

# FORsooth

Volume 16, No. 1

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February 2005

## State groups pushing for single-payer health insurance

*Kentuckians can tell state officials what should be done about health care at 15 hearings to be held Jan. 25 to Feb. 24 by the Kentucky Long-Term Policy Research Center.*

*The Louisville hearing will be held at 6 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 2 at the Shelby Campus of the University of Louisville, 9001 Shelbyville Road at the Founders Union A and B. In Lexington, a hearing will be at 6 p.m. Monday, Feb. 1 at the Ramada Inn, 143 N. Broadway.*

*Other cities include Bowling Green (Feb. 16) Owensboro (Feb. 17) and Prestonsburg (Feb. 22). For more information, go to the organization's web site at [www.kltprc.net/news1.htm](http://www.kltprc.net/news1.htm).*

by Kay Tillow

In December, Kentucky doctors formed the state chapter of Physicians for a National Health Program (PNHP-KY). That group and Kentuckians for Single Payer Health Care (KSPH) are working to organize the public to assure quality health care for everyone through a single payer system.

U.S. Rep. John Conyers of Michigan has introduced the legislation, H.R. 676, that would make it happen. This single payer national health insurance plan would cover every person for all medically necessary care — including hospital, physician, mental health, dental, vision, rehab, nursing home, prescriptions, physical therapy, and home health.

The bill assures patients the right to choose their physicians and liberates physicians from control by the HMOs. H.R. 676 saves money, not by denying

care, but by assuring preventive care. The bill cuts out the administrative waste by removing the private, profit making insurance companies and HMOs from the system. The bill transforms profit-making hospitals into nonprofits. The money saved from the administrative wastes and the profiteering is more than enough to assure quality care for all our people.

We all know the need. More than 18,000 die in the U.S. each year from lack of health insurance. About 45 million have no insurance at all. Over a two-year period, 82 million are without coverage at some point. All who have insurance are at risk of losing it as costs escalate or companies declare bankruptcy. Deductibles are growing rapidly forcing even the insured to choose between health care and other necessities. The glass-jar-in-the-convenience-store solution to raise money for a child's care has escalated to the internet. Now parents advertise on ebay to seek help



— photo by Eddie Davis

### Protestors favoring single-payer national health insurance march in Jeffersonville, Indiana last year.

for an expensive operation for their son's cancer. Bush's prescription drug bill is a sham, and seniors are still unable to afford needed medication. Racial disparities in care are rampant as African Americans suffer a shocking 85,000 excess deaths per year.

Many people mistakenly think that the U.S. has the best health care in the world. It isn't so. The World Health Organization ranks us 37th. Our infant mortality rate is higher and our life expectancy lower than the industrialized countries that have national health care. The only thing that the U.S. is highest in is cost. We pay almost double, per capita, what other industrialized nations pay — close to \$6,000 per person per year. So if we pay more, why don't we have the best health care?

The answer is that we have entrusted health care to investor owned HMOs, insurance companies and hospitals. These entities pay allegiance, by law, to the interests of their stockholders. They waste up to 31 percent in administration in their efforts to take in as much as possible and pay out as little as they can. PNHP estimates that we spend about \$300 billion a year on administrative wastes — an amount large enough to cover all of the uninsured.

We cannot solve the problem with incremental changes. When HMOs began to kick newborns and their moms out of hospitals in 24 hours, the public demanded change. We passed a number of state laws to assure at least 48 hours. But we can't

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## Prime task today is to define democracy, Daniels says

FORsooth staff report

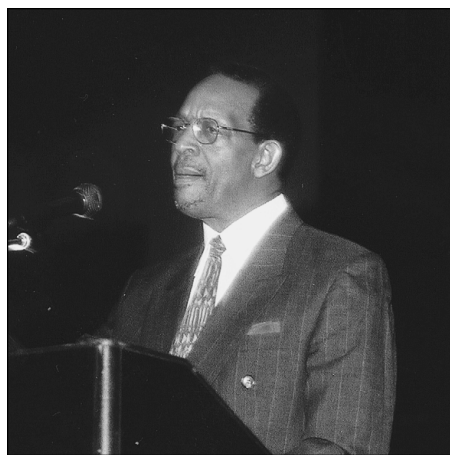
The United States is at a critical point in a centuries-old struggle between those trying to expand democracy and those who would constrict it, Ron Daniels told the Unity Dinner Dec. 9.

Daniels, a scholar, columnist and veteran organizer for the Rainbow Coalition, said progressives need to

Repression dinner honored two Louisvillians: Fairness organizer Carol Kraemer and, posthumously, civil rights, environmental and labor activist Roosevelt Roberts, who died in April 2004.

Daniels said only struggle can win over the Bush administration and others seeking to constrict democracy.

"It didn't happen that one day, you know, the bosses of industry and the



— photo by Eddie Davis

### Ron Daniels

"One of the things I'm dumbfounded about (is) why the Democratic Party would

want to run away from the label liberal or progressive or even left, because they are running away from the tradition that has always expanded democracy," Daniels said. "You just have to ask any person, white, black, red, yellow or brown, where did your social security come from, where did your medicaid come from, where did your consumer protection come from.... It didn't come from those who want to constrict democracy."

Daniels sharply criticized the Bush administration for trying to circumvent the Geneva Convention and other accords against torture, an approach he linked with abuse of prisoners by the U.S. in Iraq and Guantanamo naval base in Cuba.

"The United States of America says that in the name of prosecuting the war on terror that you can torture human beings

(continued on page 5)

*While the Unity Dinner saluted justice activists Dec. 9, a few blocks away a great victory for their cause happened when the Louisville Metro Council approved 19-6 a civil rights ordinance banning discrimination in jobs, public accommodations and housing based on sexual orientation and gender identity.*

organize and fight in the tradition of those favoring expansion, such as abolitionists, suffragists and gay-rights activists.

"We're in a struggle for what the definition of democracy will be in the 21<sup>st</sup> century," Daniels said at Louisville Gardens, where the yearly Kentucky Alliance Against Racist and Political

robber barons woke up... and said 'Gee, it's just terrible what we're doing to those workers,'" Daniels said.

Challenging the centrist wing of the Democratic Party that favors abandoning minorities, labor and the poor, is a good place to start moving the struggle forward, he added.

