

# FORsooth

## Fair, not free, trade zone expands in city

by Martha Brennan

Fair Trade in Louisville will see an expansion in August as Just Creations grows and takes on more space to accommodate more products from an increased number of global artisans.

Since 1991, Just Creations, located on Frankfort Avenue in Crescent Hill, has been selling handcrafted goods by artisans from countries such as Cameroon, Haiti, El Salvador, Kenya and poor areas of the United States. Its mission is expanding in size with the acquisition of the store space next door.

“This expansion will give us even more of an opportunity to reach out beyond ourselves and help others from around the world,” said Joan Frisz, the not-for-profit store’s executive director.

Just Creations grew out of the global social concerns of the 1980s. Formally known as Covenant Crafts and started by a group of members and seed money from St. William Church, Just Creations now functions with an independent volunteer board, few staff members and many volunteers.

Frisz said annual sales have steadily risen from \$160,000 in 1991 to \$285,000 for 2002, or a 78 percent increase.

“Both the board and customers are excited about the expansion,” Frisz said. “We will gain about 50 percent more space.” In addition to adding to their product line, Just



**Joan Frisz, left, executive director of the expanding Just Creations, holds a birdhouse made in The Philippines. Behind her are Indonesian-made kites shaped like birds and butterflies. A customer, right, enters the not-for-profit store on Frankfort Avenue, where all merchandise is bought and priced to help people in poor areas around the world.**

Creations will also be able to attend to the needs of the local community by making the store handicap accessible. The extra space will also allow the store to take on more products, offering more to the consumer, but also buying more from the artisan.



— photos by Eddie Davis

As a member of the Fair Trade Federation, Just Creations adheres to the mission of offering a product line that comes from low-income artisans and farmers in the Third World, who are paid fair prices for their

(continued on page 2)

## City budget called tilted to the rich

by Ike M. Thacker IV and Eustace Durrett

Louisville Mayor Jerry Abramson’s proposed metro budget is too austere and heartless toward middle- and lower-income persons, while engaging in “corporate welfare,” the Coalition for the People’s Agenda said June 16.

The coalition, a group of about 30 organizations dedicated to civil rights and humanitarian issues in Louisville, held a press conference outside the Galleria shopping and restaurant center downtown,

*More about metro Louisville’s budget is on page 2.*

the proposed renovation of which it cited as an example of corporate welfare.

In a press conference moderated by University of Louisville Professor Ricky Jones, representatives of the coalition’s groups called on Abramson to abandon plans to eliminate 690 metro government jobs and privatize many government services. They also insisted the mayor and council fully fund a civilian police review board with subpoena power and a paid investigator, allow greater citizen input into the budget process, broaden the watered-down “living wage” ordinance and make higher-paid workers bear the brunt of any city financial austerity.

Rev. Louis Coleman of the Justice Resource Center, for example, said that those making \$80,000 or \$90,000 a year should be losing their jobs; and at hearings later that day and three days later, activists called for the mayor himself and his deputy mayors to take 20 percent pay cuts.

The press conference included representatives of the NAACP, the American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees (AFSCME), Citizens Against Police Abuse (CAPA), the Green Party, and other members of the coalition.

Coincidental or not to activists’ calls for pay cuts at the top, 15 of the 26 Metro

(continued on page 2)

## To find new war arena, look to heavens

by Marc A. Wessels

At the beginning of the 21<sup>st</sup> century, America controls the great ocean of space. Even while the United States manned space program remains grounded with an uncertain future following the fiery destruction of the space shuttle Columbia, the nation’s silent space agenda continues to unfold with the stated purpose of maintaining the militarization of space.

American armed forces continue their daily and special operations through a complex series of space systems. Earth observation systems watch actions on the surface, while fighting forces from the ground, on and under the sea and in the skies use military global positioning systems that help forces to not only know their own location but that of their enemies. Smart bombs and critical communication are transmitted from circling satellites in space.

Since the launch of Sputnik, the first human-made satellite, in October 1957, space has been the new high ground for fighting forces. The USSR and the U.S. fought a war for space, most visible to the

*Learn more about weapons in space and related peace issues from Bruce Gagnon July 27 and 28. See ads pages 3 and 5.*

public eye in their race for the moon while intercontinental ballistic missiles (ICBM), nuclear weapons systems, and more powerful satellites were developed and placed into service. Outer space has been militarized since the Space Age began, by most accounts prior to Sputnik, when during the Second World War, Hitler’s military forces developed a weapon of vengeance — the V-2 rocket. That rocket would become the basis for ICBMs constructed by both the Soviets and the Americans with the help of German scientists captured in the closing days of that war.

Despite the rhetoric of an Outer Space Treaty that was developed and implemented under the auspices of the United Nations,

space has been used for military purposes. Beneath the camouflage of scientific and supposed civilian endeavors, both superpowers developed space assets for the purpose of domination. The goal was clear — build the greatest, most powerful rocket engine, impress others with your technological prowess, and the world will either want to willingly partner with you or be driven into submitting to the political and economic systems of the dominant power.

As the United States continues its “war on terror” and conducts ground warfare in Afghanistan and Iraq, space assets will continue to play a significant role in the areas of command and control. While out of sight, and out of mind, these secret sentinels are at work providing information for further military operations on Earth.

(continued on page 4)

(continued on page 4)

### INSIDE

- Peace group with new name faces old issues ..... p. 3
- Underpaid orchestra members feel squeeze ..... p. 4
- An inaugural feature for lovers of books ..... p. 4
- Labor column on those who toil — in chains or free ..... p. 6

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# First metro budget fails city ‘in many disastrous ways’

by Eustace Durrett  
and Ike M. Thacker IV

The 2003-2004 metro Louisville budget, which passed on a party-line vote June 26, may at first seem innocuous enough. After all, among its “Key Components” and “Top Funding Categories” — press reports said — is the fact that it does not raise taxes or cut services. But a closer look at even these bare-bones lists concerning a bare-bones budget begins to raise serious questions. For example, nearly 700 positions are eliminated, and the police receive more than twice the funding (\$113 million) of the next highest department (fire and emergency medical response at \$49 million); neither health nor education made the top eight.

And after a closer analysis we find this budget, the vast majority of which was proposed by Mayor Jerry Abramson, thoroughly reprehensible and therefore unacceptable. This budget fails in many disastrous ways.

First, it includes next to no cuts in police department personnel (1.2 percent — 22 already-unfilled positions) while heavily cutting health and family services. Health and family services would have 21 actual layoffs and 104 jobs eliminated, a reduction of 16.4 percent. The police department would have no layoffs at all.

Our community has recently been torn apart by police actions that have taken the lives of African Americans. An ordinance passed by the Board of Aldermen in 2000, which is now on the books and has been upheld by the Kentucky Court of Appeals, calls for an Office of Independent Investigation of police misconduct. This would mean that the police would no longer be investigating themselves, and would offer hope and the possibility of healing for our divided community. The mayor’s budget makes no move toward funding this Office of Independent Investigation.

Second, there is a pattern of job elimi-

nation and reduced pay (40 hours for the same pay as the current 35 hours) to affect those in the lower-paying jobs, particularly those who would receive an increase in wages from the recently-passed, watered-down, so-called “living wage” law. An aura of “profits before people” permeates the entire proposed budget. We note that neither the mayor nor any of his deputy mayors or cabinet members have considered a pay cut for themselves, although some council members and the mayor have

limited savings that were experienced came in the form of lower wages and fewer benefits for the workers. This trend does not promote improved quality of life for the working people of those communities.

While pushing workers out of the workforce and onto unemployment and taxpayer-funded welfare programs, the mayor’s budget makes it even harder for those displaced to receive the benefits they now qualify for. The proposed budget not only cuts the services that the metro

property was sold to a profit-making company for a dollar. One can only imagine the sum that would have been paid for the property in a commercial transaction.

