROW: Mass Incarceration in the Age of Colorblindness,” by Michelle Alexander.

These provide a striking critique of what is happening to human rights today. Wouldn’t it be wonderful if the Kentucky Commission pushed for restoration of voting rights for ex-inmates as proof that the penal system has faith in its rehabilitation program.

Justice delayed is justice denied. I was part of a group of folk, in the Metro Disability Coalition and, separately, in the Kentucky Alliance Against Racist & Political Repression, that looked over cases and then encouraged filing complaints with metro, state and federal agencies. In most cases, we were very much dissatisfied with the long time between intake of a complaint and resolution, and with the eventual outcomes as well.

Agency leadership, particularly Mr. John Johnson’s, is not the culprit. The problem is not individual, but structural, and political. How do you further the tasks of outreach, alternative dispute resolution, targeted case management, etc. when your budget is limited, and when the big dogs, running in the tall grass, seem less than enamored of prosecuting potential political party donors?

The whole process of mediation, the conciliation agreements so prized by federal, state and municipal enforcement bodies--this process objectively favors corporations and government agencies at the expense of complainants.

A conciliation agreement, in plain English, is where a company or government agency says: we aint done nothin’ wrong, but we promise never to do it again. Further, we’ll agree to make the aggrieved party, the complainant, whole, and we’ll give back pay and promotion.

However, we admit no wrongdoing.

The Kafka-esque irony is that conciliation agreements are a joyous outcome for enforcement agencies, since there is not enough money and staff to deal with the discrimination plague that has grown so strong, and spread so far and wide.

Irony number two is that very often the discriminated-against also view conciliation agreements as big victories, since they have neither the money nor the years to wait while the investigative and adjudicative processes lumber on.

I was at the 50th anniversary of the founding of the civil rights group Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee, SNCC, in Raleigh, N.C. this past April—I am a SNCC veteran. U.S. Attorney General Eric Holder, spoke eloquently about the Justice Department’s newfound energy in enforcing anti-discrimination laws.

And yet, on September 24 of this year the Department of Justice’s FBI component broke into seven homes and an office belonging to activists in the peace and justice community in Illinois, Minnesota, and Michigan. Subpoenas were handed to 11 people--the subpoenaed activists will have to testify before a federal grand jury--where they are not permitted to have a lawyer with them.

In the 1970s and 1980s I was involved, here in the U.S., in support of the anti-apartheid struggle in South Africa. Using the logic of the recent raids, I could have been imprisoned way back then, under the support for terrorism laws. After all, Nelson Mandela and the African National Congress were put on the terrorist list by then-President Ronald Reagan. Did that make me a terrorist?

Let’s return, specifically, to the Kentucky Commission on Human Rights. A year or two ago, I attended a most interesting conference on disability, organized by the Kentucky

commission we tonight honor. I asked, during the question period, how many commissioners ever filed “commissioner’s complaints.” The commissioner with the longest tenure, I think it was eleven years, responded: “What is a commissioner’s complaint?”

I was shocked. Commissioners have the right, no, the duty, to file complaints, in their names, against offending companies and agencies. This disgusting dereliction of duty, from my experience, is no better or worse than at all the other agencies.

Not all commissioners seemed cognizant of the two roles commissions must play: 1) enforcing the law, and 2) using their good offices to bring about an egalitarian climate.

We are fortunate to have John Johnson as director of the Kentucky Commission on Human Rights. I have known him for many years and he is a righteous person. But without financial, organizational and moral support from the state of Kentucky—his hands are tied. You and I must help untie his hands.

For example, I teach at Bellarmine University, and students in one of my classes are here, in the audience. Why isn’t this audience packed with hundreds of students? Is it lack of funding that prevents federal, state and local agencies from going into the high schools and colleges to explain why we need enforcement agencies? What would Rev. Martin Luther King say about this?

To conclude: The historic work of the Kentucky Commission on Human Rights needs to be better funded, and expanded.... You now know that I am an unrepentant hellraiser. My motto is, and I have cleaned it up and made it gender-neutral: If you grab them around the neck, their hearts and minds will follow.

Four little girls were murdered in Birmingham, Ala. in 1963 by racists who bombed the church where they were attending Sunday school. We must never forget their sacrifice, their martyrdom, and the supreme price paid by James Chaney, Andrew Goodman, Mickey Schwerner, Medgar Evers, Viola Liuzzo, Herbert Lee, Vernon Dahmer and so many more.

