



Founded 1915

FORsooth



Volume 24, No. 9

A publication of the Louisville Chapter of the Fellowship of Reconciliation www.forsoothnewspaper.org

November 2013

Service workers organize, reinvigorate US labor movement

By Bill Londrigan

Over the years I have heard and read many predictions about the future of the labor movement. Many believe that until workers become so desperate and exploited and no longer fear the consequences of employer reprisals will there be a union resurgence in America. I liken this to the pendulum effect: economic fortunes swing between the few and the many.

It is easy to see which way the pendulum has swung during the past forty-plus years:

in the direction of the few to the detriment of the many. In fact, the pendulum has swung so far away from the many that it is about to break loose and bring the global economy crashing down.

The facts are indisputable. Capitalism's history is one in which the richest few have accumulated the greatest concentrations of wealth. While accumulating this unprecedented wealth, the one percent has denied workers an equitable share of the wealth they helped create.

Consider that the heirs to Wal-Mart founder Sam Walton have more combined wealth than 40 percent of the rest of the entire population of the US! All the while Wal-Mart denies workers the right to organize, exploits workers by making them work uncompensated time, and has the largest number of workers on public assistance. Wal-Mart also refuses to make sure that workers in other countries like Bangladesh, where over a thousand workers were killed in a building collapse while sewing garments for Wal-Mart, have safe working conditions.

The incomes of the top one percent has increased over 240 percent since 1979; corporate profits are at record levels, while wages have stagnated; the middle class has shrunk; union density has declined; and those put in public office by the one percent have voted to cut off food stamps to millions of families with children as poverty rates soar.

The one percent bought our political system which stacked the U.S. Supreme Court; in turn, the Supreme Court Justices paid them back with their Citizens United decision granting corporate personhood so that mega-corporations can engage in the political process as equal partners with you and me. The game has been rigged – the results are devastating to those of us not in the top income brackets.

Getting back to the pendulum, looking beyond the corporate-owned mainstream media, one might find that even if the pendulum has not really begun to swing away from the wealthy, it may have



Bill Londrigan

reached its apex. We may be witnessing the beginnings, the sparks of resurgence, of labor activism which has the potential to eclipse the worker uprising of the 1930's.

Humbbug you say! How could that be when the labor growth that took place in the 1930's was primarily in mass production and heavy industries and, with the exception of a small number of employers, management has learned how to thwart unions in mass production and heavy industries? The answer is that a union resurgence is occurring in the service sector where the wages remain lowest; and the ability to provide for a family is virtually impossible without a second job and public assistance. It is happening right now in some of the larger cities, where much of the labor uprisings occurred during the 1930's: New York, Chicago, St. Louis, Detroit, and Milwaukee.

Yes, workers at fast food restaurants in cities across the nation are doing something

(continued on page 7)



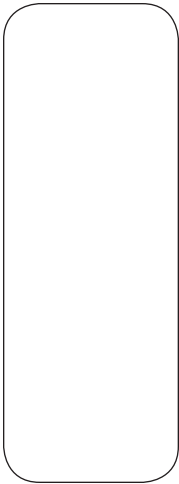
Fast-food workers prepare for nationwide strike

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Louisville, KY
Permit No. 962

Fellowship of Reconciliation
Louisville Chapter
2146 Lakeside Drive
Louisville, KY 40205

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Call F.O.R. at 502/456-6586



Americana's 'One Evening... 96 Countries!' is Nov. 2

By Edgardo Mansilla

Sometime logos are a nice piece of art; sometimes logos say something that only represents a partial truth. The words beneath the Americana Community Center's global logo ring true everyday: "Where Louisville Meets the World."

Americana is will be the host of the inaugural event 'One Evening... 96 Countries!' on Saturday, November 2 at Audubon Country Club, 3265 Robin Road in Louisville. The night will include music from the Americana Digital Music Project, a performance by the Nepali Dancers and a silent auction to benefit the organization's many services.

Those are summed up by everyday scenes at Americana. Those could be planting seeds in the Center's community garden, creating art with Fiberworks, kids doing their homework, families coming day after day to improve their knowledge of their new society and develop new skills for life. All this and more at Americana help to



make many connections – to cope with the horrors of the past, the reality of the present and the hope of the future. Americana Community Center continues to provide many avenues to increase the financial and human capital of our community.

The event, 'One Evening... 96 Countries!' on Nov. 2 at Audubon will commence at 6 p.m. with cocktails and networking followed by dinner and entertainment from 7 to 9 p.m.

Americana Community Center, "Where Louisville meets the World!" was founded in 1990 to respond to a growing foreign-born population in our city. Americana programs have expanded to serve over 5,000 people

(continued on page 2)

INSIDE

- Page 3..... Karyn Moscovitz on Fresh Stop and the Food Literacy Project
- Page 3.....Third Thursday Luncheon schedule for November and January
- Page 4.....Chris Hartman on Fairness needed by Kentucky General Assembly
- Page 4.....Tracy McLellan reviews Drone Warfare book by Medea Benjamin
- Page 5.....Carla Wallace speaks out on racism and some Louisville Councilpersons
- Page 5.....Elijah McKenzie on the agenda from the 50th Anniversary of the March on Washington
- Page 6.....Dr. Kerby Neill on the new Peace is Possible license plate for Kentucky
- Page 6.....Laura Krauser on U of L's GRASS founding of the Free Store for sustainability
- Page 7.....Ike Thacker gives testimony on his Best Movement Friend and Ally

WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT!

Hello *FORsooth* Reader!

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

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

Tim Scheldorf, Treasurer
Fellowship of Reconciliation
2917 Beaumont Road
Louisville, KY 40205

Americana’s ‘One Evening... 96 Countries!’ (continued from page 1

each year who represent 96 countries of origin, including the U.S.

Multifaceted programs create an inclusive environment that promotes educational achievement, self-sufficiency and community involvement.

Adults come to Americana to improve their English, prepare to take the GED exam, receive free income tax assistance, tend a plot in the community garden, or study to become a U.S. citizen. Children have a wide variety of options as well. Programs offer academic assistance, creative arts, and recreation. Community events and an annual festival help celebrate the diversity of our city. Our Family and Youth Education Programs provide comprehensive services to refugee and immigrant families with the goal of a successful integration to the U.S.

These programs educate and inform parents, supporting them in achieving academic and life goals, while simultaneously focusing on school preparedness for their children.

This is based on a nationally recognized family literacy model, tailored to meet the needs of a multicultural population and to address a phenomenon that is common in immigrant families: the children pick up the language and culture much faster than the parents, which can disrupt the traditional family structure. In our approach, the whole family learns together, restoring the parents’ role as primary educator. Participants have the opportunity to work with a Family Coach or Youth Coach who assists the parents (called ‘Family Leaders’) in creating goals, connecting to community resources, and overcoming barriers to economic self-

sufficiency. We recently have expanded this one-of-a-kind program adding a new coach to our staff with the goal of nearly doubling the families served.

At Americana success stories are being written each day. A youth participant who is struggling with behavioral issues at school and home finds his place as part of the Americana soccer team, building self-confidence and positive behavior skills with the support of his coach and teammates. Three refugee families from Burma become first time home buyers through the Family Education Program, and spread the knowledge they gained throughout their community. A partnership recently formed with Spalding University provides mental health services to Americana participants at no cost, which is especially critical for building family resilience and coping skills as many clients have experienced trauma in their country of origin or refugee camp. Our community garden provides many clients not only the opportunity to connect to their agricultural roots but also additional income when they sell their products at the Bluegrass Global Growers’ Market.

The Americana center lives the mission of providing resources for adults, youth, and families of immigrants, refugees, and native U.S. citizens to enhance education, cultural integration, and physical wellbeing. We truly offer a unique service to the community’s newest residents alongside those who have called Louisville home for years. The programs offered give participants the tools needed for success so they can achieve their full potential and contribute to our city.



Edgardo Mansilla

ACC uses partnerships to provide maximum service and stretch our program dollars further. For instance, Jefferson County Public Schools provides the instructors and resources for our Adult Education classes and Dare to Care provides warm meals daily at the center through the Kid’s Café Program. However, we rely on the support of grants, special events, and private donations to fund much of our work.

You can help to support our mission and client services by attending the first ever ‘One Evening... 96 Countries!’ Reservations can be made by calling (502) 366-7813 or emailing 96Countries@

AmericanaCC.org. Seating is priced at \$65 for an individual or \$500 for a table of 8. Additionally, corporate sponsorships are still available at the \$3,000 (Gold), \$2,000 (Silver), and \$1,000 (Bronze) levels. Donations, to any degree, are 100% tax-deductible and invaluable to the thousands of clients who call Americana Community Center and Louisville home.

Edgardo Mansilla is the director of the Americana Community Center. For more information, contact Heather Bruner at (502) 366-7813 or by email at 96Countries@AmericanaCC.org.



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.