Of course, the physical restoration and management of the property has also been outsourced to an out-of-state corporation, the Cordish Company of Baltimore. Thus the restoration will provide no work for local union workers, and little tax revenue for the community. After the restoration, there will be mostly national chains on the site, such as the Hard Rock Cafe, Borders, etc. There will be little if any room for local businesses. Profits will flow out of the community.

On a minor scale the whole deal resembles in some ways an “off shore” relocation. Metro government workers with many years of service to the community will be cast aside. Some will be replaced by contract labor.

The metro budget as finally passed has one other major flaw that only seems insignificant: the elimination of a two-year-old Planned Parenthood program at Western Middle School promoting abstinence.

The first metro budget is thus immoral, anti-union, anti-worker and counter-productive for the community. It smacks of a budget “of the people, by the people, and for the special interests.” The elimination of government jobs could have been avoided simply by a bond issue. We fervently hope the Mayor and Council will improve.

*“The mayor and many metro council members have stated that they will work to bring good jobs to the metro area. However, the mayor in his proposed budget is eliminating 690 positions.”*

supported eliminating their cost of living increases scheduled for next year.

Third, the mayor and many metro council members have stated that they will work to bring good jobs to the metro area. However, the mayor in his proposed budget is eliminating 690 positions. This represents nearly 10 percent of the present work force of metro government and an estimated loss of \$10 million in payroll. If any other area business were proposing this type of workforce reduction, the mayor and many metro council members would be falling all over themselves to offer incentives to keep those jobs in our area.

Not only did the mayor and council members say there is a need for new jobs, they said there is a need for jobs that pay well. The mayor’s budget proposes to fill the gap in services created by the firing of government employees who make a decent wage with benefits, by outsourcing these jobs to the private sector. Outsourcing, however, has been a disaster in other areas of the country where it has been tried. The

government directly provides, but also provides less money to the nonprofit agencies that help provide needed services to moderate- and low-income people.

At the same time this is going on, the government makes a large grant to Greater Louisville, Inc., a chunk of “corporate welfare” that these wealthy companies which could pay their own way do not need. As another example, the restoration of the Galleria proposed by our “multiple mayors” fits the pattern. This taxpayers’

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## Fair, not free, trade

(continued from page 1)

goods. Frisz explained that a reciprocal relationship happens when a craft item is purchased at Just Creations. Not only is the artisan paid a fair market value for his or her craft, but also the Just Creations’ consumer is able to have a high quality product and learn about Third World countries and peoples.

Frisz said most of Just Creations’ products come from fair trade organizations like Ten Thousand Villages or SERRV, which work directly with the artisan communities.

“By the time we receive a product in our store, the artisan has been completely paid for their work,” she said. “The artisans are paid 50 percent up front when the order is placed and 50 percent when the order is completed.”

The fair trade organizations also help direct the artisans to current sales and marketing trends, thereby helping the craftspeople produce profitable items. “It’s a way of informing the artisan without forming the art,” Frisz said. If there is a market trend for a certain kind of basket, that will get communicated to the artisan who is then free to interpret and bring his or her creativeness into making the basket, she explained. “Each craft item is unique; there is not ‘cookie cutter’ mass production system.

“I have seen a significant improvement in the product line,” Frisz said. “We’ve been able to appeal to a wider market and

yet still offer an original art form and keep the local artisans profitable.”

Frisz, who comes from a ministry background, is in her tenth year as the store’s director. “I’m very fortunate to be doing what I am doing. The best of all my worlds come together in this one job.” Frisz has been able to effectively use her practical managing skills to continue the mission of fair trade.

“I have been able to see that we are making a difference in the world and this expansion will help us to make a bigger difference.”

*The writer described herself as “an all-around activist” with a leaning toward gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered causes.*

## City budget

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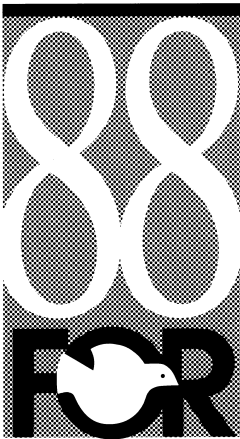
Council members (including, interestingly, all eleven Republicans) subsequently expressed their desire to turn down their own automatic cost-of-living raises due in January 2004 — as did Abramson.

*Ike Thacker is a freelance writer. Eustace Durrett is an activist for rail transit. Both live in Louisville.*

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## FORsooth

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# ‘Action’ is key word in new name

The new Louisville Peace Action Community — a group dedicated to peace, justice, and world community — carries on the work of the Louisville Committee to Stop the War Against Iraq.

We now have a new name with an easy-to-remember acronym, LPAC, and we take the “action” part of our name very seriously. Already we have several committees working hard to get a crucial message to the people of Louisville — that Bush lied about weapons of mass destruction and about bogus links between Saddam Hussein and al-Qaeda to justify his war against Iraq. We watch with horror the daily reports of the disaster that is America’s occupation of its new colony.

LPAC will work to build local and national coalitions to draw attention to the ongoing crisis in Iraq and hold Bush responsible for the hundreds of American and thousands of Iraqi lives lost, as the toll mounts each day.

Many are familiar with our web site, [www.louisvillepeace.org](http://www.louisvillepeace.org), as the very best way to stay up-to-date on all activities, events, and meetings. Plan to attend our

next regular meeting July 17 at 7:30 p.m. at Douglass Boulevard Christian Church at Douglass and Bardstown Road. You can contact LPAC co-facilitators Ellen Schagene ([ellensmail03@yahoo.com](mailto:ellensmail03@yahoo.com)), Ken Nevitt ([kennevitt@hotmail.com](mailto:kennevitt@hotmail.com)), or Judy Munro-Leighton ([jmunroleighton@juno.com](mailto:jmunroleighton@juno.com)) for more information. LPAC sponsored community picnics on Memorial Day at Central Park and July 4 at the war memorial near Cox Park. We set up Vigils at Douglass Loop on the first Sunday of each month as a presence in this community to say that the war in Iraq is not over and that we demand truthful information from the Bush administration about events that led to the war. Our goal is to expand the vigils to other busy intersections across the city. Join us — with your sign or banner — for the next vigil August 3 from 8 to 9 p.m.

You may have seen or heard about LPAC’s “We Want to Know the Truth Weekend,” July 9 to 13. People with banners, signs, and leaflets went to farmer’s markets, Shakespeare in the Park, Riverbats baseball games, Actor’s Theater, Water-

front Park concerts, and other events to explain how George W. Bush lied to the American people about WMDs and the supposed danger that Iraq posed to the U.S. As Americans, we are horrified by the huge price we will all pay for Bush’s folly. We urge everyone to continue calling U.S. Rep. Anne Northup (582-5129) and Senators Mitch McConnell (502-582-6304) and Jim Bunning (502-582-5341).

You can reach the Washington, D.C. offices of Northup, McConnell, and Bunning, or any Senator or Representative on the free capitol line, 1-800-839-5276. Call often and express your views as events unfold in Iraq. Demand open Congressional hearings into the questionable and illegal actions taken by Bush to push America into war.

Those of you who contacted Rep. Northup to express your opposition to the war probably received a four-page letter, dated May 12, that is full of misinformation and lies about Iraq’s military arsenal to justify her continued and unquestioned support for Bush and his war. In case you threw this letter in the recy-

cling bin, you can read it on line at [www.louisvillepeace.org](http://www.louisvillepeace.org). You will be amazed by Northup’s May 12 statements that Saddam Hussein had “31,600 chemical artillery shells, 550 mustard gas bombs, and 4,000 tons of chemical precursors.” You know that by May 12, no WMDs, chemicals or biological weapons of any kind were found. In fact, by that time, there were many articles and commentaries challenging Bush’s assertions about WMDs.

Northup provided no evidence for her May 12 data, but was very specific that Saddam Hussein “posed an immediate, direct threat to the United States.”