They, and the movement of hundreds of thousands of freedom fighters, over many years, are who we must thank for the Kentucky Commission on Human Rights. We can pay homage to the precious collective memory of the fallen in battle by creating a climate where companies and agencies that discriminate don’t just get slapped on the wrist, but get the living defecation knocked out of them.

Then, and only then, will fifty years of the Kentucky Commission on Human Rights be the landmark we all shall cherish. Thank you.

Contact Ira Grupper at irag@iglou.com.

The key to peace in the Middle East

Support a Two-State Solution to End the Israeli/Palestinian Conflict



VIGIL FOR PEACE

Every Friday, 12 Noon – 1:00 PM

Corner of 6th Street & Broadway

Louisville, Kentucky

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

MOUNTAINTOP MINING: When Will It End?

As more and more rallies and protests take place to oppose “Mountain Top Removal,” we have the impression that the movement is gaining ground. Our constant and continuous source of information and inspiration comes from **Balancing the Scales** published by Kentuckians for the Commonwealth, 250 Southland Drive, Suite #4, Lexington, KY 40503. or go to tim@kftc.org . In their September 16, 2010 issue, page 9, there is a surprising article, **“Big Banks Back Away from Mountaintop Removal Investments.”** Excerpts follow:

“The top four US banks have curbed loans for mountaintop removal operations, and cut financing for Massey Energy, one of the nation’s more controversial coal companies.

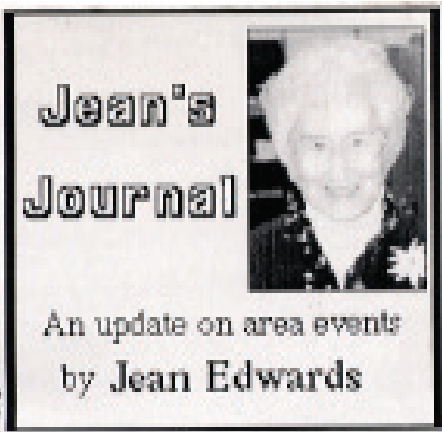
Last month, Wells Fargo became the fourth top US bank to adopt a position limiting financing of mountaintop removal (MTR) coal mining. This shift is consistent with a national move away from support for the mining practice, which recently both scientists and the federal government have confirmed causes irrevocable harm to landscape, water quality and public health.

Within the last two years, Bank of America, Citi, JPMorgan Chase, and Wells Fargo along with Credit Suisse and Morgan Stanley have passed policies limiting their financial relationships with coal operators that practice mountaintop removal. These are major policy shifts. The move comes as a response to over three years of national pressure from regional and national groups, spearheaded by **Rainforest Action Network (RAN)**. In collaboration with RAN, KFTC members have attended and spoken out at bank shareholder and board of director meetings.”

“Supported by the proxy votes of other shareholders we’ve told the stories of the people who, until then, were just numbers on a balance sheet. This is a major victory and we should savor it,” said KFTC Fellow (highly acclaimed) Teri Blanton.

Coal operators are now looking toward new banks for financing. Currently, PNC and UBS are the lead financiers of destructive mining. PNC finances almost half of all mountaintop removal in the US.

See for yourself. It is possible to travel into the area in Appalachia. **“See Mountaintop Removal Coal Mining in Appalachia,”** a new brochure prepared by Dave Cooper with helpful hints for tourists. Through him you can also arrange for a volunteer presentation for your group. davecooper928@yahoo.com or call: 859/299-5669. www.mountainroadshow.com



(EPA) is conducting a series of seven meetings to regulate this waste. One meeting was held in Louisville on September 28, 2010, and the next one is scheduled for October 27 in Knoxville at the Marriott Hotel. **Tom FitzGerald** of the Kentucky Resources Council and other Kentucky environmentalists said the hearings make sense, given the region’s many coal-fired power plants and the big issues that are at stake for the public and industry.

Representative John Yarmuth was quoted in an article by **James Bruggers** (C-J 8/16/10) as saying that he was pleased that people “who live and work” close to coal ash facilities can participate in the rule making, which he said is supposed to prevent disasters like the one in Tennessee.