FORsooth is published by the Louisville chapter of the Fellowship of Reconciliation. Send submissions for news stories or commentaries to John Hartmann, 220 Masonic Home Drive, Holland Hall, Apt. 206, Masonic Home Village, KY 40041, e-mail: johart.john@gmail.com. For subscriptions please contact John Hartmann at johart.john@gmail.com, and please indicate whether you prefer an electronic or paper edition. (Electronic subscriptions save us printing costs.)

FORsooth Staff

Editor In-Chief.....John Hartmann
Editors.....Alex Bradshaw, Sharon Grant, Russ Greenleaf & Randy Nichols
Editors EmeritusGeorge Morrison, Peter S. Fosl & Jessie Clark
Calendar Editor.....Tom Louderback
Production Manager.....Barbara G. Powers
Bulk Mailing Coordinator.....Beverley Marmion
Mail-List CoordinatorsMary & David Horvath
Delivery CoordinatorIke Thacker

95 Years on Peace Frontiers

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

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

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

Correction

In our profile of Louisville TimeBank (pages 4 and 7, Louisville TimeBank builds growing community, September, 2013) we said Louisville TimeBank had a partnership with the Clifton Center. Instead, that partnership is with Clifton Universalist Unitarian Church.

FINANCIAL REPORT
August 2013

BEGINNING BALANCE	\$4,007.21
Donations & Honorariums	<u>1,240.00</u>
TOTAL	5,247.21
EXPENDITURES:	
FORsooth editing	\$100.00
FORsooth layout	100.00
FORsooth printing	402.00
FORsooth mailing	180.00
FORsooth labels	51.99
FOR National Dues	100.00
Office expenses	32.10
	<u>\$966.09</u>
ENDING BALANCE	\$4,281.12

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

The Louisville Committee for Peace in the Middle East has fair trade, organic olive oil for sale. 750-liter bottles are \$18.00. To order some, please call Polly Johnson at (502) 473-8435.

Fresh start toward health includes a Fresh Stop

By Karyn Moscowich

Many of us are familiar with the statistics—the future of our next generation is seriously threatened by obesity, diabetes and other chronic conditions that spring largely from deep-rooted poverty, a structural racism that has led to “food apartheid” in our City and other complex reasons. And just last month, Mayor Fischer issued a “Call to Action,” following the Greater Louisville Project’s Report (GLP) on health disparities.



Karyn Moscowitz, Executive Director, New Roots Fresh Stop Project

One of their key findings is that low-income Louisvillians live 13 years less than their more affluent counterparts.

Nine months ago, a group of leaders from across the City came together as part of the 2013 Leadership Louisville Bingham Fellowship. Our charge? To help our community develop a smart food culture. But what does that mean exactly? To different people it means different things.

To the group that coalesced around supporting the food justice work of New Roots and Food Literacy Project it means that this food apartheid—or lack of fresh, wholesome food in neighborhoods across our great city—is an issue of social justice that cries out for action.

And we believe...that with the right support, the people who live in these neighborhoods of need are uniquely capable of leading the effort to create a smart food culture. Children in particular can be agents of change within their families, with their school serving as a catalyst.

Why do we believe this? Because we’ve seen it firsthand at Wellington Elementary, a school of more than 440 students located in a diverse part of Shively. Shively has high rates of poverty and unemployment, and low income and educational attainment. Food options are so limited the area is classified as a food desert and 39% of Wellington students are overweight or obese.

But Wellington has some amazing assets. It’s a health and fitness magnet school. It’s situated on a beautiful campus with a walking trail and fitness lab. And it’s the site of an innovative initiative pioneered by two local non-profits—New Roots and The Food Literacy Project—who’ve partnered with Wellington students, families and staff to build the community’s food IQ, to create local demand for fresh, affordable food, and to forge the infrastructure to improve its availability.

In 2013, New Roots collaborated with Food Literacy Project, Wellington Elementary School parents, teachers, students and administration, and with funding from the Norton Foundation and others, to create the very first school-based Fresh Stop. Fresh Stops were created to address the lack of fresh produce in Louisville neighborhoods. It is a community driven fresh food access project where families pool their money and SNAP benefits (food stamps) ahead of time to purchase in bulk from local farmers on a sliding scale. Each family receives a “share” of seasonal produce—weekly, biweekly or monthly—, which feeds 2-4 people. Led by community leaders, New Roots has successfully launched four Louisville Fresh Stops and one in Washington, DC.

That’s where Bingham Fellows came in. Like many other organizations in our community, New Roots and The Food

Literacy Project are doing incredible work—but we lacked the resources to reach our full potential. Through the work of this Bingham Fellows team, the considerable assets of our two organizations was leveraged, and we were connected to new expertise, resources, and interested stakeholders to build our capacity—and ultimately our impact.

This is how the collaboration works:

First: Farm-Based Education. Wellington students in grades 1 - 4 are connected with fresh food and farming during field trips to The Food Literacy Project’s outdoor classroom at Oxmoor, a working 8-acre farm that features greenhouses, rain gardens, fruit orchard, and a very cool outdoor kitchen. The kids explore the farm, harvest, cook, and taste fresh produce and experience sustainable farming through service learning projects. This builds students’ food IQ through hands-on experiential learning.

Second: Family Education and Engagement. Through school-based family nights, potlucks, cooking demonstrations and food justice classes, families are developing the knowledge and skills to lead a healthy lifestyle. This builds participants’ demand for access to fresh fruits and vegetables and the practical skills to incorporate them into their eating habits.

Third: the Wellington Fresh Stop. Fresh Stops are similar to CSAs—or Community Supported Agriculture—where participants receive weekly “shares” of seasonal produce purchased from local farmers. Where they differ is that they’re organized by the



Karyn with Food Literacy Project Assistant Director Angelique Perez at a Wellington Elementary School family night

community and focus on reaching low-income eaters. Families pool their resources (including food stamps) and pay farmers for exactly what they want—eliminating the risks for both farmers and consumers. With this purchasing power, the community gets wholesale rates, overcoming the cost barriers associated with farmer’s markets. Shares can be purchased on a sliding scale based on income. And most important, the community organizes, invests in, and operates the Fresh Stop, putting the power to make change in their hands. So far, 72 families have signed up to participate in the Wellington Fresh Stop that distributed its first shares in June 2013. This builds the infrastructure to improve food access.

Other Project deliverables include documentation on how a Fresh Stop is organized, a communications and marketing plan, a plan that defines all of our technology needs and prioritizes them by impact and ease of adoption, a budget for the Wellington project to include both up front and on-going costs, and the legal documents to help govern this joint operation, and a manual for interested farmers and an internal farmer operating manual for New Roots, which has also helped to establish Fresh Stops at sites in Shawnee, Old Louisville, and Newburg.

Post-surveys conducted at the longer-running Shawnee and Old Louisville Fresh Stops in 2012 report that over 85 percent of

(continued on page 7)

THIRD THURSDAY LUNCHES

presented by the

Fellowship of Reconciliation & Interfaith Paths to Peace

November 2013 – January 2014

November 21 Lessons from Mali and Beyond – Good and Bad Development

Chris Harmer, Recent Peace Corps Volunteer

Chris Harmer is a retired engineer, a Quaker, an FOR Steering Committee member and a “twice returned” Peace Corps volunteer. He will talk about his recent experiences in Mali and will share current research and his personal assessment of different aid/ development approaches. Some change lives for the better, while others can entrench poverty, injustice and violence. Focusing on our roles as planners, do-ers and donors, how can we improve the outcomes of projects we choose to support – at home and abroad?

January 16 Diverting the “School to Prison Pipeline”

Rebecca Ballard DiLoreto, Litigation Director, Children’s Law Center

Significant gaps in achievement and graduation rates exist for students of color and students with disabilities in the Jefferson County Public Schools. Rebecca DiLoreto will discuss the role that school district policies such as discipline practices and alternative schools can play in either feeding, or diverting, the “school to prison pipeline.” She will talk about the work of the Children’s Law Center protecting the rights of at-risk youth in Jefferson County – and the importance of community involvement if we hope to change our public schools for the benefit of all students.

The Rudyard Kipling • 422 West Oak Street • Louisville
Buffet Lunch at 11:30 • Presentations at Noon • \$7.00

*For reservations, contact Cathy Ford at 458-1223 or
fordhoff@bellsouth.net, or Cindy Humbert at 214-7322 or
interfaithpaths@gmail.com by Tuesday before the lunch*

Kentuckians must lead their lawmakers to fairness

By Chris Hartman

From the hills of Appalachia to Berea, Bowling Green, Morehead, Murray, and beyond, Kentuckians are mobilizing around Fairness more than ever!

In the movement for lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) civil rights in Kentucky, who could have known the second wave of municipal anti-discrimination laws would bubble up from Eastern Kentucky? Yet when the Appalachian coal town of Vicco, population 334, passed their LGBT Fairness ordinance in January of this year—making it the smallest city in America with such protections—it affirmed everything our Fairness Coalition has been hearing as we’ve worked across the commonwealth: Kentucky is a state of Fairness, and treating everyone with dignity and respect is just as much a rural value as an urban one. At least among registered voters, but certainly not among state lawmakers.