Five people who received this letter met with Northup’s aid Tracey Legel on May 23. We asked for a meeting with Northup and that a corrected letter to be sent to her constituents. Despite numerous phone calls and demonstrations in front of her house and office over the past seven weeks, we’ve had no meeting and have yet to see a corrected letter. As the debate over Bush’s lies about WMDs demands national and international attention, we feel it is our duty and obligation to press Northup for the truth on the misinformation in her May 12 letter.

A new study from Britain affirms what we already know. Taking part in antiwar protests and demonstrations has been proven to be good for the body and soul. General health and outlook on life is improved by working with community members for the common good. Join the people at LPAC as we focus on U.S. foreign policy gone amok, and most importantly, as we work to restore participatory democracy in America.

*The Louisville Hiroshima/Nagasaki Commemoration Committee*

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Appreciation is expressed to the following community organizations that have endorsed and publicized this annual event:  
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Sisters of Loretto; Space Exploration & Theology Institute; Ursuline Sisters of Louisville.

**Donations gratefully accepted**



# Sour notes – underpaid musicians see more tightening

by Ike M. Thacker IV  
and Eustace Durrett

Metropolitan-area orchestras are virtually an endangered species in the United States today. Just in the past few years, San Jose, Savannah, and Tulsa have seen their orchestras fold; San Antonio’s and Florida’s Philharmonic almost did; and orchestras in Pittsburgh and Houston are still operating, but at huge deficits. Colorado Springs’ musicians sort of rose, phoenix-like, from the ashes of their orchestra, as we shall see later. The causes of this crisis are varied, but central in most areas has been the recession since 2001. When times are tough, charitable giving is one of the first things that dries up, and orchestras feel the pinch severely.

The Louisville Orchestra was no exception. Manning G. Warren III, President of the Orchestra’s volunteer Board of Directors said endowment income fell from about \$1,050,000 per year in 2000 to \$265,000 last year. The result of this and other financial factors was that the Louisville Orchestra was literally unable to make payroll by May 2003, and was in grave danger of ceasing to exist (mediation started on a Thursday; on Wednesday orchestra administrative staff had been told they were all laid off).

That’s when Joe Pusateri of the Louisville Homebuilders Association and Elite Homes stepped in. Spurred by the notion that a city with an orchestra could boost home sales and property values, he said to the Board of Directors and the musicians: “You have a \$930,000 problem. I’ll put up half — \$465,000 — over the next couple of years if the musicians will match that amount, anyhow they please.” The musicians did, the fast food company Yum! pitched in a similar amount, and on June 20 at 2:30 p.m., Warren and Tim Zavadil (spokesman for the musicians) announced at a press conference in Whitney Hall that, with the critical aid of federal mediator Herb Fetty, a three-year settlement had been reached.

The terms of that agreement are generally as follows: during the first year, the weekly salary of \$800 earned by the musicians will be frozen and the season reduced from 42 to 39 weeks, so that the base salary is reduced by about 7 percent to \$31,200 for musicians already on board (three vacant positions are not to be filled). In 2004-2005, year two of the agreement, there will be a four per cent increase to \$832 a week for a flexible number of weeks, and the three vacant positions will be filled. The final year of the contract (2005-2006) will see the base salary go as high as \$36,560.



— photo by Eddie Davis

## A yard sign shows the public’s concern over the rift between the Louisville Orchestra and its musicians.

In the third year, the weekly pay starts at \$850 for the first 21 weeks, then rises to \$900 on a complex formula where exact pay varies depending on how many weeks the musicians work. Nobody much seems to believe, though, that this “solution” is anything more than buying time to come to grips with the fundamental issues, which include overreliance on income from investing the orchestra’s money in a volatile stock market. Thus, Executive

Director Tim King, realizing that one fundamental need is to build the Orchestra’s endowment, reports that a new capital five-year plan has been put in place, and that it includes the first new endowment drive since 1987. The money-losing “New Dimensions” musical program has also been cut, at least for this year, which gets at the second fundamental problem: building audiences.

In order to do that, the Orchestra need look no further than Louisville’s own Actors Theater, which is flourishing despite the hard economic times. Further lessons can be learned, somewhat more directly, from observing the Minneapolis-St.-Paul orchestra, which is likewise quite flush in these lean days. A third source of instruction could be found in Colorado Springs, where the board fired a popular conductor and, to make a somewhat longer story short, the conductor and the orchestra (for, ultimately, an orchestra is its musicians!) set up shop for themselves under a new board of directors.

And there is one final lesson to be learned from all of this: the cost of the orchestra (i.e., the musicians) is not the source of the Louisville Orchestra’s financial problems, and concessions should not be asked of them.

They already make 43 percent less than the average for orchestra musicians in the nation’s top 48 orchestras; their Twin Cities counterparts make \$90,000 — and even just up I-71 in Cincinnati the figure is \$70,000. These underpaid Louisville musicians have been making beautiful music for us for nearly 70 years; may they do so for at least another 70!

## Thought-provoking books recommended for lovers of Peace and Justice

A new regular FORsooth feature compiled by Polk Culpepper, an Episcopal priest working in the Diocese of Kentucky. To recommend a book, contact him at (502) 635-5654, or [plok@iglou.com](mailto:plok@iglou.com) (note that the address is ‘plok,’ not ‘polk.’)

**Global Woman: Nannies, Maids and Sex Workers in the New Economy**, by Barbara Ehrenreich and A. Rothchild. Brought to you by the author of *Nickel and Dimed* and a most worthy collaborator, *Global Woman* examines the consequences of globalization on the lives of women. These 15 essays reveal a new era in which the main goods extracted from the Third World are no longer natural resources and agricultural products, but female labor and love. (Metropolitan Books).

**Tinderbox: U.S. Middle East Policy and the Roots of Terrorism**, by Stephen Zunes. Zunes’ core argument is that the more the U.S. has militarized the region, the less secure the American people have become. “Exactly what we have needed — a concise, intelligent account of American policy in the Middle East. Bold and persuasive,” reviewer Howard Zinn said. (Common Courage Press).

**Fat Cats and Running Dogs: The Enron State of Capitalism**, by Vijay Prashad. How we got here and where we are headed if balance is not returned to the system. A structural analysis of the present form of “predatory imperialism” and its logical transition to a permanent war state. Prashad contends that Enron was not some kind of freaky aberration but a symbol of an entire industry that has gone mad with the insanity of deregulation and official government complicity (Common Courage Press).

**Battling Big Business: Countering Greenwash, Infiltration and Other Forms of Corporate Bullying**, edited by Eveline Lubbers. After you’ve read *Fat Cats and Running Dogs*, let this collection of essays help you learn how to fight back against corporate giants that seem on the verge of running the whole world. The book jacket said it “contains the tools to confront corporations by being what they fear most: original, playful, unexpected, small, fast, irresistible, but also decisive, clear — and unstoppable.” (Common Courage Press).

**Jesus Against Christianity: Reclaiming the Missing Jesus**, by Jack Nelson-Pallmeyer. Please overlook my obvious bias for Christianity long enough to consider reading this new analysis of one of the most socially and politically radical leaders of all time. It’s taken the Church over 2,000 years of concerted effort and blindness to turn the Christ of compassion and nonviolent protest into the Christ of the Violent and Privileged. NelsonPallmeyer wants to set the record straight: Jesus lived and taught creative nonviolence, told parables to expose systems of abusive power and championed the cause of the poor and marginalized. Why can’t the Church get it right? (Trinity Press International).

## New war arena *(continued from page 1)*

Most Americans remain ignorant of the vast amount of technology flying in space just a few hundred miles above their heads. They are unaware of developments in space exploration in general, and are certainly ignorant of America’s agenda in space, what some policy analysts are openly calling a plan for hegemony under the direction of the United States Air Force.

Focusing on the perceived threats to America by terrorist and “rogue nations,” Americans have silently observed the unilateral withdrawal of the U.S. from the Anti-Ballistic Missile Treaty, and permitted continued development of a so-called national missile defense system that will weaponize space and offer no more hope for protection than it did previously when it was first announced and supported by President Reagan.