John was referring to a massive ash slide that occurred in December 2008 at a power-plant near Knoxville. The waste, containing toxic heavy metals, blanketed several hundred acres, damaged 26 homes and got into a river.

Some 29 coal-fired power plants are along the Ohio River. Two are in Louisville and one across the river in New Albany, Indiana. **Lauren McGrath**, a Sierra Club representative, called Kentucky and Indiana “Ground Zero” for coal ash. Louisville Gas & Electric has been criticized by “Kentucky Waterways Alliance” (led by the director **Jason Flickner**) for its proposals to expand its ash-handling facilities along the Ohio River at its company’s plants on Cane Run Road and in Trimble County.

In May, the EPA proposed two approaches for managing the estimated 136 million tons of coal-combustion waste produced every year. The Sierra Club prefers phasing out all coal-ash ponds and relying partly on dry landfills with liners. It would regulate ash and scrubber sludge under hazardous waste provisions of the federal Resource Conservation and Recovery Act. This ash could still be used in concrete and other products, and scrubberwaste could still be turned into gypsum for drywall.

The other approach would allow ash ponds but require plastic liners under new and existing facilities. It would regulate the waste under non-hazardous provisions of the law. Recycling still would be encouraged.

LEGAL AID FOR LOW-INCOME CITIZENS

On October 14, 2010, the **Kentucky Supreme Court** announced the creation of the **Kentucky Access to Justice Commission (KAJC)**. At a news conference in Frankfort at the Supreme Court Courtroom, **Chief Justice Minton** explained that KAJC’s goal is to provide equal access to civil justice for low-income citizens through an ongoing partnership between the judiciary and the state and local bar associations, legal aid providers, law schools, elected officials and other community leaders. The KAJC will be formed by an order of the Supreme Court of Kentucky.

In Kentucky the need for legal aid is great. In 2009, legal aid served 18,500 people statewide. Approximately 55 percent of those who apply, and are eligible, are turned away because of lack of resources. >From 2008 to 2009, nearly 60,000 Kentuckians fell below the poverty line and that number continues to increase.

Chief Justice Minton is currently appointing the members of the commission in preparation for the first meeting on January 28, 2011.

(Many thanks to the Kentucky Alliance Against Racist and Political Repression for sending us this press release.)

HEARINGS FOCUS ON COAL WASTE

Problems with the coal industry are never ending. A major one has to do with the waste that comes from burning coal in power plants. The US Environmental Protection Agency



Calendar

(continued from back page)

- Nov 18 (Thurs) **FORsooth LABELING**. Presbyterian Seminary, Administration Building, Room 10. 6:30 PM. We need volunteers! Many hands make light work, and the opposite is also true! So please join us if you can. Call 458-8056 for more information!
- Nov 20 (Sat) **SATURDAY ACADEMY**. Dr. Blaine Hudson begins with Black and African World History (11 AM – 12:30 PM). Followed by “Me, Myself and I: the Sistah I Never Knew” (12:45 PM to 2 PM). DuValle Education Center Cafeteria, 3610 Bohne Avenue, at 35th St just north of Algonquin Parkway. Call Bani Hines-Hudson, 295-7531.
- Nov 21 (Sun) **LOUISVILLE COMMITTEE FOR ISRAELI/PALESTINIAN STATES**. Every third Sunday. First Unitarian Church, 4th & York Streets, 3 PM. Call Beverley Marmion, 451-5658.
- Nov 22 (Mon) **FOURTH MONDAY FORUM** sponsored by the Kentucky Alliance Against Racist and Political Repression. For details, call Katrina Byrnes at 778-8130 or email kyall@insightbb.com.
- Nov 22 (Mon) **F.O.R. STEERING COMMITTEE**. Presbyterian Seminary, 1044 Alta Vista Road. Every fourth Monday. Visitors encouraged. For more information, call Pat Geier at 456-6586 or Peter Fosl at 291-2506.
- Dec 1 (Wed) **DINING OUT FOR LIFE**. Dine out tonight at a participating restaurant, and a portion of the check will be donated to House of Ruth/Glade House. For more information, visit: <http://www.diningoutforlife.com/louisville>.