In Kentucky, 83 percent of the people—Republicans, Democrats, and Independents alike—support simple anti-discrimination protections in employment, housing, and public accommodations based on sexual orientation and gender identity, according to a recent poll by The Schapiro Group. But just under 11 percent of our state’s legislature supports Fairness—that’s a stark disparity, but not shocking given their recent behavior.

This year’s bi-partisan push by state lawmakers to pass the so-called “Religious Freedom Act,” House Bill 279, which strengthens Kentuckians’ ability to refuse to follow laws they claim violate their religious beliefs, was a thinly veiled attack on women’s health care rights, the U.S. President and LGBT Fairness laws in Kentucky. In our opposition to this egregious and crafty piece of legislation (a mere three sentences long), we were joined by hundreds of faith leaders and faith-based organizations, churches, women’s groups, the ACLU-KY, anti-racist orga-



Chris Hartman

Photo credit: Craig Mullins

nizations, and countless others—including, ultimately, Governor Steve Beshear.

“The governor has never vetoed anything in six years, except for a line-item veto,” noted one lead Catholic lobbyist for the bill. “Groups that I thought would have no particular interest in gay rights couldn’t say ‘No’ when the Fairness Campaign asked them to publicly oppose the bill.” Why? Because proponents of that measure underestimated the fundamental approach of how we organize and do social justice work in Louisville and Kentucky—from an intersectional perspective, in which we understand the inherent interconnectedness of all forms of oppression and work to end all prejudice. When LGBT activists mobilize to end racism, sexism, mountaintop removal coal mining, voter disenfranchisement, anti-immigrant legislation, and discriminatory economic policies in Kentucky, we are helping build the collective power necessary to effect true system-wide change—and our allies know that too.

At the end of the day, the so-called religious freedom bill will likely have little effect on local anti-discrimination Fairness ordinances, which are traditionally

upheld by courts, finding the government has a compelling interest in these civil rights matters. But that doesn’t mean an activist judge couldn’t find in favor of a respondent’s discriminatory behavior on religious grounds. However slim the chance the law could have an effect on Fairness, any chance was too great, which is why we worked tirelessly to defeat it. That battle will ultimately be waged in the courts now, and we must continue forward, building grassroots support across Kentucky for both local and statewide anti-discrimination protections.

Since Vicco’s historic step—and its famed segment on The Colbert Report (www.tinyurl.com/ColbertFairness)—thousands of local residents have become deeply involved in civic and statewide grassroots Fairness movements spanning the whole state. When our capital, Frankfort, in August became the fifth city in our commonwealth to outlaw LGBT discrimination, it became clear there’s no turning back. Now two other Eastern Kentucky cities—Morehead and Berea—are making moves to become the next municipalities with Fairness, and it just keeps spreading!

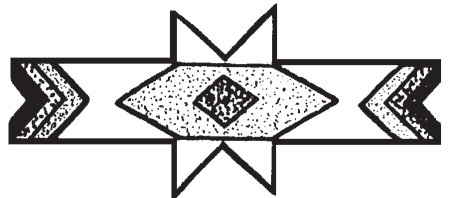
Opponents of social justice reforms should get with the times before they’re obscured by them. Every day, new, unexpected allies are taking stands in support of LGBT Fairness—even the Catholic Pope now acknowledges the time for religious arch-conservatism against Fairness has passed, saying: “The church’s pastoral ministry cannot be obsessed with the transmission of a disjointed multitude of doctrines to be imposed insistently.”

With so much progress across the commonwealth, our state’s General Assembly must wake up sooner rather than later. Kentucky has the unique chance to affirm its spot in history as civil rights leader of the South, if they’ll only address the issue. Sadly, in nearly fifteen years of having a

statewide Fairness law filed, Kentucky’s legislature has never even debated the bill—not once. Therefore, it’s up to each one of us to have those conversations with our state representatives, to encourage them to sign on in support of statewide Fairness and help push for a hearing in the House Judiciary Committee. Folks can leave messages for their elected officials simply by calling 1-800-372-7181.

The Fairness Campaign regularly hosts community events, dialogues, and organizing meetings all across Kentucky. Follow the Fairness Campaign on Facebook or Twitter, or visit www.Fairness.org to stay up-to-date on what’s happening in the Fairness movement in our commonwealth. We’ll be lobbying and rallying at the State Capitol all day Wednesday, February 19, 2014 beginning at 9 a.m. Eastern Time—come join us!

Chris Hartman is the first director of Louisville’s two-decade-old Fairness Campaign and a steering committee member of Kentucky’s statewide Fairness Coalition. He served as Congressman John Yarmuth’s 2008 campaign press secretary, as an AmeriCorps VISTA (Volunteer In Service To America) in St. Louis, and as Philadelphia director of the Democratic National Committee’s open air grassroots fundraising effort for the 2004 presidential election. Chris founded and produced Project Improv—two long-form improvisational theatre troupes in St. Louis and Louisville, and holds a Master’s degree in Drama from Washington University in St. Louis. Reach Chris at chris@fairness.org.



Drone Warfare: Killing by Remote Control, by Medea Benjamin

Book review by
Tracy Phillip McClellan

Benjamin’s clean, clear and austere prose demystifies drones, removing them from the abstract and contextualizing them in humane terms. She speaks to victims, and relatives and friends of victims; she takes the reader to sites of drone attacks and their often bloodied-of-the-innocent aftermath; she talks to those who pilot the drones from thousands of miles away and visits with activist individuals and groups who are working to end drones; she recounts histories of strikes on a terrorist or terrorists, and often a series of strikes, which succeed militarily in that they eliminate their target, who Benjamin often recognizes as no saints, but in the process pile up countless other innocent bodies.

We go with Benjamin to the very place of some of these massacres and witness bereaved relatives literally picking up scattered, broken pieces of flesh and remains for proper burial and the profound and bewildering effect on remote and tight-knit tribal villagers, the wailing of survivors, often mothers, wives and orphans. We see many instances of drone strikes gone bad, as for example the egregious massacre of some two dozen civilians in February 2010 who were mistakenly identified by surveillance crews as Taliban fighters, the November 2011 slaughter of twenty-four Pakistani soldiers, as well as mistaken raids on wedding parties and funeral processions, and their repercussions.

“Inside Afghanistan,” writes Benjamin, “I saw lives destroyed by US bombs. Some bombs hit the right target but caused horrific collateral damage. Some bombs hit the wrong target because of human error, machine malfunction or faulty information. In one village, the Americans thought a wedding party was a Taliban gathering. One minute, forty-three relatives were joyously celebrating; the next minute, their

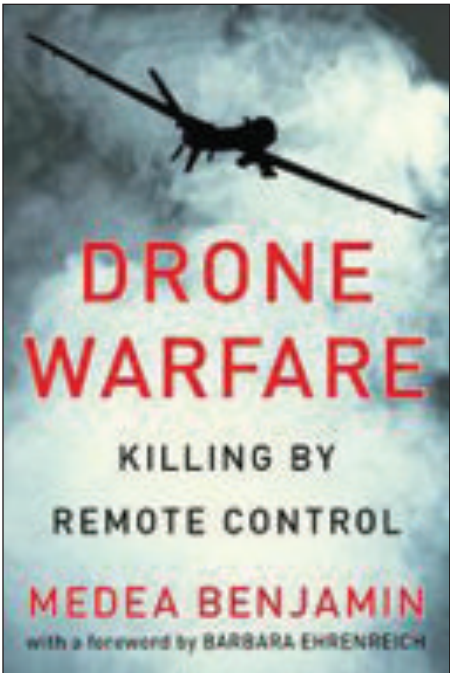
appendages were hanging off the limbs of trees.” If the gross injustices of these all too common events aren’t bad enough, they also inflame resentment and hatred of the United States, and exponentially more enemies than the one(s) eliminated.

Benjamin recounts the Iranian downing of an RQ-170 Sentinel drone in December, 2011. “It’s bad – they’ll have everything,” Benjamin cites one US official telling the Los Angeles Times. “And the Chinese and the Russians will have it too.” The technology was so sensitive and advanced that the Obama regime considered several methods of invasion into Iran to destroy the downed drone. “Iran, Russia, and China can thank US taxpayers for the gift,” quips Benjamin.

Benjamin notes the shirking of morality in a soldier sitting at a computer monitor thousands of miles away. She delves into the psychology of the severe stress drone warfare can put on a soldier, to witness and do what he does during his day job – which sometimes entails following family members much like his own family for weeks, only to see them be slaughtered in a drone strike – from the comfortable safety of a computer monitor, and then go home to a placid family life.

Many countries already have drones or the technology to manufacture them, including France, the United Kingdom, Russia, China and Iran; and like the United States have or seek to weaponize them.

Benjamin charts the history of drone use and notes that manned fighter aircraft are soon to go the way of the pay phone. Counter-intuitively, notes Benjamin, drones require more personnel to operate than conventional aircraft because among other things they generate a surfeit of surveillance intelligence that takes large teams to decipher and act upon. Again counter-intuitively, drone warfare is every bit as expensive financially, sometimes more so, as conventional aircraft and air fighting. No matter, says Benjamin, drones are politically expedient for those in power such as Barack



Drone Warfare: Killing by Remote Control by Medea Benjamin, OR Books, 2013, 241 pp

Obama. Targets and victims that become the debris and detritus of a drone strike don’t linger around to become ongoing political and public relations nightmares like prisoners and detainees.