At that time, process theologian John Cobb, Jr. wrote an article worthy of our reflection today as we consider at this critical juncture how outer space should be used and whether space will be further militarized or used for peaceful purposes.

In an essay included in *Beyond Space-ship Earth: Environmental Ethics and the Solar System*, Cobb wrote that space exploration, colonization and exploitation all have economic, social, political and military implications that must be considered. His argument against the “demonic distortion” of the militarization of space was a direct response to the ongoing debate regarding Reagan’s Strategic Defense Initia-

tive (SDI), commonly referred to as the “Star Wars.” It is an opinion that needs to be voiced once again, with vigor by the peace community in the U.S. and around the globe.

Even in the midst of war, some of us are hopeful that our nation can change course in its national space policy. Like Cobb, we would propose a space program that considers the needs of all on earth — not just the rich and the powerful. We would point to the powerful potential of international cooperation in space exploration best demonstrated by earth observations systems that aid with crop production, disaster preparedness, identification of natural resources and human growth patterns. The International Space Station and multi-national efforts at Deep Space exploration also are indicators that outer space can be more than a place for military operations and planning.

How will we use outer space? Who will profit from our national endeavors in space exploration? Who will decide America’s space policies? Will you?

*Marc A. Wessels, who has a doctorate in Christian environmental ethics, is the founder of the Louisville-based Space Exploration & Theology Institute (SETI), a group favoring the exploration of space for peaceful purposes and the benefit of humanity. It is one of the sponsors of the Stop the Militarization of Space program July 27.*

## Nominees announced for the 2003 Kentucky Civil Rights Hall of Fame

Forty-seven people have been nominated to the Kentucky Civil Rights Hall of Fame. An independent selection panel will choose the 2003 inductees from the pool of nominations, all of which were placed by members of the Kentucky public.

The Kentucky Commission on Human Rights will announce the new inductees at the Kentucky Civil Rights Hall of Fame 2003 inductions and celebration on Tuesday, July 29, 2 p.m., in the atrium of historic Union Station, 1000 W. Broadway, in Louisville. The public is invited to attend. The program will feature presentations and the inductions ceremony followed by a reception. Tickets are \$15 and help fund the event.

This is the third Kentucky Civil Rights Hall of Fame, which was established in 2000 by the Kentucky Commission on Human Rights in celebration of its 40-year anniversary. The number of inductees varies and will be announced at the July 29<sup>th</sup> ceremony. Since 2001, inductions occur bi-annually. The nominees are men and women, both living and deceased, from current and past eras, who have made significant contributions to Kentucky’s progress toward equality, human rights and diversity.

Call 502-595-4024 or 1-800-292-5566 (Ask for Glenda Green) for tickets or additional information.

# Don’t adjust your set – Bush only looks like 50s show

by Polk Culpepper

George Bush was in Primary School (the formative years) when *Father Knows Best* was a Top 10 rated TV show, one of the most popular sitcoms ever.

Robert Young played Jim Anderson, an insurance salesman who lived with his family at 607 S. Maple St. in Springfield, Ohio. Margaret was his wife and the family homemaker. Betty was the eldest daughter, who was referred to as “princess” by her father. Bud was the teenage son and Kathy was the youngest daughter.

The program *Father Knows Best* and the Bush presidency are alike in another way. Both are based on dangerously false notions of stability and goodness – dangerous to the show’s viewers because they promoted an oversimplified ideal of family life that led many to feel their own was inadequate.

The dangers of the Bush presidency are evident in the thousands dead in Iraq and Afghanistan.

On the sitcom, every night Jim would come home from work, don a comfortable sweater and find out what the rest of his family had done during the day. The problem du jour would be presented to him for a solution, which always came with a smile.

The Andersons practically defined America’s ideal family. Jim and Margaret were both sensible, mature adults who took care of problems with compassion and good advice. Their children sometimes disagreed with their parents but were always polite and well mannered. The problems they faced were always solved by the end of the episode.

The star was the moral center and last word of the family. He did what he knew was right for his wife and children even when they disagreed or had to sacrifice for

his decisions. In the end, father always knew best and his authority was final.

Father Knows Best is no longer on TV but it is still running in the White House. Who could imagine in the 1950’s that little George Bush would grow up to be the Father of the United States of America, living at the White House with his wife Laura and knowing, alone, what is best for his extended national family. It would be nice to provide health care for every aunt, uncle and cousin related to George and Laura by national origin, but that would bankrupt the family budget. And most of his relatives may not agree that war is the only option left for a family living in fear of a regional feud, but George, in his patriarchal wisdom, knows what is best.

He is, after all, the patriarch, rightly looking out for the best interests of his family. If he says they are in danger, then, by God,

they are in danger, and actions will be taken to protect them. The thoughts and feelings of other members of the family are important, of course, and should be heard, but the “buck stops” at the patriarch’s lounge.

Mone knowing what is ultimately best for his far-flung kin, George courageously steps into the brink and takes whatever action is necessary to save his beloved family from itself

But fear not, comrades. At the end of the day, as at the end of each sitcom episode, everything has turned out just peachy — the required happy ending. The bad man has been arrested and sent off to prison. The family has been saved from evil. Life is once more good and all is well. Father has once again saved the day.

*The writer is an Episcopal Priest working in the Episcopal Diocese of Kentucky.*

# Mideast book thorough, but fails to address key aspect

## Dishonest Broker

by Professor Naseer H. Aruri

reviewed by  
Dr. Yacoub E. Yacoub

This book is a very detailed, well-documented account of the history of the U.S. and its involvement with Palestine and Israel. In actuality it is an account of the U.S. involvement with the Middle Eastern countries, including Israel and Palestine.

Professor Aruri could have started his account from February 14, 1945 when King Abdul Aziz Al-Saud met with President Franklin D. Roosevelt at the Great Bitter Lake in the Suez Canal. The result was a catalytic recognition of a common friendship.

Professor Aruri chose to start by reporting about the U. S. global strategies for control of oil and gas resources and routes of transportation in the Middle East and Southeast Asia, starting with those of President Truman.

The book documents successive presidential doctrines on the Mideast.

The Truman Doctrine, as expressed on Army Day in 1946, ushered in an era of U.S. intervention to contain a presumed Soviet threat, saying: “The Near and Middle East... contains vast natural resources,... lies across the most convenient route of land, air and water communication... [and] might become an arena of intense rivalry among outside powers.”

Aruri wrote that the Eisenhower Doctrine, proclaimed in a speech to a joint session of Congress on January 5, 1957, appealed for discretionary power to spend up to \$200 million in aid money for the Middle East. Eisenhower sought and obtained authorization to employ U.S. military forces against “overt armed aggression from any nation controlled by international communism.”

Aruri then elaborates on how this doctrine affected developments in Egypt, Iraq, Jordan and Lebanon.

As the combined interests of Britain, France, and Israel led to a shared desire to deal Nasser a crushing blow, the United States, then under Eisenhower, appeared eager to avoid conflict. Given the imminent decline of Anglo-French influence in the region, the United States was ready to fill the power “vacuum,” he wrote.

Secretary of State John Foster Dulles articulated these interests at a high-level policy meeting in candid terms, saying: “It is of the utmost importance for the welfare of the United States that we get away from a [domestic] political basis and try to develop a national nonpartisan policy. Otherwise, we may be apt to lose the whole area and possibly Africa. This would be a major disaster for Western Europe as well as the United States.”

The Eisenhower Doctrine, which became policy on March 9, 1957, was described in the book as having marked “a watershed in U.S. policy toward the Middle East because it specified the area as a vital

national interest.” From that point on, threats to the “vital American national interest” would be used to describe a wide variety of actions by nationalist forces challenging conservative regimes, resisting Israeli transgression, or questioning U.S. hegemony.

This formed a critical moment in the evolution of the U.S.-Israeli special relationship, which reached a level of maturity in the aftermath of the June 1967 war, particularly under president Nixon, and became a strategic alliance during the Reagan presidency, Aruri wrote.