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# Bhopal and Rubbertown: two places linked by woes

by Gracie Lewis

On Saturday, December 4, REACT (Rubbertown Emergency Action) held a candlelight vigil in front of DuPont Dow Elastomers on Camp Ground Road to commemorate the biggest ever industrial tragedy. At 6 p.m. about 100 persons converged on DuPont Dow Elastomers in solidarity with the victims of Bhopal, India. Many attending were environmentalists from Ohio, Michigan, Indiana, Colorado and Texas who had spent the day with us going door-to-door to gather signatures in our campaign to end toxic air pollution. On December 3, 1984, thousands of people were gassed in their sleep as toxic chemicals leaked from a Union Carbide factory in Bhopal, India. Hundreds of thousands of people lost loved ones, health and livelihood. In 2001, Dow Chemical bought Union Carbide and refused to pay compensation to the victims of Bhopal or clean up the site. *We charge genocide.* REACT, standing in solidarity with Bhopal, India, talked to Ms. Rachna Dhingra with the International Campaign for Justice in Bhopal via a speaker phone at the vigil. It was heartwarming to know that this tragedy had not been forgotten around the world. REACT fully understands corporate greed. DuPont Dow opposes Mayor Jerry Abramson's plan to require chemical plants to reduce their emissions of toxic air pollution. Right now, Greater Louisville, Inc.

says "no" to the mayor's Strategic Toxic Air Reduction (STAR) program. They put "profits before people." REACT said "no" and presented Greater Louisville Inc. with the "Turkey of the Year award." REACT stands in solidarity with people around the world in our struggle for clean air, and especially with those who have incurred injuries and deaths as a result of industry. People lost their lives there, and the victim's families, as well as those who survived this tragedy, should have received a settlement. REACT will not remain silent in Rubbertown while people are suffering in Bhopal, India. We will stand in *solidarity* with Bhopal, until justice rolls down like a mighty stream. Join in the struggle against environmental racism. Call or write Mayor Jerry Abramson and support his Strategic Toxic Air Reduction (STAR) Program to reduce emissions from industries. According to Mayor Abramson, the STAR program is a good balance between keeping and creating jobs and cleaning our air. REACT has evaluated the plan, and we agree. Call on the Air Pollution Control Board to pass a resolution that recommends local control over local air in compliance with the federal Clean Air Act. *The writer is an activist with REACT. For more information on the group's efforts to fight pollution, call (502) 774-5267 or (502) 368-3387.*

## Health insurance (continued from page 1)

legislate on every disease and every condition. The HMOs are constantly seeking ways to cut care and dump expensive patients. In Kentucky, when we passed a law to ensure some consumer accountability in health insurance, the insurance companies forced a retreat by threatening to pull out of the state. The market doesn't work for health care. We need to pass HR 676. The bill now has 39 co-sponsors. How do we make what is morally right into what is also politically possible? We have to build a movement broad and powerful enough to make it happen. A few drops don't make a waterfall. We need a gusher. The cause is just. The answer is clear. So let us begin. We are asking organizations to take a stand by endorsing HR 676. PNHP-KY and KSPHC have speakers willing to address any group. KSPHC meets the third Thursday of every month at 5:30 p.m. at Central Presbyterian Church, 4th and Kentucky streets. The next meeting is February 17, and you are

invited to join with us. In the meantime, you can sign a petition for HR 676 on line at [www.cnhpnow.org](http://www.cnhpnow.org). You can read HR 676 and learn details at [www.PNHP.org](http://www.PNHP.org). The local website is: <http://www.louisvillepeace.org/kysinglepayerhealthcare.html>. We have brochures, sample resolutions, and petitions available for anyone to distribute. And if you need something more, just let us know. Your ideas are welcome. The Erie city council passed a resolution calling on all the Pennsylvania congresspersons to join in sponsoring HR 676. Are there cities in Kentucky where we can do that? *The writer is an organizer with the Nurses Professional Organization. For more information, contact her at (502) 459-3393. E-mail: [nursenpo@aol.com](mailto:nursenpo@aol.com). Or e-mail PNHP-KY activists Dr. Garrett Adams at [gadamsky@aol.com](mailto:gadamsky@aol.com) or Dr. Edgar Lopez at [e.lopez@insightbb.com](mailto:e.lopez@insightbb.com).*

# Asian tsunami victims to get help from concert, trip

A concert featuring Harry Pickens Monday, January 24 will raise money to help victims of the South Asian tsunami, which has killed about 150,000 people and threatened many more with disease. The concert is slated for 8 to 9:15 p.m. at Comstock Hall at the University of Louisville. Admission is free, but donations for tsunami relief will be collected, organizers said. An e-mail which called the concert part of a "Tsunami of Compassion" said the show will "tap the power of music, chant, sound, and silence to ease suffering, restore hope, and raise funds for victims of the recent devastation in South Asia." For more information, call (502) 479-0697 or email [tsunamiofcompassion@yahoo.com](mailto:tsunamiofcompassion@yahoo.com). In another area initiative to help Tsunami victims, Interfaith Paths to Peace board member Gerry Stribling will be traveling to Sri Lanka at the end of January and hopes to provide help for children who lost parents in the disaster. Stribling is seeking donations to support this effort. He can be reached by cell phone at (502) 938-5312. An e-mail said those who wish to help with a tax-deductible financial gift should make checks payable to Interfaith Paths to Peace and mail it to IPP at 425 South Second Street, Louisville, Ky. 40202. On the "for" line of the check, write Sri Lanka Fund.

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**90 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. To receive more information, please call 458-8056.

Co-chairs: Mary Horvath ..... 479-9262  
Pat Geier ..... 456-6586

# As rights leader dies, his struggles and others continue

Jim Forman died on January 10. A pioneer in the Civil Rights Movement, he became Executive Secretary of SNCC (Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee) in 1961 and was a key strategist and tactician. His involvement in the fight for Black liberation, reparations, workers' rights and proletarian internationalism was significant. Forman was a scholar and published author, but I remember him as a magnificent leader of our beloved SNCC.

The recent tsunami that took so many thousands of lives and livelihoods raises questions about whether poor nations have as much right as rich nations to be forewarned. But it also raises other issues.

On the United for Peace and Justice (UFPJ) website, geologist David Schwartzman wrote: "(T)he Pentagon has had a long interest in geophysical warfare, dating back to weather modification during the Vietnam War... which included possible triggering of earthquakes (small earthquakes have been triggered by water filling a reservoir above a dam), but I think it is extremely unlikely that this earthquake/tsunami was triggered by nuclear weapons testing.... But, as the media has mentioned, an early warning system (radio) for the tsunami (traveling some 300 km/hr over open ocean) could have saved many lives in Sri Lanka and India. A



legitimate issue to the peace movement is of course the \$100 billion spent in the continuing Iraq war/occupation which could have been used for meeting human needs including massive relief efforts now."

Lest we get too discouraged, there is good news to report. Good news for corporate America, that is. IBM is changing its defined-benefit pension plan to an all-401K crap-shoot at the stock market.

IBM retirees, twice in the last ten years, got shafted by pension changes. So IBM, rather than fixing the problem, decided to throw all its retirees onto the pyre known as the vagaries of private investment.

But it's not just corporations and their employees that are having problems. In early

December, soon after Labor Paeans was put to bed, the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, 1.4 million strong, stepped up to the plate, as the New York Times reported Dec. 8: "Worried about the steady decline of organized labor, the Teamsters, one of the nation's largest unions, recommended withholding half of the \$90 million that individual unions give the labor federation each year and using it to recruit more members."