Northrop Grumman’s Global Hawk drone is what the military describes as a “high-altitude, long-endurance unmanned aircraft system.” It was first produced as part of a \$12 billion contract, but experienced huge cost overrun. Each plane costs a bloated \$218 million. The factory that produces them, writes Benjamin, “employs just fifty people, suggesting that investments in militarism are not the best way to create jobs during a global economic downturn.”

Benjamin writes of the widely varied uses of drones for purposes of surveillance and what a gross potential for invasion of privacy they have, even in the United

States. She describes other uses of drones including those that can hover in the air for days on end taking surveillance, some as tiny as insects, and drone missions designed specifically to crash into their target kamikaze style. Drones, just by virtue of their buzzing overhead intimidate villagers below – alongside those the US hunts down as terrorists – striking fear and terror into them.

Benjamin notes that much of the drone program operates outside the purview of normal military command, free from its checks and balances, and also outside the authority of the Uniform Code of Military Justice. Indeed, at various times the drone strikes and surveillance programs are run by the ultra-secret Joint Special Operations Command (JSOC), the equally secret CIA, the military itself, and even private contractors like Blackwater, now known by what Benjamin refers to as the professorial moniker, Academi. It’s impossible to do a close financial accounting of the drone system because many of their costs are hidden in the black bag of the CIA and other organizations.

And Benjamin writes, the US military’s and other agencies’ use of drones extends to places where the US is not officially at war like the Philippines, Somalia, and Yemen. She explores the precedent being set by US use of drones. For example she wonders aloud whether it wouldn’t be okay for a Venezuelan drone to take aim at an apartment building in Miami to target the self-admitted terrorist Luis Posada Carilles, who was convicted of the 1976 bombing of a Cuban airliner killing all 73 people aboard. Posada is considered a hero in the Miami Cuban expatriate community, where he has lived with impunity since 2005.

Tracy Phillip McLellan is a FOR member and former Louisvillian currently living in Chicago. He can be reached at tracymacl@yahoo.com.

Where’s the council’s enthusiasm for removing poverty?

By Carla Wallace

To watch the way that the “trial” of Metro Council member Barbara Shanklin has consumed the attention of Louisville’s Metro Council of late, you might assume they have nothing better to do. You might assume our city had created so many new jobs that unemployment and poverty is really not a problem. You might think we have created so many more units of affordable housing that homelessness is a thing of the past, and so effectively addressed big industry pollution that asthma rates, once the highest in the country, are a mere dot on our data graphs now.

What a wonderful thing.
Ah, but the statistics, statistics that represent real people, real families struggling to survive, show another story.

According to recent housing equity studies, there will be about 9,000 children starting school this fall who are homeless. As pointed out by Metro Housing Coalition, this is one in nine of the young people elected officials like to say they care so deeply about. Someone might say, “but we are making progress.” Uh, no. In fact, child homelessness in Louisville is up 50% since 2004. So we are, in fact, racing backwards.

But perhaps things are looking up when it comes to poverty?

Oops, wrong again. In Louisville, 35% of our neighbors are living on incomes below the poverty line. The poverty level in Louisville is about 25% greater than the state

average and 75% greater than the national average. When you break this down by race, Black residents far surpass any other group, not only as a percentage of the poor, but in absolute numbers. So not only do we have a poverty crisis on our hands, but it is racialized, and thus a civil rights disgrace.

I have watched certain council members, those who represent the most marginalized among our Louisville people, working hard to address issues of abandoned properties, concentrations of air pollution from our industries, set up community gardens, host neighborhood clean ups and youth centered events. You would think that these elected officials, the ones actually addressing core issues to help families survive would be applauded.

Instead, you cannot hear the sound of this applause, if it is happening at all, over the deafening accusations of “those people let her off”, in response to the recent deliberations over Metro Council member Barbara Shanklin’s recent misdeeds.

We should be concerned that the vote on Shanklin’s removal fell largely along racial lines. But not for the reasons we are hearing from too many of the white metro council members and their zealous mob like supporters. Since the vote fell largely along racial lines, as a white person who, no matter the amount of self-education I do, will always see the world, as Anne Braden put it, “through white eyes”, I know that there is likely to be an ugly atmosphere of racism afoot, and silence on the part of those



Carla Wallace

of us who are white, plays into condoning it.

I cannot help but remember what Braden taught me over three decades ago. She told me, Carla watch for the zealotry with which many white folks go after a Black leader, including office holders and activists who have done wrong, or are perceived to have done wrong. Indeed, she added, there is nothing else they get so excited and worked up by.

Since then, I have seen this vociferous, entitled and righteous moral outrage acted out over and over again.

When questioned, those doing most of the bug eyed ranting will accuse me, or someone else raising the issue of racism, of “always coming back to that”. Yes indeed. In a country whose wealth was built on the theft of the labor of slaves, on the taking of lands from native peoples and Mexicans, the exploitation of Asian people and the suppression of the wages of working class

and poor white people by giving just enough so that they would not join in with people of color and demand better? Yes indeed we come back to race. Race frames everything in this country. As a bedrock of our system, racism is woven into every institution and every public interaction. It impacts the hopes, possibilities and futures of each and every one of us through what happens around housing, jobs, the environment, war, violence, crime, media coverage. The issue is whether we are willing to look at this, or whether we will stay in the denial that will keep us from moving forward as a nation, and keep us ever at war with peoples far away.

For the way implicit bias informs our thinking, our judgments about one another, and the institutions, including our own city hall, that frame our lives, check out <http://colorlines.com/archives/2013/07/racist-without-even-knowing-it.html>

To those Metro Council members who are now enduring the enthusiastic, blood thirsty and overwhelmingly white mob response to your making your best judgment, know that some of us are watching this. And we know what it is.

Carla Wallace is board member of the Carl Braden Memorial Center as well as a longtime anti-racist and Fairness activist in Louisville, www.carlbradencenter.org. Reach Carla at ccarnewt@aol.com.

We still have work to do: Racial, economic injustice fifty years after King’s iconic speech

By Elijah McKenzie

Fifty years have passed since the March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom, when Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. famously delivered his iconic “I Have a Dream” speech. King delivered his speech here on the steps of the Lincoln Memorial, where I now stand.

There are deeply eroded grooves on each marble step, worn and weary from the footsteps of previous generations who likewise marched for equality. From the 1913 Women Suffrage Parade to the Prayer Pilgrimage for Freedom in 1957, these



Elijah McKenzie

steps have become sacred ground for the forgotten, neglected, and disenfranchised citizens of our nation.

And here we stand, honoring the legacy of Dr. King, Medgar Evers, James Chaney, Michael Schwerner, Andrew Goodman, and others who sacrificed their lives so that my generation could freely go to the polls on Election Day and attend integrated schools.

In this crowd of tens of thousands, we acknowledge that there have been great strides in the ongoing fight for racial justice; however, there are remnants of prejudice that prevent Dr. King’s dream from being fully realized.

I press through the masses of people gathered around the reflecting pool to get a glimpse of the speaker behind the podium. The first voice I hear booming from the Memorial steps is that of Cory Booker, mayor of Newark, New Jersey and candidate for U.S. Senate.

“When we still have a justice system that treats the economically disadvantaged

and minorities different than others, we still have work to do,” Booker cried. “When you can, in America, work a full-time job plus overtime and still be below the stifling line of poverty, we still have work to do.

“When the rich are getting richer and the poor are getting poorer. When millions of our children are living in neighborhoods where their soil is toxic and their rivers are polluted and their air quality is so poor that asthma is epidemic, we still have work to do!”

Standing in this field, I see before me a multitude of faces. People whose dreams reach far beyond what the minimum wage can offer.

Indeed, there is still work to be done. Labor unions carry placards that read, “Jobs Not War!” Immigration reform advocates proudly display handmade posters: “No person is illegal!” Fairness advocates wave rainbow flags and Spanish-speaking marchers shout, “Si, se puede!”

An important principle I’ve learned from being a member of Kentuckians for the Commonwealth is that there exists an intersection where issues of social, environmental, and economic justice meet. Here in this muggy field, I find myself at such a juncture: surrounded by high school teachers, congregation leaders, citizen journalists, gun violence victims, former felons, war veterans, elders, babies, and the American flag.

However, the streets of D.C. reveal the ongoing problem of racism, which is made visible in the slogans, t-shirts, and handmade signs demanding justice for Trayvon Martin and an end to the mass incarceration of African American youth.

We live in a time of imprudent colorblindness, where the Supreme Court can render key provisions of the Voting Rights Act unconstitutional because, according to Chief Justice Roberts, it’s “based on 40-year-old facts having no



50th anniversary of March on Washington

Photo credit: Elijah McKenzie

logical relationship to the present day.”

We inhabit in a culture of victim blaming, where a person can be profiled, followed, and murdered due to misguided interpretations of Stand Your Ground laws.