A tendency to identify United States security interests with a militarily strong Israel began to take hold in Pentagon circles in the 1960s, the book said.

A spokesman for the Israeli foreign office expressed that readiness on June 11, 1966: “The United States has come to the conclusion that it can no longer respond to every incident around the world, that it must rely on a local power, the deterrence of a friendly power as a first line to stave off America’s direct involvement. Israel feels that it fits this definition.”

The Nixon-Kissinger doctrine was articulated in several presidential speeches and policy statements, beginning with the Guam speech of November 3, 1969, and Nixon’s State of the Union Address of 1970. The new guiding principle postulated that unilateral intervention was expensive at home and unpopular abroad. Thus Israel, guaranteed by the U.S. a “margin of technical superiority” over all of its Arab neighbors combined, was deemed especially well suited to serve the interests of the United States, Aruri wrote.

Kissinger’s mediation after the October 1973 war revealed three objectives, the book said. The first was to bring about a general eclipse of Soviet influence in the region. The second objective was to transform the very nature of the Arab-Israeli conflict into a simple conflict over “territory” versus “human rights.”

The third objective was to provide Egypt with such a vested interest in stability that it would insure its effective removal from the Arab front against Israel.

The Carter’s Doctrine “security framework” for Southwest Asia (as U.S. policy makers began to refer to the region) was enunciated on January 23, 1980: “Let our position be absolutely clear: Any attempt by any outside force to gain control of the Persian Gulf region will be regarded as an assault on the vital interests of the United States of America, and such an assault will be repelled by any means necessary, including military force,” the doctrine said.

This new commitment, the book said, received added impetus with president Reagan’s pledge to defend Saudi Arabia against internal threats, as well: “We will not permit Saudi Arabia to be an Iran....

## BOOK REVIEW

[There is] no way we will stand by and see it taken over.” That became known as the Reagan Codicil, which together with the Carter Doctrine was to mark yet another approach to the Middle East and the Arab-Israeli conflict.

Aruri said the centrality of U.S. economic interests was spelled out by key figures in the foreign policy establishment. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance said in a speech before the Los Angeles World Affairs Council: “We must maintain a defense establishment modern and strong enough to protect ourselves and our allies. We must protect American investments overseas and insure continuing access to vital raw materials.”

In the Iranian revolution aftermath, he wrote, a strategic adaptation by the U.S. signaled a return to the principle of direct intervention without excluding reliance on partners and regional influential nations. A Rapid Deployment Force, conceived by presidential adviser Zbigniew Brzezinski in 1977, would enable the United States to become the principal guarantor of its enormous economic and strategic interests in the region.

The massive U.S. military deployment in the Arabian Peninsula, which began in August 1990 and culminated in the Gulf War, completed a process of recolonization of the region. Regional interventions could no longer be explained in terms of Soviet aggression or Soviet sponsored insurrection. The anti-Communist rhetoric of containment, however, had always masked the real enemy of American hegemonic designs: third-world nationalism and social revolution.

The twelve-year period of Republican rule (1980-1992) — which included two terms for Reagan and one term for Bush I — witnessed a phenomenal expansion of the special relationship between the United States and Israel. That relationship, which developed into a strategic alliance, was nurtured and upgraded by Clinton, the first president ever to involve the pro-Israel lobby in actual Middle East policy making, and was further improved under Bush II.

To a very limited extent does Professor Aruri addresses the contribution of the Palestinians and their Arab neighbors to the complexity of the present day conflict.

For example, when secretary of state James Baker was involved in the Middle East politics, during and after the first Gulf war, Aruri assesses the PLO to be vulnerable:

The PLO was deprived of solid and unified Arab backing in the negotiation; it was isolated from its constituencies in the Occupied Territories, the Gulf, Syria, and Lebanon; The PLO was facing eco-

nomie, ideological, leadership, and governance crises.

In this light the PLO was seen by the Bush administration as the weakest link in the chain of negotiations. However Professor Aruri characterizes Baker’s approach as ambiguous in spite of the obvious disarray in the Palestinian leadership.

About the Oslo accords in the 1990s, Aruri wrote: “Arafat and his organization, in Tunis, had become increasingly irrelevant.... This irrelevance and the erosion of his leadership were further accentuated by the growing prominence of the West Bank and Gaza negotiators who were accredited to the Washington talks by the Madrid process. While Haider Abdel Shafi led his delegation to the State Department and as Hanan Ashrawi articulated the Palestinian position to the press on a regular basis, Arafat’s overseer Nabil Sha’ath had to take a back seat in his Washington hotel, while remaining in constant touch with his boss in Tunis.”

Aruri adds: “Arafat’s apologists, rarely if at all, accept responsibility for their fatal mistakes or acknowledge having been fooled into a no-win strategy. Nor was any admission ever made by Arafat himself or by his top echelons that their corruption had diminished a just cause. Worse yet was their inability and unwillingness to utilize the democratically elected institutions and the immense talents and skills of their own people when Israel’s diplomatic resources and legal expertise were fully mobilized against their haphazard efforts and extemporaneous methods.”

In general Aruri’s book is a true-to-fact account of how the U.S. National Interests shaped the U.S. relationship with the Arab world, president after president after president. It also details how Israel and its well-organized lobby in Washington managed to align themselves with those interests pouring wrath on the Palestinians, supported by and supporting U.S. policy.

The book also touches on the contribution of the Palestinian Authority to the problems, as well as — ever so lightly — mentions the responsibility of the corrupt Arab regimes and how they added fuel to the fire.

Nowhere in the book did I find Aruri addressing what role the American Palestinians, who have escaped difficulties in occupied Palestine, should have played in Washington D.C., getting organized and able to balance out the influence of the pro-Israeli lobby. I guess that could be the subject of a book by itself.

*Dr. Yacoub E. Yacoub is a retired anesthesiologist who has lived in Louisville since 1973. He is married to Oraib Yacoub, who is also a physician. He is the chairman of the Kentucky Chapter of the American-Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee.*





# Denouncing slavery easy; fighting its newer form hard

Eight hundred carpenters represented by the Kentucky State District Council of Carpenters went on strike in June against contractors in Louisville, Elizabethtown, and Bowling Green.

Seven major and numerous small contractors would not sign the Interim Agreement because they wanted to delete the subcontracting clause, which protects union jobs from non-union outsourcing. Though the contractors offered a \$1.10 per hour wage increase for each of the three years, the union membership turned it down unanimously, saying they would not give up the subcontracting protection. They authorized the union business manager, Steve Barger, to call a strike.

The workers stood solid, picketing for four days. The contractors backed off demands on outsourcing, and the union settled. Larry Hujo, Field Rep-Organizer for the Carpenters, summed it up: “The commitment and resolve of our (union) sisters and brothers caught the employers by total surprise.”

In other news: President George W. Bush, on July 8, visited Africa’s Goree Island, where at least one million Africans were sent into slavery, and whose labor power would later be underwritten by certain U.S. insurance companies. Mr. Bush spoke movingly: “At this place, liberty and life were stolen and sold. One of the largest migrations of history was also one of the



greatest crimes of history.”

We should take Mr. Bush at his word, and see how this newfound contrition plays out in the present.

Sheila Michaels of the Student Non-violent Coordinating Committee listserv informs us, citing Joe Conason’s Journal in Salon.com, of a May 30 story headlined “John Ashcroft takes Unocal’s side in a battle with Burmese torture victims.”

“If you’ve ever wondered what (U.S. Attorney General) John Ashcroft would do when faced with a choice between defending an energy company and discouraging slavery and murder in the developing world, FindLaw columnist and Human Rights Watch attorney Joanne Mariner explains how the Justice Department, in its zeal to protect Unocal, is seeking to destroy the Alien Tort Claims Act — the law that allows people

injured by serious violations of international law abroad to seek civil damages in American courts against perps based in the United States,” Connason’s Journal said.