If the climate for labor is problematic, the breathing environment for us all is no less confounding. The Organic Consumers Association reported on December 21: "Outgoing Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Michael Leavitt will release regulations today allowing a 2 million pound increase in 2005 in the use of methyl bromide, an ozone-depleting and cancer-causing farm chemical, in violation of both an international treaty and the Clean Air Act. This new action follows several other decisions by the Bush administration to allow more use of the pesticide. 'Catering to a handful of big chemical and agribusiness interests, the Bush administration is actually expanding the use of this dangerous, ozone-destroying chemical,' (reports environmentalist) David Doniger..."

"More than three-quarters of the chemical will be used on two crops —

Florida tomatoes and California strawberries." Bon appetit.

We reported in the last column about the right to have your vote counted fairly, unless, of course, you live in Ohio or Florida. During the joint Congressional session where the Bush presidential vote victory was blessed, two legislators challenged the improprieties.

The vote, of course, nonetheless was certified. Jesse Jackson wrote in the Chicago Sun-Times: "In the Ukraine, citizens are in the streets protesting what they charge is a fixed election. U.S. Secretary of State Colin Powell expresses this nation's concern about apparent voting irregularities. The media give the dispute around-the-clock coverage. But in the United States, massive and systemic voter irregularities go unreported and unnoticed."

Some wag said that maybe we can solve Iraq's legal problems by giving them our Constitution, particularly since we don't use it anymore.

The health of the political process is not the only medical difficulty. Doctors seem to be having difficulties earning a living. The Associated Press reported December 27: "Doctors around the country are increasingly using methods popularized by labor unions to gain leverage in their fight against rising premiums for malpractice coverage."

The right-wing has seized upon this problem as a pretext to limit malpractice awards. Governors in Mississippi, Maryland, and here in Kentucky are hoping to stifle malpractice lawsuits and put a cap on awards.

While all but the wealthiest doctors are feeling the pinch, Black doctors face the extra burden of practicing-while-Black. Under the headline: "Clinics serving America's most depressed area forced to close Jan. 1," the San Francisco Bay View reported: "Legendary Baptist minister, physician, musician and activist Ronald V. Myers Sr., M.D., who logs 50,000 miles a year on muddy back roads bringing health care and hope to hundreds in the Mississippi Delta, may be forced to close his four clinics, in Tchula, Belzoni, Greenville and Indianola, on Jan. 1. His medical malpractice insurance company, though obligated to cover all physicians in the state, is canceling his insurance despite his never having had a claim filed against him."

"Mississippi's controversial new tort reform legislation gave the company sole discretion as to which doctors it will insure. Dr. Myers charges the company is wrongly denying coverage to Black physicians practicing in poor, primarily Black communities. Contending he is a victim of 'medical malpractice lynching,' he filed suit Dec. 8 against the company, but it may be too late to keep the clinics open."

The overarching problem is the system of medical care for profit. Too many doctors have made a killing, if you will excuse the word, by jacking up fees-for-service, owning laboratories they send their patients to for tests, consulting for big bucks with drug companies. Their current concerns about malpractice insurance costs are legitimate, but they don't come to court with clean hands.

Trial lawyers have pushed greedy and/or incompetent physicians against a financial wall. They have represented aggrieved patients and forced a measure of justice. But they also have lined their own pockets, and too often have used medical malpractice as an easy ride to the good life.

Fortunately for the toiling masses, capitalism creates its own contradictions. Some entrepreneurs, feeling the medical pinch, are pushing for reforms jointly with unions and others.

City Limits Weekly reported Dec. 20: "Private employers could soon be forced to provide health insurance for their workers, under a new bill moving steadily toward (New York) City Council approval. The Health Care Security Act, introduced this fall, would require private employers in five industries—large groceries, industrial laundries, hotels, building services and construction—to either provide the insurance or pay into a citywide fund that would do it for them. Still in the early stages of negotiation, the bill already has (enough)

(continued on page 6)

## Third Thursday Lunches

*presented by the*

### Fellowship of Reconciliation

*February-April, 2005*

February 17

#### ***Human Rights, Farmworkers, the Fast Food Industry and YOU***

Representatives of the coalition of Immokalee Workers, a group of immigrant workers who are leading a nationwide campaign to pressure Taco Bell and Yum Brands regarding human rights abuses in tomato harvesting fields, will talk about their current work in Louisville.

March 17

#### ***An Eyewitness Account of Life in Occupied Palestine***

Sharon Wallace, a Sociology Instructor at Jefferson Community College, has just returned from six months in the West Bank. She will tell us of her work with various human rights organizations, including the International Solidarity Movement.

April 21

#### ***Putting Your Money to Work for Justice and Social Change***

The Rev. Andy R. Loving, CFP, a socially responsive investment advisor, will discuss ways to invest in fair trade coffee companies, overseas microcredit groups, community development banks and credit unions in the US and South Africa. Mutual funds that "lobby" corporations by using proxy rights to help change corporate policy, and tips for avoiding investing in the worst corporate offenders will also be discussed.

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# Spirituality, science tied in harmony

**Earth Friendly, Re-Visioning Science and Spirituality through Aristotle, Thomas Aquinas and Rudolph Steiner**

by Adrian M. Hofstetter, OP, Lindesfarne Books, 2004, 196 pages.

*reviewed by Corrine McCann*

Reading the foreword, introduction and epilogue is essential to appreciating this excellent collection of articles on science and spirituality. The above sections offer insights about the author’s life and commitment to her Dominican vocation

## BOOK REVIEW

and the pursuit of truth. Hofstetter’s writings combine the wisdom of western philosophy, scientific theory and creation spirituality — integrating the three in this holistic gem of a book.

From the distant past, the teachings of Aristotle, Goethe, Aquinas and other philosophers lead us to the near and present teachings of Tarnas, Teilhard, Steiner and McClintock. These are just a few of the many who have influenced Hofstetter as educator, scientist, and woman of faith.

Earth Friendly is a 21st century frontier book of inquiry as well as challenge. What about the scientific theories regarding the origins of the universe? (pages 50 and 70). In what ways have technology and scientific progress degraded the earth? (p.43). Tell us more about cybernetics, cells and DNA. (The New Biology, chapter 10 and elsewhere).

What is the purpose of education? (Chapters 3 and 4). As Joan Chittister, O.S.B. states on the back cover, “Sr. Adrian Hofstetter is Dominican to the core...”

Her life as a vowed member of a religious order gives her the courage to challenge religious institutions and communities. This she does in a bold yet humble way. As a longtime social activist and advocate for peace and justice she suggests new models for sustainable living. Rudolph Steiner’s Fellowship Community is given as an example of how to live in integrated and holistic ways.

Hofstetter’s images of God, Church, theology, science, integrated spirituality, the earth and life itself are re-visioned. Her 15 essays in this pioneer collection are rich in the wisdom of western thought. Readers are offered the opportunity to rethink their own paradigms. This book captivates traditionalists as well as those on the cutting edge. It is a must for scientists, theologians, philosophers and ordinary people who are *Earth friendly*.