We perceive our world through the lens of a broken justice system, where African American males statistically receive longer prison sentences for first time offenses than their white counterparts.

We exist in a society where this has become the norm.

When Dr. King and John Lewis stood on these steps half a century ago, the stakes were high. They returned to Alabama, prepared to face the harrowing dangers of Southern bigotry, yet they continued to

organize political demonstrations across the country and pushed Congress into finally taking action.

Now the sun has reached its zenith, and it is mercilessly scorching outside. I manage to find shade beneath a giant tree where a group of Georgia college students are standing.

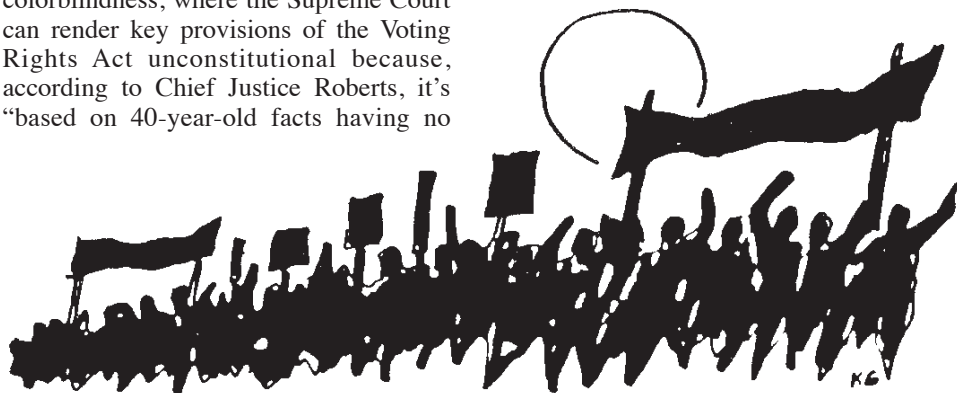
The words of Mayor Booker permeate the audience as he tunelessly continues the refrain, “We still have work to do!”

Fifty years later, on a march to fulfill a Dream, I place myself in the footnotes of history, in the ongoing struggle for justice that continues to unfold on these memorial steps.

“We can’t sit back now thinking democracy is a spectator sport, when all we can do is watch our TV screens and cheer for our side,” Booker proclaims as we roar into applause. “Democracy demands action!”

The crowds around me start chanting, “We still have work to do!”

Elijah McKenzie is a freelance journalist and has been an active member of Kentuckians For The Commonwealth (KFTC) for nearly two years. He received his bachelor’s degree from the University of Louisville in 2013 and continues to write for various news publications, covering issues surrounding social and economic justice. Contact Elijah at emckenzie86@gmail.com.



Peace on your plate – order online now!

By Dr. Kerby Neill

Champion PEACE everywhere you drive with a beautiful “Peace is Possible” license plate. The peace plate depicts cranes -- a classic international peace symbol -- taking off into the sunrise. It includes that shocking assertion that activates lovers of

begin production, and we must reach that number by May. In only a few minutes, you can go to www.peaceandjusticeky.org, the website of the Central Kentucky Council for Peace and Justice (CKCPJ), to see and order this specialty plate. Simply click on the picture of the plate and continue to follow



Peace is Possible – New Kentucky license plate!

peace and annoys cop-out cynics: “Peace is Possible.” If this sounds appealing to you, please act now! Although the wonderful plate design has been approved by the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet, 900 plates must be pre-ordered before they will

the directions. You will have the option to download the order form and mail it in with a check for \$25 or order your plate online.

The idea for the license plate hatched in the fertile mind of passionate peace activist Rebecca Glasscock. “Passion for

peace” are probably the three words that best characterize Rebecca. She helped develop the dynamic peace studies program at Bluegrass Community and Technical College. Rebecca shared the license plate idea with skilled artist, Jaqui Linder, who donated her talents to the design. The cranes are Kentucky Sand Hill Cranes, of course. Five dollars of each license plate application fee will go to the development and implementation of peace curricula in Kentucky public schools. (For full details, please see the information page on the CKCPJ website: <http://bit.ly/PeacePlate>.)

The CKCPJ is maintaining a record of all the license plate applications, while keeping all the funds in a restricted account. Should, heaven forbid, you not place your order, and we find ourselves short of our 900-order goal, then all applicants will be refunded their application fee.

Kentucky has as many as 80 specialty license plates. They celebrate ducks, quail, bobcats, and horses; they honor veterans and “Friends of Coal;” they carry messages to “Spay and Neuter” or “Go Green with Chiropractic.” Let’s join together and give peace a chance!

Dr. Kerby Neill is a Peace Educator, Activist, and Central Kentucky Council for Peace and Justice board member. The CKCPJ is a coalition of peacemaking groups



Dr. Kerby Neill

and individuals, incorporated in 1984 as a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. CKCPJ’s primary objectives are to: provide members and the community with resources and information about peace and justice issues; mobilize, coordinate, and support activities and actions focused on peace and justice issues; and, facilitate and encourage communication and interchange of ideas among members and within the community.

Dr. Kerby Neill can be reached at tkeill@earthlink.net.

Green grows the GRASS at U of L Free Store

By Laura Krauser

In this hasty society, we tend to forget our most valuable foothold as individuals: choice. Choice drives our world, our industry, and our communities- yet often we allow external hands to lead us to convenient ideas of what we want. Each day we make hundreds of decisions, often defaulting to choices weighed by availability and accessibility; however, we do not always have clear perceptions of how our decisions affect the Earth or each other. Tasks as simple as shopping for school supplies have evolved into important ethical dilemmas



Laura Krauser

for the average student: Who made this notebook? How many trees does it take to make a packet of loose leaf? Can I afford a mini refrigerator? Is this book cheaper if I buy it used? Should I throw away this old t-shirt? Endless questions surround the process in how we acquire stuff just for school: stuff that every other student has too.

Recently the University of Louisville has installed an answer to many of those questions. Group Recycling and Sustainable Solutions (GRASS) – a recognized student organization – has debuted its Free Store. The Free Store is now a permanent entity of Unitas Tower aimed at promoting sustainability through the reuse of clothing, books, and household items. Students, faculty, and staff are encouraged to donate unwanted, gently (or heavily) used stuff to make that stuff more convenient for the pocketbook and the Earth.

How did the Free Store come about?

The Free Store began as an event-based project and surfaced during the first GRASS meeting held in the Fall, 2012 semester. The idea itself is recycled from an annual event at Presentation Academy of Louisville called, “Ms. Graves’ Closet.” Ms. Meg Graves, an English teacher at the high school, held a clothing and jewelry drive each spring, just

before break, to raise money for the Creative Writing Club. For one week each year, the basement chemistry lab is transformed into a thriving thrift shop that rakes in shirts, shoes, etc. as well as extra funding for the club. As a student fresh out of high school and searching for sustainable practices that may transfer to college, I proposed a “Sustainable Closet” clothes swap.

This idea grew and evolved through the resources at the University of Louisville, but also through the increasing enthusiasm surrounding the project. GRASS members along with those involved in on-campus housing pushed the proposal through its proper ranks of approval. Group Recycling and Sustainable Solutions used models from other prestigious universities such as Warren-Wilson College and Duke University to gain momentum among the student body and administration. These schools and many others supported a recurring event or space promoting the reuse of common student items, particularly around move-in and move-out times for on-campus housing. The patterns, rules, and outcomes of these institutions’ “free stores” inspired the framework and purpose of the University of Louisville Free Store. The Sustainable Closet transformed and expanded into a permanent entity of campus life as a statement of reuse and sustainability. It is located on the east side of Unitas Tower on the north side of campus.

What exactly is the Free Store?

Its major goal became its current mission: to redirect the overflow of stuff from students to landfills back to the students. The Free Store encourages the reuse of popular commodities among college students to relieve not only environmental impact, but stress surrounding the expenses of keeping up with styles and demands of school. It is a resource for costumes for themed parties or dances as well as dress shoes. The versatility and uncertainty of the Free Store allows it to cater to many different types of students, instigating sustainability and reuse practices among populations of students and faculty who may not otherwise seek it. The Free Store could motivate each customer through its different benefits and aspects, but results in communal and convenient “shopping” practices. It stands as an effective way to prolong the life of items deemed unwanted by one crowd by providing an opportunity to pass it along.



The debut of U of L’s Free Store drew in over forty students, faculty, and staff

How does it work?

The University of Louisville’s Free Store is open each week during the Group Recycling and Sustainable Solutions meetings for two hours: from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. on Friday afternoons. Members from the student organization are responsible for staffing the store. These student workers also collect and organize the donated items in the store, along with collecting data on the flow of items through the store. Items that are deemed unsuitable for our purposes are either repurposed into art or new items by various GRASS members or donated to other agencies that collect used goods. At the Grand Opening of the University of Louisville Free Store, forty-three people left with new-to-them items.

The first shift of the Free Store excited not only the sustainability community on

campus, but the community at large. The Free Store’s Grand Opening provided many students within GRASS and beyond with hope for the success of the project. The amount of traffic in the little basement room instilled a sense of confidence that the store will be long-lasting and far-reaching. The legacy of sustainable and attainable decision-making for students at the University of Louisville is perhaps the most exciting aspect of the Free Store.