“(In).John Doe I vs. Unocal Corp. the plaintiffs are ‘Burmese villagers who claim that they were subjected to forced labor, murder, rape, and torture during construction of a gas pipeline.’ “

Just like the Rio Negro massacre in Guatemala in the 1980s. By their fruits ye shall know them.

Well, many of the descendants of U.S. slaves are making life difficult for Gov. Bob Riley of Alabama. A bill that would allow “felons” to vote, after their sentences are completed, goes against the Republican Party grain. Yet, if he doesn’t support it, Black Democrats say they won’t give support crucial to a \$1.2 billion tax referendum Riley is desperate to have passed. What a predicament.

Maybe if Gov. Riley had had the courtesy to have met with State Sen. Hank Sanders, State Rep. Alvin Holmes and other Black elected officials from the beginning, something could have been worked out. A big rally is scheduled for July 18, after this column’s deadline.

Speaking of the past legacy of slavery and segregation, on June 23 the U.S. Supreme Court made two decisions on affirmative action programs at the University of Michigan. It ruled that diversity is a com-

elling state interest and upheld the law school’s affirmative action plan.

At the same time it ruled against the university’s undergraduate affirmative action plan because it allotted a certain number of points for minorities. The court chose not to address the special entitlements (“points”) given to children of alumni at schools across the country, nor points for geography, etc. — only points for race.

Notwithstanding Pres. Bush’s opposition to affirmative action with a few teeth, many big corporations and former military brass weighed in on the university’s side, which seems an important factor in moving such a reactionary court to rule positively in the law school case. To this writer, the law school decision, at least, was a big victory, given that the politics of this court are so similar to that of the court that returned Dred Scott to slavery in 1857.

As a person who used to rule on discrimination cases, and has had much experience in looking at affirmative action plans, I well know about the objectively scurrilous attacks on affirmative action. As reported previously in this column, a very important amicus brief by veterans of the 1960s civil rights group Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC) was submitted in the Michigan cases.

Another important Supreme Court ruling is expected in Frew v. Hawkins. For many years, people wrongfully denied Medicaid could file a “Section 1983 complaint,” but if the Supreme Court upholds a lower court’s decision disallowing appeals, reports the American Association of Retired Persons (AARP), many disabled people will lose their right to appeal termination of benefits, for example.

Well, with all these political conundrums, surely we would want to conserve our beautiful national parks so we can walk in them and continue our contrition and atonement for slavery, mull over being called a felon-lover, and contemplate the specter of minorities overrunning the hallowed halls of ivy. Yet, last May 19, at the National Press Club in Washington D.C., nearly 30 former high-ranking National Park Service (NPS) employees held a news conference to announce release of a letter to Interior Secretary Gale Norton and President Bush.

The letter raised four specific issues: “Sacrificing the public interest for private profits; Allowing oil and gas drilling in and near units of the National Park Service; Paving large portions of our national parks; and (ignoring) park professionals in protecting park air quality.”

Overseas, U.S. freelance journalist Billy Nessen’s life is in danger. He is trapped in the military zone in Aceh province in Indonesia, where he has been reporting on the independence movement. The Indonesian military is notorious for its brutality in East Timor. The Committee to Protect Journalists urges people to contact U.S. and Indonesian government officials.

A different danger is posed in Venezuela, this time to the U.S. government, or so it is claimed. The government is trying to replace the dollar with the Euro. President Chavez has the utter gall to want to barter oil with 13 Latin American countries — without consulting the U.S.

Let’s turn to the Middle East. Rachel Corrie, you will recall, was the young unarmed woman from Washington state who was killed last March for trying to keep an Israeli bulldozer from flattening a Palestinian home in the Gaza Strip town of Rafah. The Israeli government’s own autopsy report gave the cause of death as “pressure on the chest (from a mechanical apparatus).”

Despite the autopsy report, the Israeli government continues to claim Rachel was killed by dirt or concrete pushed by the bulldozer, while the driver continues to claim he never saw her in the first place. On June 26, Israel closed the investigation and absolved the driver of wrongdoing.

Rep. Brian Baird (D-Wa.) introduced a resolution (HConRes 111) calling for an independent investigation into Rachel’s death. There are 42 co-signers as of this writing. Please contact your congressperson and ask her or him to support this resolution.

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



**WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 6, 2003**  
**12:00 Noon**

## Vigil in the Garden and Tolling of the Bell

Christ Church Cathedral, 425 South Second Street

On Wednesday, August 6, 2003, we invite persons of all faiths to join us for a prayerful vigil in the garden of Christ Church Cathedral as the Cathedral’s bell is tolled for each of the 58 years since the atomic bombing of Hiroshima. The vigil honors the memory of those who died in Hiroshima, but also the millions of victims who died in cities and on battlefields, from London to Dresden, from Tokyo to Pearl Harbor. Only by remembering the horrors of war, and honoring the dead, will we find the courage to stand up and say “No!” whenever we are asked to go to war.



**SATURDAY, AUGUST 9, 2003**  
**8:00 PM**

## Japanese Lantern Floating Ceremony

*remembering those who perished in the August 9, 1945 atomic bombing of Nagasaki and all the victims of World War II*

Cherokee Lake, near the corner of Lexington Road & Grinstead Drive  
Rain site: Highland United Methodist Church, 1140 Cherokee Road

On Saturday, August 9, we invite persons of all faiths to join us for this annual ceremony. The memorial will include music, readings and reflections suitable for participation by families. Please bring a blanket or other ground cover to sit on. Candles will be provided.

*Sponsored by the Louisville Hiroshima/Nagasaki Commemoration Committee, 502/458-8056.*

## Monday Lunch with Bruce Gagnon

**July 28, 2003 – 11:30 AM**

**Rudyard Kipling Restaurant**

422 West Oak Street • Louisville, Kentucky

## “The Price of Endless War”

It gives us great pleasure to announce that Bruce Gagnon will be able to stay over for a second presentation on Monday morning to speak on a topic for which he is also well qualified. The price of the lunch will be \$6. Please make reservations by calling Jean Edwards, 458-8056.

*Sponsored by the Hiroshima/Nagasaki Commemoration Committee, 502/458-8056*  
*The lunch is co-sponsored by Jobs with Justice, 502/625-3724*



KEEP SPACE FOR PEACE!

The Hiroshima/Nagasaki event this year will lead us into a new consciousness about space as we understand more about U.S. plans for military expansion into space. Our speaker will be **Bruce Gagnon**, *International Coordinator of the Global Network Against Weapons and Nuclear Power in Space* ([globalnet@mindspring.com](mailto:globalnet@mindspring.com)) See the flier in this issue of **FORsooth**, and mark your calendar for Sunday evening, July 27.

There will be a question and answer period after the talk. In addition, three knowledgeable individuals will be ready to respond including **Walter Olson MD, Frances Weinstock MD, and Marc Wessels, Ph.D.**,. Incidentally, please read the article by Marc Wessels in this issue of **FORsooth**, “Out of Sight – Out of Mind: How Shall We Utilize Outer Space?”

...

On Monday the next day, we will host **Bruce Gagnon** again at a buffet lunch when his topic will be “**THE PRICE OF ENDLESS WAR: The Economic, Social and Civil Liberties Impact.**” Cosponsor for the lunch will be **Kentucky Jobs with Justice**. We have asked the Director of JwJ, **James Johnson** to be one of those who responds to the presentation as well as the **Rev. David Bos**. The lunch will be at the Rudyard Kipling Restaurant, 422 West Oak St, at 11:30 am and will cost \$6.00. Make your reservation by calling Jean Edwards, 458-8056.

NO MORE SWEATSHOPS IN THE FIELDS

When you go to the grocery, don’t pick the wrong pickle. Tell Kroger to take Mt. Olive Pickles off the shelves.

It’s time to focus on the *sweatshop* conditions on the eastern North Carolina farms that grow Mt. Olive pickles. Though the company makes millions each year from selling its pickles, it refuses to give the workers who harvest its pickles a voice in contract negotiations.