*The reviewer lives in Crawfordsville, Ind. and is the former sustainable living coordinator for the St. Catharine, Ky. Dominican Sisters.*

# Ending the Israeli Occupation of Palestine IS an American Issue

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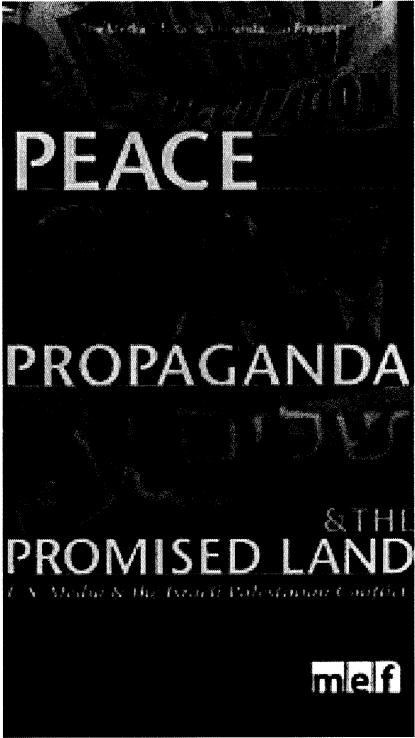
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Film Interviewees include Seth Ackerman, Mjr. Stav Adivi, Rabbi Arik Ascherman, Hanan Ashrawi, Noam Chomsky, Robert Fisk, Dr. Neve Gordon, Toufic Haddad, Sam Hussein, Hussein Ibish, Robert Jensen, Rabbi Michael Lerner, Karen Pfeifer, Alisa Solomon, and Gila Svirsky.

Title of sections of the film include American Media: Occupied Territory, The Hidden Occupation, Invisible Colonization, Violence in a Vacuum, Defining Who Is Newsworthy, Myth of U.S. Neutrality, Myth of the Generous Offer, Marginalized Voices and Is Peace Possible?

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# Corporations often impede being responsible for Earth

by Sister Rose Marie Cummins

Occasionally I have received an e-mail or; letter from someone in response to one of my Earth Alert columns where the writer tells me that I am anti-big business and transnational corporations, particularly large pharmaceutical and seed companies. One person suggested I’d rather see people starve than send genetically modified food to those dying of hunger. Or, at times, a writer has suggested that I am not supportive of this Presidential administration or the military.

What I have always wanted to be at the center of my consciousness as I write these columns is the earth and how to care for it. That is where I have chosen to put my efforts and energy right now. So, if I have spoken about the war in Iraq, I have tried to address what is happening with the earth as bombs destroy the infrastructure and the environment. I’ve tried to speak to the loss of human life, both of our soldiers, but also of Iraqi soldiers and civilians, too. I believe that if this generation does not learn how to make peace in our world — a task much harder than making war — that many children will grow up (or not) never knowing anything but war. I certainly don’t believe we were created for that.

If I have spoken about large corporations, it is because I believe that many of them, not all, are harming our planet by their destructive business practices, the ways they operate in our communities and

by their flagrant disregard for what happens with the water, air, and soil quality in the environment around them.

If I have spoken of this Presidential administration, it is because of what I have seen happening with the environmental gains that so many people have worked hard to attain. It is because I have seen us as a country losing respect with the rest of the world because of our duplicitous reasoning for preemptive war. And, this makes me heartsick.

Wendell Berry, a beloved Kentuckian farmer, writer, and conscience for us as Americans recently wrote the following:

“There are such things as economic weapons of mass destruction, and we have allowed them to be used against us.

“Can we actually suppose that we are wasting, polluting, and making ugly this beautiful land for the sake of patriotism and the love of God? Perhaps some of us would like to think so, but in fact this destruction is taking place because we have allowed ourselves to believe, and to live, a mated pair of economic lies: that nothing has a value that is not assigned to it by the market, and that the economic life of our communities can safely be handed over to the great corporations....

“Somehow we have lost or discarded any controlling sense of the interdependence of the Earth and the human capacity to use it well.”

So, as we move on after the elections here in the United States, we will need to put away our rhetoric of “liberal” and “conservative.” We will have to find ways to trust one another again if we are to move ahead and work for the common good. We can be smug and say that the American people have given a clear mandate to our President to undo environmental protections, declare war, stop stem cell research, or to work on a host of other issues. But, the reality is, we are one country. A large percentage did not vote for or give a clear mandate for those things.

Will we be happy that “we won!” or sad that “we lost” and attempt to make it through the next four years? Or, will we try to bridge the divide between us and try to understand where each is coming from?

I believe the latter is imperative. Our earth, our world depends on us. How can we learn to hear one another?

*The writer is the director of the Dominican Earth Center of the Dominican Sisters of St. Catharine, Ky. Contact her at rosieop@kyol.net.*

## Define democracy *(continued from page 1)*

and then call ourselves civilized. This is uncivilized,” he said.

Daniels questioned the stated purpose for the Iraq war, noting that no weapons of mass destruction were found in Iraq and that Saddam Hussein was just one of several brutal dictators, most of whom the U.S. has strongly supported.

“Since when did being a bad dictator become the basis of U.S. policy?” he asked. “If that were the case we certainly would have moved against Pinochet. We certainly would have moved against Batista. We certainly would have moved against Somoza. We certainly would have invaded

South Africa to overturn a ruthless regime of apartheid.”

Others at the podium included Kraemer and Rev. Tim Duncan, a Kentucky Alliance board member, who spoke about Roosevelt Roberts (whose nickname was “Rosey”). Duncan, who worked with Roberts in Rubbertown Emergency Action (REACT), a group fighting toxic pollution in West Louisville, said modesty would likely have made Roberts reluctant to be on the stage.

“Roosevelt found it far more comfortable raising his fist in the air than receiving a pat on the back,” Duncan told the audience. “Roosevelt was always way too busy trying to win victories for his community to stop and win awards from his community.”

Roberts was an organizer with the Black Workers Coalition, which fought for racial and economic equality in the workplace (Several former members of the coalition were recognized at the podium).

One powerful memory Duncan shared was of Roberts encountering black youth on a porch after a demonstration over police shootings. Duncan, who said many people would rather avoid youth in such a setting, recalled Roberts displaying a very different attitude.

“He said ‘That’s who we need to be reaching,’ “ Duncan said. “He enlisted them in the campaign. While other people might have said they are the problem, Roosevelt saw them (as) the solution and the way to victory.”

Alliance board vice-chairperson K.A. Owens introduced Kraemer, whose activism for gay rights, he said, blossomed into work against discrimination of all sorts, as did her organization’s.

“Fairness is a legendary civil rights organization that is well known throughout the country,” Owens said. He added one of Kraemer’s statements that he said has made an impact on him: “How we do the work and who is at the table *is* our work. Winning any other way is not lasting.”