Laura Krauser is a sophomore at the University of Louisville working on degrees in Geography and History with a minor in Social Change. She is involved in the Garden Commons, Group Recycling and Sustainable Solutions, and the Honors Volunteer Program. She loves Louisville and can be reached at Krauser.laura@gmail.com.

A Testimonial to my Best Movement Friend and Ally

by Isaac Marion Thacker IV

I wanted to share a recent recollection of Tom Moffett with you. At an Occupy rally in late 2012 there was trouble with the police, as far as I know the only time this happened in Louisville. A policeman actually hit a female demonstrator, and there were some very tense moments not ten yards from Tom. But he never budged. So, not just as they say, “back in the day,” but even at the age of 88 (!) Tom was doing what Tom does: everything possible for justice and peace.

Anyway, I call this “A Testimonial to my Best Movement Friend and Ally.”

Many of us in this room owe Tom Moffett much, but I’m pretty sure I owe him the most of all. With his considerable influence earned through many decades of persistent, always-positive (not to mention brilliant) work in the movement, he has believed in and supported me when it seemed that absolutely no-one else did.

When I finally got out an issue of the online Kentucky Alliance newsletter, you’d have thought I had moved a mountain: Tom said it might even revolutionize and revitalize the whole movement.

When my belief in the beautiful, beautiful People’s Agenda (from ca. 2002) led me to try to restart the Coalition for the People’s Agenda, Tom, almost alone in the whole movement, showed up at every meeting for more than a year (Cathy Hinko, who I think is here—hello, Cathy—probably the second-most-indefatigable person in the movement, showed up several times too. Thank you, Cathy!).

When my work with Occupy and other groups led me to be out in some of the only bitter-cold weather of this past winter, Tom was there. AT AGE 88!! Once he was there to the

point that he had to get someone to take him home because he simply couldn’t take the cold anymore! Tom Moffett played tennis well into his eighties, but now he is somewhat frail. And yet he SHOWS UP more, probably, than any of the rest of us. SHAME ON US!!

I think this incredible dedication of Tom’s, perhaps comes most fundamentally from his understanding that a million deaths is not (as Stalin claimed) a statistic, but rather a million tragedies. A system that systematically demonizes dozens of millions of humans just because of their skin pigment is pernicious beyond belief.

And the thing that ties all of this together Tom knows, is the 1-1/3 trillion (!) dollars the U.S. spends on its military every year. Tom who understands eloquent words (he’s even been a pastor, a preacher) and important numbers (he’s even been a bean-counter, an accountant) better than almost anyone in the struggle, has tried to tell us mere mortals this for decades through dedicated words and action.

In short, Tom has walked the walk, talked the talk, and spoken truth to power like no-one else for more than 40 years. VIVA RACIAL JUSTICE! VIVA SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC JUSTICE! VIVA PEACE! But above all, VIVA TOM MOFFETT!!!!

Isaac Marion Thacker IV (Ike Thacker) is an advocate for political, social, and especially economic democracy (socialism) who focuses on housing issues and has been writing about them for more than twenty years. He believes simply that we are all absolutely equally human, regardless of absolutely everything, and that everyone deserves a place to call home. Ike may be contacted at ike.thacker@gmail.com.

US labor movement (continued from page 1)

that workers in virtually every other industry have abandoned: they’re going on strike. They are going public with their issues – low pay, lack of benefits, long hours, and lack of dignity. They have also held one-day and two-day strikes, lunch time strikes, demonstrations and rallies, and are bringing communities together to support their struggle for improved living and working conditions.

Just as millions of workers learned in the 1930’s, today’s workers are finding out that their only source of power is to be organized, and the only way to be assured of a measure of fair pay and dignity on the job is through collective bargaining.

Workers at Wal-Mart, McDonald’s, Domino’s, Pizza Hut, Wendy’s, Dunkin Donuts, Subway, Sears, Macy’s, and Guitar Center Stores have suddenly been willing to put it on the line. They have labored long and hard without benefit in a satisfactory manner from their labor. They have been pushed too far. The pendulum has swung too far!

By simply recognizing the facts regarding the status of workers in America and around the globe, one grasps an understanding of her position on the pendulum’s travel. If you haven’t yet figured out that if you are reading this, you more than likely reside in the 99 percent (that is, “Us”): you either work for a living, or you’re retired.

You’re not likely on the one percent side (that is, “Them”), where the obscenely wealthy reside. Once you understand this basic design then you can begin to see that

the only way to balance the power and wealth of the few is through organizing the many into unions able to challenge corporate power.

There is much to be hopeful about. There is a stirring in the land. A spark has been lit. The rich have gotten too rich, the poor too poor, and the rest squeezed in the declining middle. Just as the workers who occupied their workplaces in sit-down strikes sparked a mass movement of millions of workers who joined unions and created the great American middle-class, so too will the workers in our post-industrial service economy rise up and take control of their destinies and organize millions of like-minded, economically disenfranchised workers and spontaneously ignite the resurgence of the American trade union movement.

In Solidarity,
Bill Londrigan, President, Kentucky State AFL-CIO

Bill Londrigan is the President of the Kentucky State AFL-CIO, and was first elected in 1999. Before being elected President he served numerous positions with the AFL-CIO, including Secretary-Treasurer/Business Manager of the Greater Louisville Building & Construction Trades Council, and many more. Bill is a member of Elevator Constructors, Local 20, Louisville, KY. Bill earned a B.A. in Labor Studies from Pennsylvania State University, and a Master of Public Administration from the University of Louisville. Bill is 56 and resides in Franklin County, KY with his wife, Jennifer and daughter, Stella.

Fresh Stop (continued from page 3)

participants ate more fruits and vegetables as a result of the Fresh Stop and nearly 100 percent would recommend the Fresh Stop to their family and friends.

Please spread the word about this great collaboration. More children need to be connected to Oxmoor Farm and the Fresh Stop Project. Contribute generously to the cause: www.newrootsproduce.org or www.foodliteracyproject.org.

Karyn’s passion for food justice led her to found New Roots, as well as introducing the Fresh Stop model to Louisville. As

Executive Director, she is committed to working with farmers, community organizing and facilitating leadership development with other food justice leaders in Louisville neighborhoods with limited access to food. To date, New Roots has organized four successful community-driven Fresh Stops, and connected over 800 people to 20 Kentuckiana farms. She is the proud mother of middle schooler Cicada Hoyt, who eats all her vegetables. She has an MBA in Environmental Management. Karyn can be reached at 502-509-6770 or info@newrootsproduce.org.

Regular Meeting Times for Area Organizations

ADDICTION RECOVERY ADVOCATES OF KENTUCKIANA – (485-1248)

AIDS INTERFAITH MINISTRIES (AIM) OF KENTUCKIANA, INC. – (635-4510)

AMERICA 2000 DEMOCRATIC CLUB –4th Tuesday. Contact Enid Redman at 459-0616 or John Mine at pappajohn15@gmail.com. Also see www.America2000plus.net.

AMERICANS UNITED FOR SEPARATION OF CHURCH AND STATE – Every month at noon (contact Paul Simmons: 608-7517)

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL – 1st Saturday (Sharon: 637-8951) at Heine Bros. on Douglass Loop

APPAF [American Palestine Public Affairs Forum] – 2nd Thursday (773-1836)

BREAD FOR THE WORLD – Last Monday every other month (239-4317 for details)

CAPA [Citizens Against Police Abuse] –2nd Thursday (778-8130) Meet at Braden Center, 3208 W. Broadway

CART [Coalition for the Advancement of Regional Transportation] – 3rd Wednesday, Union Station, TARC Board Room

CLOUT [CITIZENS OF LOUISVILLE ORGANIZED AND WORKING TOGETHER] – (583-1267)

COMMITTEE FOR PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST – 2nd Monday (456-6586)

COMMON CAUSE – Ad hoc discussions. Continuous engagement. www.commoncause.org/ky

COMMUNITY FARM ALLIANCE OF JEFFERSON COUNTY – 2nd Tuesday (223-3655)

COUNTER RECRUITMENT, “Aim Higher” – 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) – 4th Wednesday at 6:30 PM (451-9600).