Third Thursday Lunches

presented by the

Fellowship of Reconciliation & Interfaith Paths to Peace

September 2010 to January 2011

November 18

Sandra Crismon and Joan Frisz

Joan Frisz, Executive Director of Just Creations, and Sandra Crismon, Education Coordinator, will talk about artisan cooperatives in Peru with which the store has had relationships for many years. Joan will report on her August 2010 trip to Peru with Partners for Just Trade and share slides from the trip. Art from the cooperatives will be available for sale. “Now that I’m in a Fair Trade group, every aspect of my life has changed: economically, how I live, work, feel...everything.” B. Flores, Peru.

January 20

Christopher 2X

Community peacemaker and youth advocate Christopher 2X will speak on “The Idea of Reconciliation”. He will discuss his efforts to bring together for face-to-face meetings the perpetrators of violence in our community and the victims of that violence (along with the loved ones of those victims) in an effort to seek reconciliation.



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),
e-mail EdwardsFOR@bellsouth.net or
Cathy Ford (458-1223), FordHoff@bellsouth.net*

Calendar for peacemakers

Oct 26-28 (Tues-Thurs) **PEACE EDUCATION COMMUNITY INSTITUTE.** A three-day annual workshop for youth workers, social workers, educators, and others. Provides hands on training in interpersonal conflict resolution, the mediation process and prejudice reduction skills, as well as the opportunity to share triumphs and concerns. 8:30 AM-3 PM, 318 West Kentucky. Fee: \$250 for one person or \$225 each for a team of two or more. Continental breakfast and lunch provided as well as training materials. Pre-registration required. For more information or to register, call 589-6583 or visit www.Peace-EducationProgram.org.

Oct 26 (Tues) **HAMMERS, HARDHATS & HOPE.** Habitat for Humanity of Metro Louisville celebrates its 25th anniversary with a special event at The Kentucky Center, 501 West Main Street. Festivities will include a reception, live auction, program and dessert. Dress is business casual. 5:30 PM to 9 PM. Tickets \$75. For more information, call 805-1409.

Oct 27 (Wed) **FAMILY SCHOLAR HOUSE ANNUAL LUNCHEON.** Formerly known as Project Women, Family Scholar House’s mission is to end the cycle of poverty by giving single-parent students the support they need to earn a four-year college degree. Join us for this annual fund-raising luncheon and meet our incredible program participants. 11:30 AM- 1 PM, Galt House East, Grand Ballroom. For more information, call 584-8090.

Oct 28 (Thurs) **ACLU BILL OF RIGHTS DINNER.** Featuring Anthony Romero, Executive Director of the National ACLU. Under his leadership, Romero has presided over the most successful membership growth in the 90-year history of the ACLU. Tickets \$60. Social hour at 6 PM, dinner at 7. Hyatt Regency, 320 West Jefferson Street. For more information, call 581-9746 or email nancy@aclu-ky.org.

Oct 29-31 (Fri-Sun) **JESUS THE MISUNDERSTOOD JEW:** A lecture series with Dr. Amy-Jill Levine. Dr. Levine, a nationally-known scholar of Jewish-Christian relations, will speak on four topics, including: “Jesus and Judaism: Why the Connection Matters,” “How Jews and Christians Read Scripture Differently,” “Hearing the Parables of Jesus Through Jewish Ears,” and “The Present and Future of Jewish-Christian Relations.” \$25 fee covers all events. Sponsored by the Louisville Interfaith Forum. For details on lecture locations and times, please visit: www.midkentuckypresbytery.org or call 812-948-2077.

Oct 30 (Sat) **SATURDAY ACADEMY.** Dr. Blaine Hudson begins with Black and African World History (11 AM – 12:30 PM). Followed by “StudentSpeak: College Success--What Gets in Our Way?” (12:45 PM to 2 PM). DuValle Education Center Cafeteria, 3610 Bohne Avenue, at 35th St just north of Algonquin Parkway. Call Bani Hines-Hudson, 295-7531.

Oct 30 (Sat) **NAACP FREEDOM FUND BANQUET.** 6:30 PM, Crowne Plaza Hotel, 830 Phillips Lane. For more information, contact the Louisville Branch NAACP at 776-7608 or visit www.lounaacp.org.

Nov 3 (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.

Nov 3-9. **15TH ANNUAL FESTIVAL OF FAITHS: SACRED SOIL.** For more information or to download the complete festival brochure, visit www.festivaloffaiths.org.