Kraemer, an accomplished musician, started her speech in song, noting the work of Roberts, Bette Payne and Willie Gray, all justice activists who have died in recent years: “There’s a cry for justice in this land, for Bette and Willie and Rosey, too. From the black, brown and white ones and me and you.... From the gay ones and the straight ones and me and you.”

She then said: “We all come to this work wounded by oppression and discrimination and hate perpetuated against us. So often we allow those in power to divide us using our differences as wedges.

“We forget that our difference is our strength. Coming together across lines of difference is what will change our world.”

***Studies told us that toxic air pollution from the chemical plants was dangerous.***

***Rubbertown chemical plants told us they would lower their air pollution.***

# Don’t Be Fooled By The Chemical Plants!

## WHAT’S STILL IN THE AIR?

**CHLOROPRENE:** In May 2004, an air monitor detected this toxic chemical at its highest level since 2000. According to the Department of Health & Human Services, ***chloroprene can reasonably be anticipated to cause cancer in humans.*** This chemical comes from DuPont Dow in Rubbertown.

**1,3-BUTADIENE:** In June 2004, air monitors detected this toxic chemical at levels almost 9 times higher than considered safe to breathe. ***This chemical causes cancer in humans.*** It comes from American Synthetic Rubber (the worst polluter of this chemical), Zeon Chemicals and Rohm & Haas. These chemical plants are in Rubbertown.

**ACRYLONITRILE:** In July 2004, an air monitor at an elementary school detected this chemical at levels twice the limit considered safe to breathe. ***This chemical can reasonably be anticipated to cause cancer in humans.*** It comes from American Synthetic Rubber, Zeon Chemicals and Rohm & Haas. These chemical plants are in Rubbertown.

**We are REACT: *R*ubbertown *E*mergency *A*CTion**  
**For more information, call 551- 4734 or 774-5267. See our website at**  
**www.reactlouisville.org**

# A crisis brought home

## Foreclosures explode as homeless problem worsens in area

by Ike M. Thacker IV  
and Eustace Durrett

It should be shouted from the rooftops, and the banking industry should be vilified no end: housing foreclosures were up by almost 400 percent in Jefferson County from 1996 to 2003! During this time period, more than 7,700 households were subject to foreclosure (that means loss of their homes!), more than 2,150 of them in 2003 alone; and the increase in the number of foreclosures just from 2002 to 2003 was 71 percent, a report by the Metropolitan Housing Coalition said.

Indiana (2.94 percent) and Kentucky (2.18 percent) were substantially above the national average foreclosure rate (1.33 percent), the MHC said in its second annual (2004) State of Metropolitan Housing Report: Homeownership at Risk.

The report said: “[p]reliminary data for 2004 indicate that the rising foreclosure trend is not losing steam, with mid-year numbers of foreclosures up 43 percent from the same period in 2003.”

Why this rapid tragic increase in foreclosures? The answer is that we really

don’t know. We know that the foreclosure rate citywide from 2000-2002 was 1.2 percent, with two ZIP Codes experiencing catastrophic 7.7 percent rates, but, the report added, “we do not have consistent information available about the characteristics of the borrowers of foreclosed loans, or even of the loans themselves. Public records do not indicate the mortgage interest rate, or in many cases whether the loan is prime, subprime, or government insured (VA or FHA). We don’t know which loans represent investment properties and which represent homeownership. We don’t have critical information about the structure of the loans — including terms, fees, whether the loans are for purchase or refinance. The lack of good information on a growing and significant trend is a real barrier to addressing the problem.”

To develop meaningful strategies to help families in Louisville and its environs keep their homes, we need to know whether properties going through foreclosure are for single family homes or for investment property; and whether the mortgages being entered into are prime, subprime, FHA, or VA, along with whether they are for home purchases or

refinanced mortgages. We also need information on mortgage interest rates, terms, and fees; how long after purchase foreclosure occurs; the value of homes being foreclosed upon; and whether foreclosures occur most often on first, second, or third mortgages, the MHC report said.

Despite our lack of knowledge of so many particulars, it remains true that studies of foreclosure activity locally and nationally consistently report a rising incidence of foreclosure, the report said. This, it added, is especially true in low-income and minority neighborhoods, and the report pointed to two most-likely causes: the explosion of the subprime market, which provides risk-priced loans to borrowers who may not qualify for prime rate loans, from \$43 to \$385 billion from 1994 to 2003; and the obtaining of home loans by more people for whom their mortgage payment is at least half of their income and who have little or no net savings.

To deal with this situation, the MHC said it is convening a “Foreclosure Working Group” from November 2004 through June 2005, comprised of representatives from financial institutions, consumer groups, the

court system, elected leaders, and service providers to come up with two or three policy initiatives to stem the tide of increasing numbers of foreclosures. A key goal will be to help decrease the foreclosure rate among low and moderate-income homebuyers, for whom proven methods of reducing foreclosures such as pre-purchase counseling have been “de-emphasized and de-funded,” the MHC report said.

The remainder of the report looks briefly at nine measures of local housing conditions ranging from concentration of housing subsidies to numbers of homeless to the homeownership rate. We will look at these nine measures in detail in a future issue of FORsooth. For now, it suffices to say that foreclosures are only one of a panoply of serious housing problems facing Louisville, and that Louisville should not rest until all of its citizens have homes.

*Ike M. Thacker IV has taught history and computer science at the university level. Eustace Durrett is an advocate for rail transit and economic equality. Both live in Louisville.*

### F.O.R PLANS CONSULTATION

The national FOR office in Nyack, NY will host a “**Gathering of Conscience and Courage**,” February 18-21, for local FOR groups, Religious Peace Fellowships, and concerned individuals because the possibility of a military draft continues to hover over. They express strong support for all who declare conscientious objection and pledge to offer caring and careful counsel to those who may be impelled by conscience in the days to come.

They report that bills have cleared House and Senate committees which would authorize draft inductions by Spring 2005. These bills would include women and would eliminate educational deferments. A little known treaty arrangement *already made* would make refuge in Canada difficult or impossible. All this may never come about; the political costs would be high.

However, FOR wants to be ready to help. They believe that forced military service now would bring numbers of conscientious objectors such as never seen before. The “Gathering of Conscience and Courage” planned for February 18-21 at FOR headquarters will begin with dinner on Friday and end with lunch on Monday. Sleeping is available on foam mattresses in FOR offices.

Those interested should contact Ibrahim Ramey at 845/358-4601, ext.34. [disarm@forusa.org](mailto:disarm@forusa.org) No registration fee is required, but applications must be received by January 31.

### FAIRNESS WINS AGAIN!

Many of us were attending the Unity Dinner sponsored by the Kentucky Alliance on December 9th when the word came that the Metro Council had just voted (19 to 6) to retain the nondiscrimination policy adopted after a long battle with city government. The resounding victory brought excitement and relief. Commendations were poured upon the Fairness Campaign for its intelligent and persistent efforts throughout the hard fight. The vote was also a sobering setback to the distorted publicity circulated by neocons in church and society whose views of moral values have little to do with justice and inclusivity. At a time when politics is bloated with bad news, we celebrate those whose patient, courageous work is shaping a better world. — George Edwards

### Rights leader (continued from page 3)

support...to survive a mayoral veto.