FRIENDSHIP FORCE OF LOUISVILLE – 2nd Tuesday (893-8436)

GREATER LOUISVILLE SIERRA CLUB – 3rd Tuesday, 7pm. (502-644-0659)

HUMANISTS OF METRO LOUISVILLE – 2nd Monday, 7:00pm (896-4853)

INTERFAITH PATHS TO PEACE – 3rd Wednesday, every other month. (214-7322)

IRFI [ISLAMIC RESEARCH FOUNDATION INTERNATIONAL, INC.] – Sundays at 6:00 PM (502-423-1988)

JEWISH VOICE FOR PEACE (jvp.org) – 1st Friday and 4th Thursday. Contact 256-525-5290 or sonrevolution@aol.com

JOBS WITH JUSTICE KENTUCKY (582-5454)

JURISDICTIONARY CLUB OF LOUISVILLE – Know the law and how to use it (500-8161)

JUSTICE RESOURCE CENTER – (345-5386)

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

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

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

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

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

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS (502-895-5218), www.louisville-orglwv

LOUISVILLE COMMITTEE FOR ISRAELI/PALESTINIAN STATES – 3rd Sunday (451-5658)

LOUISVILLE PEAK OIL GROUP – 2nd Saturday (425-6645)

LPAC [LOUISVILLE PEACE ACTION COMMUNITY] – (456-6914)

LOUISVILLE WOMEN CHURCH – Meditation every Sunday (473-8435)

LOUISVILLE YOUTH GROUP – Friday nights (893-0788), www.louisvilleyouthgroup.org

LOUISVILLIANS IN FAVOR OF EQUALITY (LIFE) – 4th Sunday (384-3875)

METRO SWEEP FOR ACCESS – 3rd Tuesday (895-0866 or 899-9261)

METROPOLITAN HOUSING COALITION – 4th Wednesday (584-6858)

MIGHTY KINDNESS – mightykindness@gmail.com (235-0711)

MUHAMMAD ALI INSTITUTE FOR PEACE AND JUSTICE, at UL (852-6372)

NAACP [NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF COLORED PEOPLE] – 3rd Monday (776-7608)

NAMI [NATIONAL ALLIANCE FOR THE MENTALLY ILL] – 2nd Monday (245-5287)

OCCUPY LOUISVILLE – every Wednesday, 7:00 p.m., Braden Center (384-3875)

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.

Calendar for peacemakers

Nov 1 to 10 **MOTOWN IN BLACK AND WHITE**. The Muham-mad Ali Center, daily. Photo exhibit chronicles the exciting music that brought down racial barriers. Visit <http://alicenter.org>

Nov 1 to Dec 31 **EXCEPTIONAL PEOPLE IN THE AFRICAN DIASPORA**. Kentucky African American Heritage Center, Mon thru Fri. Images of the famous and not-so-famous world-over by local photographers. Visit www.kcaah.org

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

Nov 2 (Sat) **ANNUAL RACE TO END HOMELESSNESS**, Cherokee Park, 9AM. Help raise public awareness of homelessness and raise funds for the Coalition for the Homeless. Call 636-9550 for more information.

Nov 2 (Sat) **WALK FOR SUICIDE PREVENTION**. Waterfront Park, 8:30PM. Help Out Of Darkness Suicide Prevention raise public awareness of mental disorders and suicide prevention. Call 777-7405 for more information.

Nov 2 (Sat) **LOUISVILLE COMMUNITY AGRICULTURE**. Every Saturday morning. Also, other days and times. 26 farmers’ markets from California neighborhood to Norton Commons. Visit www.louisvilleky.gov/HealthyHometown

Nov 2 (Sat) **HOME REPAIR VOLUNTEERS**. Fuller Center for Housing of Louisville. Every Saturday. All skill levels. Ask about our other volunteer opportunities. For more information, call 272-1377.

Nov 2 (Sat) **ENGLISH CONVERSATION CLUB**. Every Saturday at the Iroquois & Newburg Public Library Branches, 3PM. Also Main Library & Bon Air Library on Thursdays at 7PM. Practice conversational English with neighbors and friends from many parts of the world. Visit www.lfpl.org

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

Nov 2 (Sat) **CANVASS NEIGHBORHOODS FOR FRESH FOOD**. Saturdays and Sundays. Join us any time. Fresh Stop Project volunteers take orders door to door for locally grown fruits and vegetables. Visit://newrootsproduce.org

Nov 2 (Sat) **JEFFERSON MEMORIAL FOREST**. Land Stewart Project. Every first Saturday, 9AM to Noon. Also, Wednesdays. Help improve landscape and protect native flora. Gloves, tools, water and on-the-job training provided. Visit www.louisvilleky.gov/metroparks/jeffersonmemorialforest/

Nov 3 (Sun) **“AIM HIGHER”** focusing on military counter-recruitment. Every first Sunday at 7 PM, 2236 Kaelin Avenue at the FOR office. Discuss conscientious objection, military recruitment, and the possibility for high school students to “opt out” of having their names given to recruiters. Call Jim Johnson, 262-0148.

Nov 4 (Mon) **BICYCLES FOR HEALTH AND CLEANER AIR**. Louisville Bicycle Club, Every Monday, weather permitting. Fat Forty at 8:45AM. Recovery Ride at 6:45PM. Visit www.louisvilleky.gov/bikelouisville.

Nov 4 (Mon) **MALE MENTORING**, Byck Elementary School, 9AM. Other times available. Volunteer once a week to mentor a young male student. For more information, call 485.8862.

Nov 4 (Mon) **COMMUNITY COALITION ON THE METRO HEALTHY HOMETOWN INIATIVE**. Metro Health & Wellness Dept., 5:30PM. Committees meet every Monday on community goals for Mental Health, Violence Prevention, Tobacco Cessation, or Fitness & Nutrition. For more information, call 574-6209.

Nov 4 (Mon) **JUSTICE MINISTRY ASSEMBLIES**, CLOUT (Citizens of Louisville Organized and United Together) at 7PM. Nineteen diverse congregations assemble to identify for critical community problems for group advocacy this coming year. Visit www.cloutky.org

Nov 5 (Tues) **SISTERS WHO CARE SUPPORT GROUP**. Northwest Neighborhood Place, 6PM to 8PM. Enhancement, communication training, and family management in a support-ive female environment. Call 583-6820 for more information.

Nov 5 (Tues) **LIVE KLEZMER MUSIC**. Iroquois Public Library, 7PM. Klezmer music originated with the itinerant Jewish troubadours travelling the villages and ghettos of Eastern Europe. Visit www.lfpl.org

Nov 5 (Tues) **HOUR OF POWER BOOK DISCUSSIONS**. Newburg Public Library, every first Tuesday, 6:30PM. Discussions of books by contemporary authors on personal efforts to overcome the challenges of abuse, oppression, deprivation, discrimination, or disabilities. Visit www.lfpl.org

Nov 6 (Wed) **MERTON AND VATICAN II**. Thomas Merton Center, 7PM. Author Anthony T. Padovano discusses the impart of Merton’s thought and writing on the Catholic Church during his lifetime. Visit <http://merton.org>

Nov 6 (Wed) **NOONTIME INTERFAITH MEDITATIONS**. Every Wednesday from 12:10 to 12:30 at Christ Church Cathedral, Downtown. Weekly rotation includes Zen Buddhist silence, Lecto Divina, Vipassana Buddhist practices, and Creative Visualization. Visit <http://paths2peace.org>

Nov 6 (Wed) **NATURE PRESERVE VOLUNTEERS**. Blackacre State Nature Preserve and Historic Homestead. Every Wednesday, 9AM to Noon. Help care for gardens, trails, and farmland. Visit www.blackacreconservancy.org

Nov 6 (Wed) **CITIZENSHIP TUTORS**. Kentucky Refugee Ministries, 6:30 to 8:30PM. Every Wednesday. Also every Thursday, 11AM to 1PM. Help students study for the citizenship exam. Ask about our other volunteer opportunities. Call 479-9180 Ext 57 for more information.

Nov 6 (Wed) **THE LOUISVILLE SUSTAINABILITY FORUM**. Every first Wednesday. Sustainability and relationships that create a community for change. Bring your lunch. Noon to 1:45 PM, Passionist Earth & Spirit Center, the Barn at 1924 Newburg Road.

Nov 6 (Wed) **MEETING OF THE MINDS**. Crescent Hill Public Library, 6PM. Participate in discussions of current issues with your neighbors. Visit www.lfpl.org

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

Nov 7 (Thurs) **REAL PEOPLE, REAL CHALLENGES, REAL SOLUTIONS**. Volunteers of America Family Emergency Shelter, 8:30AM. One hour interactive tour of VOA’s work and programs for self-determination. For more information, call 636-4660.

Nov 7 (Thurs) **KENTUCKY SINGLE PAYER HEALTH CARE**. Every first & third Thursday, 5:30PM at Main Public Library. Call Kay Tillow 636-1551.

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

Nov 8 (Fri) **A GLIMPSE OF ETERNITY**. The Louisville Astronomical Society at dusk in Tom Sawyer Park. Every 2nd Friday. Look through telescopes at planets, our moon, stars, double stars, the Orion nebula and other wonders. Visit www.louisville-astro.org

Nov 9 (Sat) **SPANISH LIT SALON**, Iroquois Public Library, 1PM. Discuss contemporary literature in Spanish. Meet your neighbors who originated in Spanish speaking countries. Visit www.lfpl.org

Nov 9 (Sat) **OLMSTEAD PARK VOLUNTEERS**. Iroquois Park, 9AM to Noon. Seneca Park, Nov 16th. Help maintain and restore our urban forests. Visit www.olmsteadparks.org

Nov 9 (Sat) **EARTHSAVE POTLUCK**. Crescent Hill Ministries, 6PM to 8PM. Every 2nd Saturday. Bring a plant-based dish and share your recipe. Discuss healthy food and behavior change. Mix, mingle, music. For more information call 299-9520.