Nov 5 (Fri) **4TH ANNUAL ANNE BRADEN MEMORIAL LECTURE WITH DR. BERNICE REAGON.** Dr. Reagon has been a major cultural voice for justice and freedom for 45 years, singing, teaching, and speaking out against racism and inequities of all kinds. 6 PM, UofL School of Music, Comstock Hall. Free and open to the public. Reception and light refreshments following the songtalk. For more information, contact Amber at the Anne Braden Institute at 852-6142 or argduke01@louisville.edu.

Nov 6 (Sat) **AIDS INTERFAITH MINISTRY (AIM) FREE HOLIDAY BREAKFAST.** Featuring life stories of our fabulous clients. Come and learn more about AIM and how you can get involved. 9:30 to 10:30 AM, Jeffersontown Christian Church, 10631 Taylorsville Road. For more information or to RSVP, contact Janet at 574-6086.

Nov 6 (Sat) **SATURDAY ACADEMY.** Dr. Blaine Hudson begins with Black and African World History (11 AM – 12:30 PM). Followed by “Is There a School-to-Prison Pipeline in Metro Louisville?” (12:45 PM to 2 PM). DuValle Education Center Cafeteria, 3610 Bohne Avenue, at 35th St just north of Algonquin Parkway. Call Bani Hines-Hudson, 295-7531.

Nov 6 (Sat) **WORLD COMMUNITY DAY: “Building the Beloved Community.”** Harvey Browne Presbyterian Church, 311 Brown’s Lane. Sponsored by Church Women United, bringing together Christians and their Jewish, Muslim and other interfaith sisters and brothers in common worship to affirm CWU’s commitment to justice and peace among all peoples. For more information, call Cindy Scheldorf, 239-5931.

Nov 8 (Mon) **DEADLINE FOR THE DECEMBER-JANUARY 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 742-5879.

Nov 10 (Wed) **UofL – YEARLINGS CLUB ELECTION ANALYSIS.** Discuss results of the election. What just happened? 4-6 PM, The Yearlings Club, 4309 West Broadway. For more information, call 852-3042 or 852-2252.

Nov 11 (Thurs) **8TH ANNUAL ELIZABETH CADY STANTON LUNCHEON.** Featuring Allison Stein, founder of Younger Women’s Task Force, as keynote speaker. 12 noon, UofL, University Club. Tickets \$25. To reserve a ticket in advance or for more information, call 852-8976.

Nov 11 (Thurs) **APPAF (American Palestine Public Affairs Forum).** Every second Thursday. A documentary film exploring

the situation in Middle East will be presented. 7 PM, Louisville Presbyterian Seminary, 1044 Alta Vista Road, Nelson Hall, Room 119. For more information, call Bashar Masri, 773-1836.

Nov 11 (Thurs) **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.

Nov 12-14 (Fri-Sun) **21ST ANNUAL FESTIVAL OF TREES AND LIGHTS.** Volunteers design and decorate trees, wreaths and other holiday crafts, all of which are for sale to benefit Kosair Children’s Hospital. Louisville Slugger Field. For schedule of events, please visit www.nortonhealthcare.com.

Nov 13 (Sat) **PEAK OIL.** Every 2nd Saturday, Main Library, 4th & York, Mezzanine, Boardroom. 9 AM. Call George Perkins, 425-6645.

Nov 13 (Sat) **SATURDAY ACADEMY.** Dr. Blaine Hudson begins with Black and African World History (11 AM – 12:30 PM). Followed by “Brazil—More Than Beaches and Beauties” (12:45 PM to 2 PM). DuValle Education Center Cafeteria, 3610 Bohne Avenue, at 35th St just north of Algonquin Parkway. Call Bani Hines-Hudson, 295-7531.

Nov 13 (Sat) **KY ALLIANCE AGAINST RACIST AND POLITICAL REPRESSION 2010 UNITY DINNER:** “Celebrating Our Community and Building Unity for the Future.” Featuring Dr. Boyce Watkins as keynote speaker. Social hour, 5 PM, dinner at 6 PM. Hotel Louisville, 120 West Broadway. For information about tickets, call the Braden Center at 778-8130.

Nov 14 (Sun) **VIGIL FOR PEACE.** Every second Sunday. The vigil is in remembrance of all those suffering from conflicts in the Middle East. Bring a candle. 5-6 PM, Bardstown Road at Douglass Blvd. Sponsored by LPAC (Louisville Peace Action Community). For more information, call Harold Trainer at 387-9490.