“Backed by unions, community organizations and advocates for the poor, the law is aimed specifically at sectors that provide services locally, and would therefore be loath to leave the city. But support has also come from far less likely quarters: businesses in the industries themselves.

“That’s because most employers in these fields typically do provide health insurance for their workers...But employers who don’t provide insurance, operating with lower costs, can underbid those who do-and that has local employers scrambling to find a way to keep their workers insured and their bottom line in the black.”

Now, what if — what if — doctors were paid by the government to treat patients, with no lab profits, no consultancy fees, etc.? And what if the attorneys were paid by the government to insure an equitable and honest dis-

persing of medical care, and monitoring for competency? And what if drugs were developed simply to save human lives, and not to make drug manufacturers rich? Would that really be so bad?

The right-wing stench is everywhere. The Center on Budget and Policy Priorities reports on some of the programs President Bush has targeted for cutting in his 2005 budget (from 2004-2009): Education: Title I Education funds for low-income children: \$660 million; Veterans’ Health Services: \$5.7 billion; National Institutes of Health: \$2.3 billion; Employment and Training Services: \$330 million; Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC): \$310 million; Head Start: \$650 million.

Have a good day.

Contact Ira Grupper at [irag@iglou.com](mailto:irag@iglou.com)

Jean's Journal

An update on area events by Jean Edwards

### TELL CONGRESS TO PROTECT SOCIAL SECURITY

George Bush and Republican leaders have made phasing out Social Security through privatization and massive benefit cuts their top priority for 2005. Members of Congress will choose sides over the next couple of weeks. We need to make sure they choose correctly now before a massive election-style campaign by George Bush and Wall Street interests get to them, including what might be a \$100 million TV ad campaign. Social Security is a complicated issue, but the basics are really pretty simple. MoveOn has put together a fact-sheet available at: <http://www.moveon.org/socialsecurity/facts.htm/>.

MoveOn wishes to gather 200,000 signatures to present to lawmakers when they return after the inauguration.

You can sign the petition at: <http://www.moveon.org/socialsecurity> Thanks for doing this. (e-mail from Joe Martos)

In our Sunday paper (Courier-Journal 1/16/05), Representative Anne Northup makes a persuasive case for setting up private accounts. However, her article is offset by Paul Krugman’s word of warning. Paul, a columnist for The New York Times, explains that the Bush plan has already been tried in Britain, and in the words of Norma Cohen (a senior corporate reporter at *The Financial Times*), “**Britain’s experiment with substituting private savings accounts for a portion of state benefits has been a failure.**” She continues, “**A shorthand explanation for what had gone wrong is that the costs and risks of running private investment accounts outweigh the value of the returns they are likely to earn.**”

In a recent “questionnaire” sent to “residents” in her legislative district, Representative Anne Northup asked some 25 questions about the major economic and foreign policy issues of the second term of George W. Bush. Although it seemed at first that she seriously wanted our honest opinions, it became clear that her intention was to advocate for Bush policies. The questions pertaining to Social Security presupposed in *toto* that the Social Security system was soon to collapse and that the only serious alternative was privatization (via Wall Street) in slightly larger or slightly smaller degree.

On Iraq, Representative Northup presupposed (with Bush) that an exit strategy would be unthinkable. As was the case in our war on Vietnam, the administration cannot retain the favor of the Pentagon and the military industrial complex by leaving Iraq “unfinished.”

On Tax Reform her policy is based on the erroneous tax exemptions of the wealthiest class in American society. To abandon the progressive tax philosophy whereby those who derive the most from the economy should bear the larger tax burden only means more and more passing of deficit government spending to our children and grandchildren. Opening public timber lands to lumber corporations certainly wins larger rewards for the Republican treasury, but it is neither a sensible or ethical way to help the generations to come.



Help make the dream of justice and peace a reality.

### Join the Fellowship of Reconciliation

LOCAL CONTACT:  
**Fellowship of Reconciliation / Louisville Chapter**  
2236 Kaelin Avenue / Louisville, Kentucky 40205  
[EdwardsFOR@bellsouth.net](mailto:EdwardsFOR@bellsouth.net) 502-458-8056





# Calendar for peacemakers

January 24 (Mon) **TSUNAMI OF COMPASSION:** Concert by **HARRY PICKENS, pianist, composer, teacher** to guide us (through the power of music, chant, sound, and silence) to ease suffering, restore hope, and raise funds for victims of the unprecedented tragedy in South Asia. Entire villages washed away, 150,000 dead. At least 500,000 injured. Unbearable grief, fear, trauma, pain and suffering. Use this tremendous opportunity to remember that humanity is ONE. University of Louisville, Comstock Concert Hall, 8:00-9:15 pm. Free. We will be given the opportunity to contribute to this “tsunami of compassion.”

Jan 27 (Thu) **NINTH ANNUAL RACE RELATIONS CONFERENCE: “Navigating through Challenging Times,”** Sponsored by the Louisville/Jefferson County Metro Human Relations Commission. Galt House East, 140 N. 4th St, 8:30-4:00. Luncheon Keynote: **Juanita Jones Abernathy** who was pivotally involved with her husband (the late Rev. Ralph Abernathy) in the civil rights movement at its inception in 1955. She has traveled around the world working for justice and equality and world peace. She is President of the Ralph David Abernathy Foundation. Register now. Call (502) 574-3631.

Jan 27 (Thu) **PEACE, PROPAGANDA AND THE PROMISED LAND — U.S. Media and the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict.** This film exposes how the foreign policy interests of American political elites — working in combination with Israeli public relations strategies — exercise a powerful influence over news reporting. Featured interviews include Noam Chomsky, Rabbi Ascherman, Hanan Ashrawi, Neve Gordon, Toufic Haddad and Rabbi Michael Lerner. (Fourth in the Reel Revolution series) Kentucky Theater, 651 S. 4th St, 7:00 pm. Discussion follows. Suggested donation \$5 - \$25. Call 558-3568.

Jan 28 (Fri) **NOON VIGIL FOR PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST**, including a news update. ***EVERY FRIDAY AT SIXTH AND BROADWAY***, in front of the Federal Court House (where Senator McConnell’s office is located). We vigil in solidarity with the **“Women in Black”** who vigil every Friday at noon in Israel. Sponsored by the Louisville Committee for Israeli/Palestinian States, the American Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee, and the Fellowship of Reconciliation. Call Beverley Marmion, 451-5658.

Jan 28 (Fri) **NEWBY NETWORK. *EVERY FRIDAY.*** West Broadway United Methodist Church, 3620 West Broadway, at Sutcliffe. 5:00 pm. In support of the Newby family in the death of their son, especially during the McKenzie Mattingly trial. Call 778-8130.