Farm workers earn 65 cents per 33 pound bucket, live in over-crowded homes, and have limited access to clean and safe bathroom facilities and medical care.

The mostly immigrant workers face substandard wages, illegal labor practices, and unsafe working conditions. For more information: **FLOC** (Farm Labor Organizing Committee): 919/489-4485.

Send a letter (or even a postcard) to: Mr. William Bryan, President, Mt. Olive Pickle Company, Cucumber & Vine Streets, Mt. Olive, NC 28365. “**In our house at meal time, there will be no Mt. Olive products on our table until you sit down with farmworker representatives at the bargaining table and negotiate a fair contract.**”

Be sure to give your name and address.

THOUGHTS ON PAYING TAXES FOR WAR

Those who attended the workshop on “**War Tax Alternatives**” last month felt gratified and privileged to have witnessed the excellent presentation by Phil Schervish, Dean of Social Work at Spalding University.

There was a spread of diverse attitudes from those who file no return, to those who file but refuse to pay all that is required, to those who have just started thinking about this issue. In his illustrated lecture, Phil gave the legal arguments in a clear way. We were all of one accord in that we dislike paying taxes for war, particularly the Iraq war that continues day after day at a cost of almost four billion dollars per day.

We viewed a new video, “**Compelled by Conscience**,” produced by the National Campaign for a Peace Tax Fund. Although only 15 minutes in length, the film is compelling and a good introduction to the issue of conscience and participation in war. It is designed for use with small groups in your home, or for larger audiences, and we urge you to borrow our copy and show it. Or write for a copy: Peace Tax Foundation, 2121 Decatur Place NW, Washington, DC 20008. E-mail: [info@peacetax.com](mailto:info@peacetax.com) (tel: 1/888-Peace-Tax) \$20.

We discussed the legislation for a peace tax fund known as “**The Religious Freedom Peace Tax Fund Bill, (HR 2037)**” which was introduced in the House of Representatives by John Lewis (D-Ga) on May 8, 2003 with 28 cosponsors. It would permit taxpayers conscientiously opposed to participating in war to pay their taxes into a separate fund to be used for non-military government programs only. Our challenge is to gain more cosponsors. A call to your representative is just what we need.

‘What’s fair’ about this?

To the editor:

Today, my co-workers consider me a hero — not for battling a war on a foreign soil or terrorists here on the home front, but for standing up the American way and voicing my right of free speech. On June 19, I stood before the Metro Council public hearing on the Metro Government’s 2003-2004 Budget and asked why. Why would our mayor say that employees had been asked to work 40 hours instead of the previous 35 and 37 \_ hours that some of us had been working? We were never asked, we were told. Mandatory additional work time and no compensation for that work time. Forcing our hourly wages to drop 14.29 percent and 6.66 percent respectively.

The question remains. Why are some employees getting raises, some wages staying level, some dropping 14.29 percent and others dropping 6.66 percent? What’s fair and equitable about that?

Why would our HR director publicly state that the reason we must work additional hours with no compensation is “because a study showed we are already overpaid?” Where is this study? Has it been released to the public? Has it been released to the employees? I requested the city council members release this study, review it and request other surrounding major cities’ compensation schedules showing job classifications and salaries.

I also suggested that placing political cronies, friends and relatives into positions at a higher rate of pay than coworkers — and frequently those placements have fewer skills and experience — is demoralizing to the entire workforce.

I love this city and our mayor (I have his picture hanging in my office) but I must ask that we read that statement on the bottom of our letterhead that states “EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER” and take it to heart. Let’s honor the value system that most of us were raised with - “DO THE RIGHT THING BECAUSE IT IS THE RIGHT THING”.

Sincerely,  
Vickie Stephens, metro government employee, Louisville



DANIEL BOONE IN DANGER

By Winnie Hepler

Our letters are needed by August 14 to respond to the 15 year **draft management plan** for the Daniel Boone National Forest which is definitely a product of the agribusiness emphasis of the U.S. Department of Agriculture – careless pesticide and herbicide use, burning, generous off-road vehicle access and other harmful recreation activities, tree farming, resort and golf course construction, coal strip mining, gas well encouragement, with little protection of water, air, stream and river corridors and riparian areas.

At numerous public meetings in recent years, citizens have repeatedly asked for no more commercial logging. Rather, we have asked that the skilled and dedicated Forest Service personnel be assigned to restoration of the damaged tree cut areas, the watershed, stream bed and stream-side ecosystems, wildlife habitat and endangered and threatened bird, animal plant and aquatic species recovery efforts.

Nevertheless the Forest Service plan for the Daniel Boone calls for *renewed excessive logging, unnecessary, counterproductive burns, disregard for water and air quality, wildlife protection and health.*

A recent study of earlier eastern forests shows that planned burns are unnecessary and would be harmful because the eastern forests managed themselves very well throughout the pre-white pioneer historic past.

Please write your comments before August 14 (the close of the comment period) to:

Daniel Boone National Forest Content Analysis Team  
PO Box 221150, Salt Lake City, UT 84122  
Fax: 801-517-1015  
E-mail: [danielboone@fs.fed.us](mailto:danielboone@fs.fed.us)

In your letter, please stress your wish for an end to commercial logging, in the interest of a sound environmental legacy for Kentucky’s future. Our public forest is really such a small portion of all the timberlands in the state. It should be protected and preserved as the guarded treasure it truly is. It must be protected from further harm by the extraction industries.

**The fate of the Daniel Boone National Forest for the next 10-15 years is at stake!**

LANDMINES: CONTINUED SUFFERING

When Doug Hostetter spoke in Louisville (4/15/03), he reflected on the relief work he did in Afghanistan immediately after 9-11. He said that when he first heard the terrible news of the bombing in New York he realized that Afghanistan would pay the price. “The U.S. has no idea what war is like. We have never experienced war,” he pointed out.

Certainly, we are not being shown the aftermath, the suffering that the people still endure today in Afghanistan. The many landmine victims are out of sight, out of mind.

“The United States spent 37 billion dollars to destroy the poorest nation in the world,” Doug said, speaking at Central Presbyterian Church in Louisville. Only one billion was pledged to rebuild. No schools have been built. The people are less safe today than a year ago. They are more likely to be killed on the road. It is a nation of warlords, each tied in to the USA. Opium is produced again. Afghanistan is the largest producer of opium in the world.

Doug witnessed that some people have been able to rebuild their houses with the help of the Mennonite Central Committee that sponsored his trip. Through this organization \$935 can provide what a family needs to rebuild, while they make the bricks and do the work themselves.

“When we help people they respond in kind,” he said, “but America is making the wrong choices, causing people to hate us.”

It is estimated that the war in Afghanistan left 2,000 dead, many thousands injured, and *seven million refugees*. But the war is not over. A headline in the Louisville Courier-Journal (2/1/03) tells of landmines causing more misery. “A minibus packed with travelers ran over a recently planted landmine outside the southern city of Kandahar yesterday, killing at least 17 people and underscoring the continuing dangers in the region of Afghanistan that gave rise to the Taliban. ... the bus was nearing the city and about to go over a small bridge when it hit the mine. The driver and his assistant were the only survivors. ... The explosion left the bus mangled and bodies strewn nearby.

In another article (1/10/03) the Courier-Journal tells of a *U.S. soldier* who stepped on a land mine while helping in mine clearance at Bagram Air Base, and his foot had to be amputated. The soldier was evacuated to a U.S. military hospital in Germany. Perhaps the fate of this U.S. soldier will cause our government to stop producing and deporting these insidious weapons.



FINANCIAL REPORT

<b>BEGINNING BALANCE</b>	.....	\$5,907.90
General Contributions	.....	961.00
Ads in FORsooth	.....	<u>110.00</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	.....	1,071.00

<b>EXPENDITURES:</b>		
<b>FORsooth</b> Editing .....	\$150.00	
<b>FORsooth</b> Printing .....	246.00	
<b>FORsooth</b> Mailing .....	212.00	
<b>FOR</b> National Dues .....	60.00	
Hiroshima event .....	50.00	
Tax Resistance event .....	158.70	
Office Expense .....	<u>32.65</u>	
	\$909.35 ....	<u>909.35</u>
<b>ENDING BALANCE</b> .....		\$6,069.55

Please make your check payable to the Fellowship of Reconciliation. Your gift is tax deductible.