Nov 14 (Sun) **“AIM HIGHER”** focusing on military counter-recruitment. Every 2nd Sunday at 7 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.

Nov 18-21 (Fri-Sun) **VIGIL TO CLOSE THE SCHOOL OF THE AMERICAS:** 20th Anniversary. Thousands will gather at the gates of Fort Benning in Columbus, Georgia, to remember those who have died at the hands of soldiers trained at this “SCHOOL OF ASSASSINS.” Louisville bus leaves on Saturday, Nov 20 at 5 AM sharp from the Crowne Plaza Hotel, 830 Phillips Lane (formerly the Executive West Hotel). Bus fare is \$75, payable in advance to KITLAC. Please send your check to Dotti Lockhart, 222 Stilz Ave, Louisville, KY 40206. Deadline for reservations is October 29. ACT NOW to reserve your space. Scholarship donations are needed. If you can’t go, please send \$75 to help someone else. For more details, please contact Dotti Lockhart, 897-9680 (dottianbob@aol.com) or Mary Ann Lambert, 425-3844 (malambert22@bellsouth.net)

Nov 18 (Thurs) **THIRD THURSDAY LUNCH.** Joan Frisz, Executive Director of Just Creations, and Sandra Crismon, Education Coordinator, will talk about artisan cooperatives in Peru with which the store has had relationships for many years. Joan will report on her August 2010 trip to Peru with Partners for Just Trade and share slides from the trip. Art from the cooperatives will be available for sale. Rudyard Kipling Restaurant, 422 West Oak Street. Buffet lunch at 11:30 AM; presentation at noon. \$6. Sponsored by the Fellowship of Reconciliation and Interfaith Paths to Peace. For reservations contact Jean Edwards at 458-8056 or edwardsfor@bellsouth.net or Cathy Ford at 458-1223 or fordhoff@bellsouth.net.

Nov 18 (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.

(continued on page 7)

FINANCIAL REPORT			
September 2010			
BEGINNING BALANCE			
Donations & Honorariums	.....		\$13,813.97
TOTAL	.....		\$17,211.97
EXPENDITURES:			
FORsooth Editing	.....	\$150.00	
FORsooth Layout	.....	100.00	
FORsooth Printing	.....	430.00	
FORsooth Mailing	.....	200.00	
FOR National Dues	.....	100.00	
FORsooth labels	.....	<u>55.11</u>	
EJ Printing	.....	<u>892.88</u>	
Office Expenses	.....	<u>58.41</u>	
		\$1,986.40	<u>1,986.40</u>
ENDING BALANCE	.....		\$15,225.57
Please make your check payable to the Fellowship of Reconciliation. Your gift is tax deductible.			
PLEASE SEND CONTRIBUTIONS TO:			
Tim Scheldorf, Treasurer			
Fellowship of Reconciliation			
2917 Beaumont Road			
Louisville, KY 40205			



Regular Meeting Times for Area Organizations

911 TRUTH LOUISVILLE (502-609-6020)

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, Union Station, TARC Board Room (893-5172)

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. (454-7797)

COMMUNIST PARTY USA – 1st & 3rd Sundays at 3:30 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 (609-7985 or 291-2506)

FRIENDS FOR HOPE (Support Group for Adult Cancer Survivors) – 1st Thursday (451-9600)

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 – (345-5386)

KFTC [KENTUCKIANS FOR THE COMMONWEALTH] – 2nd Monday (589-3188)

KITOD [KENTUCKIANA INTERFAITH TASKFORCE ON DARFUR] – (553-6172)

KY ALLIANCE AGAINST RACIST & POLITICAL REPRESSION – 3rd Monday (778-8130)

KY COALITION TO ABOLISH THE DEATH PENALTY – Last Tuesday (541-9998)

KITLAC [KY INTERFAITH TASKFORCE ON LATIN AMERICA & THE CARIBBEAN] – 2nd Wednesday (479-9262)

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 (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)

SIERRA CLUB INNER CITY OUTINGS – 2nd Thursday, 7:30 PM (558-0073)

WOMEN IN TRANSITION (WIT) – every Wednesday, 6-8 PM (636-0160)

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