Jan 31 (Mon) **F.O.R. STEERING COMMITTEE** (Every 4<sup>th</sup> Monday). **Note change in date for this month only.** Presbyterian Seminary, 1044 Alta Vista Rd. Nelson Hall, #10. 7:30 pm. Visitors are welcome. Call cochairs, Pat Geier, 456-6586, or Mary Horvath, 479-9262.

Feb 3 (Thu) **SISTER HELEN PREJEAN will speak about her work for a Moratorium to End the Death Penalty**, and will discuss her latest book, *The Death of Innocents*. Bellarmine University, Frazier Hall, 7:00 pm. Free. Call Melanie-Prejean Sullivan, 452-8051.

Feb 4 (Fri) **NEWBY NETWORK** followed by **CONVERSATION CAFE** (only on the first Friday). 3620 W Broadway. Call 778-8130.

Feb 6 (Sun) **CANDLELIGHT VIGIL FOR PEACE** every first Sunday evening remembering all those suffering from conflicts in the Middle East. Bring a candle. Bardstown Road at Douglass Blvd. 7:00-8:00 pm. Sponsored by **LPAC** (Louisville Peace Action Community). Call Ken Nevitt, 558-9124. E-mail: *pcunity@yahoo.com* *www.louisvillepeace.org*

Feb 9 (Wed) **KITLAC (Ky Interfaith Taskforce on Latin America and the Caribbean).** Presbyterian Seminary. 7:30 pm. Call David Horvath, 479-9262, or Pat Geier, 456-6586.

Feb 13 (Sun) **“AIM HIGHER” : Counter Recruitment Committee.** Every second Sunday at the Fairness Office, 2263 Frankfort Ave, 6:00 pm. Call Mike Slaton, 636-5848. E-mail: *cheslaton@hotmail.com* or call Ken Nevitt at LPAC, 558-9124

Feb 14 (Mon) **DEADLINE FOR THE MARCH ISSUE OF FORsooth.** Contact George Morrison, editor, 944-6460. E-mail: *klm86@netzero.com* For calendar listings, contact Jean Edwards, 458-8056. E-mail: *edwardsfor@bellsouth.net*

Feb 17 (Thu) **THIRD THURSDAY LUNCH**, sponsored by the Fellowship of Reconciliation: **HUMAN RIGHTS, FARMWORKERS, THE FAST FOOD INDUSTRY AND YOU!** Representatives of the Coalition of **Immokalee Workers**, immigrant workers leading a nationwide campaign to pressure Taco Bell and Yum Brands regarding human rights abuses in tomato harvesting fields, will talk about their current work in Louisville. Rudyard Kipling Restaurant, 422 W Oak St, 11:30 am buffet, \$6. Reservations required. **RSVP** to Polly Johnson, 473-8435, or Jean Edwards, 458-8056 by Tuesday beforehand.

Feb 17 (Thu) **LPAC** (Louisville Peace Action Community) — *every third Thursday evening.* Douglass Blvd Christian Church, 7:00 pm. Call Judy Munro-Leighton, 456-6914; Ellen Schagene, 451-6392; or Ken Nevitt, 558-9124.

Feb 20 (Sun) **LOUISVILLE COMMITTEE FOR ISRAELI/PALESTINIAN STATES. *Every Third Sunday.*** First Unitarian Church, 4<sup>th</sup> & York, 3:00 pm. Call Beverley Marmion, 451-5658.

Feb 22 (Tue) **KCADP** (Ky Coalition to Abolish the Death Penalty), monthly meeting every last Tuesday. Highland Presbyterian Church, 1011 Cherokee Rd, 6:30pm. Call Tony Benningfield, 560-4710, or Kaye Gallagher, 721-8885.

Feb 23 (Wed) **EDWARDS LECTURESHIP** featuring **The Rev. Joan Martin**, Ethics professor at EDS in Cambridge. She has the honor of being the second African-American woman to be ordained in the Presbyterian Church (UPCUSA). She will speak at the Presbyterian Seminary, 1044 Alta Vista Road. The Lectureship honors Jean and George Edwards for their peacemaking efforts during the years that George was a professor at the Seminary. Call 895-3411.

Feb 24 (Thu) **FORsooth LABELING** at Beverley Marmion’s house, 6:30 pm. We need you for one hour. Great therapy! Call 451-5658.

Feb 28 (Mon) **F.O.R. STEERING COMMITTEE** (every 4th Monday). Presbyterian Seminary, 1044 Alta Vista Road, Nelson Hall, #10, 7:30 pm. Visitors are encouraged. Call cochairs, Pat Geier, 456-6586, or Mary Horvath, 479-9262.

Mar 14-15 (MT) **JAMES M. LAWSON, JR.** will be the Festival Preacher during the Festival of Theology at the Presbyterian Seminary. His topic on Monday at 10:00 will be, “Following Jesus Today” (Isaiah 65:17-25) and on Tuesday at 10:30 “A Faith That Truly Heals” (Isaiah 58:1-9; Matthew 23:13-15, 23-26, 37). A United Methodist Church pastor emeritus, James Lawson is acclaimed for his association with Martin Luther King, Jr. and his tireless efforts for nonviolent action. During pastorates in Nashville, Memphis and Los Angeles, he became a preeminent voice for human compassion and social justice. A long-time member of the Fellowship of Reconciliation, Lawson chaired the FOR national council in Nyack, NY for a number of years. Free. Call David Sawyer, 895-3411, ext.372.

Mar 15 (Tue) **JIM WALLIS** will deliver the Greenhoe Lectures during the Festival of Theology at the Presbyterian Seminary. Wallis was the founder of Sojourners (Christians for Justice & Peace) and is editor of *Sojourners* magazine and columnist for the NY Times, Washington Post, Los Angeles Times, and others. In 1995 he was instrumental in forming **Call to Renewal**, a national federation of churches, denominations, and faith-based organizations working to overcome poverty. In 1979, *Time* magazine named Wallis one of the “50 Faces for America’s Future.” He will speak twice on March 15, at 9:00 am, “Isaiah’s Platform for Domestic Justice” (Isaiah 65) and at 8:00 pm, “Micah’s Vision for Global Security” (Micah 4). Free. Call David Sawyer, 895-3411, ext.372.

Mar 17 (Thu) **THIRD THURSDAY LUNCH**, sponsored by the Fellowship of Reconciliation: featuring **SHARON WALLACE** presenting **“An Eyewitness Account of Life in Occupied Palestine.”** Sharon Wallace, a sociology instructor at Jefferson Community College, has just returned from six months in the West Bank. She will describe her work with various human rights organizations, including the International Solidarity Movement (ISM). Rudyard Kipling Restaurant, 422 W Oak St, 11:30 am buffet, \$6. Reservations required. **RSVP** to Polly Johnson, 473-9435, or Jean Edwards, 458-8056 by Tuesday beforehand.