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

Nov 9 (Sat) **BIRDS, ECOLOGY AND RELATIONSHIPS**. Beckham Bird Club at the Clifton Center, 7PM. Every 2nd Saturday. Deepen your personal relationship with nature by observ-ing and studying local birds. Visit www.beckhambirdclub.org

Nov 10 (Sun) **VETERANS FOR PEACE**. Every second Sunday, 3PM to 4PM. Heine Bros. Coffee at the Douglas Loop, Call 632-2177 for more information.

Nov 10 (Sun) **VIGIL FOR PEACE**. Every second Sunday. A remembrance of all those suffering from conflicts in the Middle East. Bring a sign. 5PM to 6 PM, Bardstown Road at Douglass Blvd. Sponsored by LPAC (Louisville Peace Action Commu-nity). For more information, call Harold Trainer at 387-9490.

Nov 11 (Mon) **URBAN LEAGUE YOUNG PROFESSIONALS**. Louisville Urban League, Every 2nd Monday, 6PM. Networking opportunities for emerging leaders of all minority backgrounds. Call the Urban League office for more info: 561-6830.

Nov 12 (Tues) **LUNCH & LEARN AT CATHOLIC CHAR-ITIES**. St. Anthony’s Campus, 11:30AM to 1PM. Tour facilities and learn more about community programs. Call 636-9786 for more information.

Nov 12 (Tues) **HAND IN HAND MINISTRIES**. Legacy Breakfast, 7AM. Learn about our immersion trips to Appalachia and the Caribbean and other volunteer opportunities. Visit <http://myhandinhand.org>

Nov 12 (Tues) **FREE HOME ENERGY EFFICIENCY SEMI-NAR**. Energy Pros Sustainable Home Education Group, 6:30PM to 8:30PM. Learn the basics. Visit www.theenergypros.net

Nov 12 (Tues) **GREEN CONVENE**. Every second Tuesday at The Highland Green Building, 6:30PM. Join residents and policymakers in examining ways to connect the health of our community with our environment. Visit www.greenconvene.org

Nov 12 (Tues) **AMERICANA COMMUNITY CENTER**. Orien-tation at 7pm every second Tuesday. Learn how you can help immigrant families learn practical skills, join social networks, and improve language skills. Call 366-7813 to RSVP.

Nov 12 (Tues) **MOVIMENIENTO DE MUJERES LATINA – LATINA WOMEN’S MOVEMENT**, La Casita Center, Every second Tuesday, 5:30PM. Network, mentor, find friends and share. Call 322-4036 for more information.

Nov 12 (Tues) **NUCLEAR NIGHTMARES: REAL THREATS REAL SOLUTIONS**. World Affairs Council, 5:30PM. Joe Cirincione of the Ploughshares Fund discusses the threat of deadly arsenals and national security concerns. Visit www.worldkentucky.org

Nov 13 (Wed) **KENTUCKY INTERFAITH TASKFORCE ON LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN (KITLAC)**. Every second Wednesday at the 1741 Building on Frankfort Avenue. 7:30 PM. For more information, call David Horvath at 479-9262 or Pat Geier at 456-6586.

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

Nov 13 (Wed) **YIDDISH IN AMERICA**. Iroquois Public Library. Wednesday, 6:30 PM. Spalding Prof. Merle Bachman speaks on Yiddish culture and language. Visit www.lfpl.org

Nov 14 (Thurs) **FRIENDSHIP FORCE OF LOUISVILLE**. 2nd Thursday in odd months, 6:30PM. Help plan and

participate in international goodwill exchanges. Visit www.thefriendshipforce.org

Nov 14 (Thurs) **AMERICAN PALESTINE PUBLIC AFFAIRS FORUM (APPAPF)**. Every second Thursday. A documentary film exploring the situation in Middle East will be presented. 7 PM, Louisville Presbyterian Seminary, Nelson Hall, Room 119. For more information, call Bashar Masri, 773-1836.

Nov 14 to 15 **FESTIVAL OF FAITHS**. Louisville’s annual celebration of religious diversity, civic unity, and devotion to faith traditions. Visit www.festivaloffaiths.org

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

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

Nov 19 (Tues) **DEVELOPMENTAL DISABLITIES WORK-SHOP**. Every third Tuesday, 11AM to 1PM. Expressions Café at The Council on Developmental Disabilities. Learn how an Individualized Education Program (IEP) is prepared for a child with a disability. Address barriers to inclusion. Call 584-1239.

Nov 20 (Wed) **ANNE BRADEN MEMORIAL LECTURE**. UofL, 2PM. Dr. Khalil Gilbrand Muhammad of the Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture traces the historical roots of the changing demographics of crime and punishment. Visit <http://louisville.edu/sustainablity>

Nov 21 (Thurs) **COURT APPOINTED SPECIAL ADVOCATES FOR CHILDREN (CASA)**. Orientation, Noon to 1PM. Learn how you can help defend the rights of abused and neglected children in our community. Call 595-4911 to RSVP.

Nov 21 (Thurs) **MENTAL ILLNESS SUPPORT & ADVOCACY**. NAMI Louisville every third Thursday at 3PM. Also Saturdays and Sundays. Support group for families. Draw on years of experience. Visit www.namilouisville.org.

Nov 21 (Thurs) **AFRICAN PRESENCE IN ANCIENT AMER-ICA**. Bon Air Public Library, 6:30PM. A discussion of Ivan Van Sertima’s book examining indications of African inhabit-ants of central America before Columbus. Visit www.lfpl.org

Nov 21 (Thurs) **THIRD THURSDAY LUNCH**. Rudyard Kipling Restaurant, 11:30AM. Recognized speakers on compelling social, political and spiritual subjects. For more information, contact Cathy Ford, 458-1223, fordhoff@bellsouth.net or Polk Culpepper, 948-2077, cathyculpepper@insightbb.com

Nov 21 (Thurs) **FORsooth LABELING**. Presbyterian Seminary, Nelson Hall, Room 10. 6:30 PM. Every 3rd Thursday. We need volunteers! Many hands make light work, and the opposite is also true! So please join us if you can. Call 451-5658 for more information.

Nov 23 (Sat) **FRENCH CIRCLE**, Iroquois Public Library. Satur-day, 12:30 PM. Practice French language. Meet your neighbors who originated in French speaking countries. Visit www.lfpl.org

Nov 26 (Tues) **FREE NON-PROFIT START UP CLINIC**. Center for Nonprofit Excellence, 3:30PM. Learn the fundamentals. Pitfalls to avoid. Visit www.cnpe.org

Nov 26 (Tues) **GREEN NETWORKING**. Louisville Green Drinks, 6:30PM to 8:30PM. Every 4th Tuesday. Meet ecology-minded business people. Exchange ideas. Visit www.greendrinks.org

Nov 27 (Wed) **CANDLELIGHT VIGIL AND WALK TO END HUNGER**. Plymouth Community Revival Center, 7PM. An annual observance in honor of 9 year-old Bobby Ellis whose short-life inspired the establishment of The Dare to Care Food Bank. Visit <http://paths2peace.org>

Nov 27 (Wed) **FOOD WAYS AND JEWISH CULTURE**. Iroquois Public Library. Wednesday, 6:30 PM. The subject of food is everywhere in Jewish culture. Deciding what food eat in some way our thoughts and concerns. Visit www.lfpl.org

Nov 27 (Wed) **COMPASSIONATE LOUISVILLE**. Noon, meeting locations rotate. Help monitor the progress of Metro Louisville’s ten-year campaign for compassion. Call 214-7322 for more information.

Nov 29 (Fri) **FREE COAT EXCHANGE**. Some people have a coat they do not need. Some people need a coat. No questions asked. Visit www.freecoatexchange.org

OUT OF TOWN

Nov 2 (Sat) **ROAD RALLY FOR REPRODUCTIVE RIGHTS**. Kentucky Religious Coalition for Reproductive Choice, 1PM. Join caravans from around Kentucky. Decorate your vehicle and drive to Frankfort. Meet us in the Capitol Rotunda. Hear local and national speakers discuss reproductive justice. Visit kyroadrally.org for more information.

Nov 5 (Tues) **DEMOCRACY & BBQ**. Kentuckians For The Commonwealth at Eastern KY Social Club in Lynch KY, 6PM. Meet KFTC activists, elected officials, and friends. Discuss issues such as the KY Voting Rights Amendment. Enjoy world-renowned Harlan County food. Visit www.kftc.org

Nov 7 (Thurs) **ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF FOUR RIVERS WATERSHED WATCH**. West Kentucky Community and Technical College. Updates and training for volunteers who conduct surveys on streams, rivers, and lakes. Data collected helps develop conservation plans for the region. For more information, call 800-928-4939 Ext. 4939.

Nov 8 to 10 **PRACTICING DISCERNMENT**. St. Meinrad Retreat Center. Discernment is a skill that, when developed through a life of prayer, can help us know God’s will and perhaps more importantly to know God as present within us. Visit www.saintmeinrad.org