Apr 13 (Wed) **INTERNATIONAL DAY OF ACTION AGAINST CATERPILLAR.** Over 50,000 Palestinians have been made homeless by Caterpillar bulldozers. The Israeli miliary uses Caterpillar equipment to destroy Palestinian homes, infrastructure, orchards, greenhouses, crops and even lives (Rachel Corrie). As shareholders meet on April 13, worldwide demonstrations will be held to protest Caterpillar’s selling of home-crushing bulldozers to Israel. Resources available from *abuemma@gmail.com*

Apr 15 (Fri) **TAX DAY.** All U.S. citizens are required to pay for war through their taxes. However, the Peace Tax Fund legislation would allow people opposed to war — because of deeply-held moral or religious beliefs — to stop paying for it. Instead they would pay their taxes into a special fund that would be used for non-military purposes only. Contact the National Campaign for a Peace Tax Fund, 202/483-3751, (toll free:888.PEACETAX). *info@peacetaxfund.org*

July 4-8 (MTWT) **YOUTH THEATER from the AIDA CAMP BETHLEHEM** presented by **Abed Abu Srour**, accompanied by their teachers/directors. Watch for details.

## OUT OF TOWN EVENTS

Jan 21-Feb 2 **WORLD SOCIAL FORUM V**, in Brazil.

Feb 18-21 **CONSULTATION ON CONSCIENTIOUS OBJECTION and a possible draft**, at FOR headquarters, Nyack, NY, for concerned organizations and people. Bills have cleared House and Senate committees authorizing draft inductions by Spring 2005. Call Ibrahim Ramey, 1/845/358-4601, X34. *FOR@forusa.org*



## Regular Meeting Times for Area Organizations

AD HOC COALITION FOR AFFIRMATIVE ACTION – (778-8130)  
ADDICTION RECOVERY ADVOCATES OF KENTUCKIANA – 2nd Thursday (585-3375)  
AIM HIGHER – 2nd Sunday evening (458-8056)  
AMERICA 2000 DEMOCRATIC CLUB – 3rd Tuesday (451-2155)  
AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL – 1st Saturday (637-8951)  
BIONEERS / SUSTAINABLE LOUISVILLE – Tuesdays (336-9440)  
BREAD FOR THE WORLD – 2nd Tuesday (239-4317)  
CAPA (Citizens Against Police Abuse) – 2nd Thursday (778-8130)  
C.E.A.S.E. [Citizens for Equitable Assignment to School Environments] – (778-9427)  
C-SAW (Citizens Standing Against War) – (548-6845 or 636-5848)  
CLARK & FLOYD COUNTIES AIDS COALITION – 3rd Thursday (288-2706)  
CLOUT [Citizens of Louisville Organized and Working Together] - (583-1267)  
COMMITTEE FOR PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST – 2nd Monday (456-6586)  
COMMON CAUSE – 1st Tuesday, every other month (228-1534)  
COMMUNIST PARTY USA – Sunday evenings (473-2659)  
CONVERSATION CAFE – Wednesday evenings (454-4820)  
CONVERSATIONS WITH GOD – Books by Neale Donald Walsch. 1st Monday (468-2305)  
COUNTER RECRUITMENT, “Aim Higher” – Second Sunday (636-5848)  
EARTH SAVE LOUISVILLE – 2nd Sunday (569-1876)  
FAIRNESS CAMPAIGN – Quarterly community dialogues and volunteer opportunities (893-0788)  
FELLOWSHIP OF RECONCILIATION – 4th Monday (456-6586 or 479-9262)  
GREATER LOUISVILLE SIERRA CLUB – 3rd Tuesday (897-3335)  
GREEN PARTY – 1st Tuesday (456-9540)  
HABITAT FOR HUMANITY – Wednesdays, Thursdays, Fridays & Saturdays (583-6599)  
HATE FREE SCHOOLS COALITION – 3rd Thursday (454-3300)  
INTERFAITH PATHS TO PEACE – 1st Tuesday (214-7322)  
JEFFERSON COUNTY WELFARE REFORM COALITION – 2nd Friday (585-3556)  
JOBS WITH JUSTICE KENTUCKY (625-3724)  
JUSTICE RESOURCE CENTER – 3rd Saturday (774-1116)  
KENTUCKIANA FOR KUCINICH – 1st Thursday (454-4820 or 459-6361)  
KENTUCKIANA NATIVE AMERICAN SUPPORT GROUP (635-2817)  
KFTC [KENTUCKIANS FOR THE COMMONWEALTH] – 2nd Monday, jointly with POWER (589-3188)  
KY AIDS LIFE ALLIANCE (KALA) – Every Thursday (479-7884)  
KY ALLIANCE AGAINST RACIST & POLITICAL REPRESSION – 3rd Monday (778-8130)  
KY COALITION TO ABOLISH THE DEATH PENALTY – Last Tuesday (721-8885)  
KITLAC (KY INTERFAITH TASKFORCE ON LATIN AMERICA & THE CARIBBEAN) – 2nd Wednesday (479-9262)  
KY RAINBOW/PUSH COALITION – (774-4000)  
LESBIAN SUPPORT GROUP – 2nd and 4th Thursdays (587-6225)  
LOUISVILLE COMMITTEE FOR ISRAELI/PALESTINIAN STATES – 3rd Sunday (451-5658)  
LPAC (LOUISVILLE PEACE ACTION COMMUNITY) – (558-9124)  
LOUISVILLE WOMEN CHURCH – Meditation 1st & 3rd Sundays (473-8435)  
LOUISVILLE YOUTH GROUP – Friday nights (454-3300), *www.louisvilleyouthgroup.org*  
LOUISVILLIANS IN FAVOR OF EQUALITY (L.I.F.E.) – Sunday evenings (473-2659)  
METRO SWEEP FOR ACCESS – 3rd Tuesday (895-0866 or 899-9261)  
METROPOLITAN HOUSING COALITION – 4th Wednesday (584-6858)  
NAACP (National Association for the Advancement of Colored People) – 3rd Monday (634-1804)  
NAMI (National Alliance for the Mentally Ill) – 2nd Monday (245-5287)  
PARENTS, FAMILIES & FRIENDS OF LESBIANS AND GAYS (P-FLAG) – 3rd Sunday (329-0229)  
PAX CHRISTI – Last Wednesday (456-9342)  
PEACE & COMPASSION BUDDHA CIRCLE/CML – (451-2193, *brozier@bellsouth.net*)  
PEOPLE’S AGENDA – 2nd Tuesday (778-8130)  
POWER [PEOPLE ORGANIZED AND WORKING FOR ENERGY REFORM] – 2nd Monday, jointly with KFTC (778-2687)  
PROGRESSIVE STUDENTS LEAGUE AT UL – Every Tuesday (635-1292)  
RCRC [Religious Coalition for Reproductive Choice] – (585-3050)  
RESULTS (a hunger lobby) – 2nd Saturday (451-4907)  
SHADHULIYYAH SUFI SPIRITUALITY GROUP – Thursday nights (893-6122)  
VISION FOR EDUCATION – 1st Friday (931-3124)

*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.*