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Tim Scheldorf, Treasurer  
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# Calendar for peacemakers

July 19 (Sat) **SECOND US CAMPAIGN TO END THE OCCUPATION ORGANIZERS CONFERENCE.** Doug Hostetter, Campaign Director. Gallaudet Univ, DC. Bishop Tutu invited to give opening address and Prof Edward Said to keynote at Sat night dinner. Louisville will be represented by David Horvath and Pat Geier

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

July 23 (Wed) **SHALOM DINNER** featuring **PETIE McCLEAN**, associate minister, First Christian Church, Glasgow, Ky, **“Parenting for Peace and Justice.”** Potluck meal at Douglass Blvd Christian Church, 2005 Douglass Blvd. 6:30 pm. Call David and Rosie Sprawls, 458-8061.

July 24 (Thu) **PRAYER SERVICE FOR PEACE AND NONVIOLENCE FOR THE HEALING OF OUR HEARTS AND WORLD, every Thursday at 12:15.** Twenty minute prayer service followed by a simple lunch. James Lees Memorial Presbyterian Church, 1741 Frankfort Ave (at William Street). Call 896-0172.

July 25 (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 Committee for Israeli/Palestinian States, the American Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee, and the Fellowship of Reconciliation. Call Beverley Marmion, 451-5658.

July 27 (Sun) **FOURTH SUNDAY INTERFAITH PRAYER SERVICE**, 3:00 pm. Museum of Faiths, 429 W Muhammad Ali Blvd. Silent prayer, music, readings, facilitated dialogue, refreshments. Sponsored by Cathedral Heritage Foundation, Interfaith Paths to Peace & Kentuckiana Interfaith Community. Call Terry Taylor, 583-3100.

July 27 (Sun) **WITNESS FOR JUSTICE: PROTEST AGAINST POLICE BRUTALITY**, *every* Sunday, sponsored by the Justice Resource Center. Louisville Police Department, 7<sup>th</sup> and Jefferson, 2:30 pm. Call 774-1116 or 445-2509.

July 27 (Sun) <b>BRUCE GAGNON</b> , International Coordinator of the Global Network Against Weapons and Nuclear Power in Space, <b>KEYNOTE AT THE ANNUAL HIROSHIMA/NAGASAKI COMMEMORATION.</b> Central Presbyterian Church, Fourth & Kentucky Streets., 6:30-8:30 pm. Call 458-8056. See flier in this issue of <b>FORsooth</b> .
July 28 (Mon) <b>“THE PRICE OF ENDLESS WAR: the Economic, Social and Civil Liberties Impact.” LUNCH WITH BRUCE GAGNON.</b> Cosponsored by <b>“Jobs with Justice.”</b> Rudyard Kipling Restaurant, 422 West Oak Street, 11:30 am. For reservations, call Jean Edwards, 458-8056.

July 28 (Mon) **F.O.R. STEERING COMMITTEE**, Presbyterian Seminary, Nelson Hall, #10, 7:30 pm. Visitors welcome. Call Pat Geier, 456-6586, or Mary Horvath, 583-4670.

July 29 (Tue) **KENTUCKY HALL OF FAME, Presentations and Inductions.** Sponsored by the Kentucky Commission on Human Rights. Henry Wallace has been nominated. Downtown at the Historic Union Station, 1000 W. Broadway, 2:00 pm. \$15. Call Victoria Dempsey, 595-4024.

July 30 (Wed) **SHALOM DINNER** featuring **MARY MCCARTHY**, coordinator of the Coalition to Abolish the Death Penalty, **“Crime and Punishment.”** Potluck meal at Douglass Boulevard Christian Church, 2005 Douglass Blvd, 6:30 pm. (David & Rosie Sprawls, 458-8061).

Aug 2 (Sat) **CANDLELIGHT WALK FOR AIDS**, sponsored by the **House of Ruth**, at the Louisville Zoo. Registration begins at 8:00 pm. Walk starts at 9:00. Special celebrity guest will be Kevin Richardson of the “Backstreet Boys.” Call House of Ruth for registration forms and information, 587-5080.

Aug 3 (Sun) **VIGIL FOR PEACE**, every first Sunday, remembering all those suffering from conflicts in the Middle East. Bring a candle or a sign to express yourself. **Douglass Loop**, Bardstown Road at Douglass Blvd. 8:00 pm to 9:00 pm Sponsored by **L-PAC** (Louisville Peace Action Community). Call Ken Nevitt, 558-9124.

Aug 3 (Sun) **HIROSHIMA/NAGASAKI PLANNING COMMITTEE**, 7:00 pm. Presbyterian Seminary, 1044 Alta Vista Road, Room 10. Call 458-8056.

Aug 4 (Mon) **BOOK DISCUSSION SERIES CONTINUES, “Getting to the Heart of Peace,”** sponsored by Interfaith Paths to Peace. Professor Gene March will lead the discussion of his own book, *Israel and the Politics of Land*: ATheological Case Study. Hawley-Cooke Booksellers, Shelbyville Road, 7:00 pm. Call Pam Yenawine, 214-7322.

Aug 6 (Wed) **58<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF THE NUCLEAR BOMBING OF HIROSHIMA, JAPAN. NOON PRAYERFUL REFLECTION IN THE GARDEN AT CHRIST CHURCH EPISCOPAL CATHEDRAL**, accompanied by the tolling of the bell, recalling those who died and continue to die from the on-going programs of nuclear-related weapons development. 421 S. 2<sup>ND</sup> St. Call 458-8056.

Aug 9 (Sat) **JAPANESE LANTERN FLOATING CEREMONY**, remembering those who perished in the 1945 atomic bombing of Nagasaki, Japan. Cherokee Lake, corner of Lexington Road & Grinstead Dr. 8:00 pm. Music by Laurie Stiers. Please bring a ground cover to sit on. Call 458-8056.

Aug 13 (Wed) **KITLAC (Ky Interfaith Taskforce on Latin America and the Caribbean).** Presbyterian Seminary, Nelson Hall, Room 10. 7:30 pm. Call David Horvath, 583-4670 or Pat Geier, 456-6586.

Aug 13 (Wed) **DEADLINE FOR THE SEPT ISSUE OF FORsooth.** Contact George Morrison, editor, 944-6460. E-mail: [klm86@netzero.com](mailto:klm86@netzero.com) For calendar listings, contact Jean Edwards, 458-8056. E-mail: [edwardsfor@aol.com](mailto:edwardsfor@aol.com)

Aug 21 (Thu) **FORsooth LABELING at Beverley Marmion’s house.** Mark your calendar and join in this therapeutic experience. 6:30 pm. Call 451-5658.

Aug 31 (Sun) **LABOR IN THE PULPITS.** On Labor Day weekend religious organizations are urged to host labor speakers to reflect on faith, work, justice, and the meaning of Labor Day. Sponsored by Ky Jobs with Justice and the Ky State AFL-CIO. To be involved, call 625-3724

Sept 4 (Thu) **ANNUAL BILL OF RIGHTS DINNER**, featuring **Stephen B. Bright**, Director of the Southern Center for Human Rights, Atlanta. The Center provides legal representation to persons facing the death penalty and to prisoners challenging unconstitutional conditions in prisons and jails. Sponsored by the ACLU of Ky at the International Convention Center. Dinner 7:00 pm. \$35. Special rates for youth and non-profit organizations. Call 581-9746.

Sept 13 (Sat) **PEACE RUN 3.** Mark the date. The event at Iroquois Park will again be a 5K run, 5K walk or 1-mile family walk. Contact the Peace Education Program, 589-6583.

## OUT OF TOWN EVENTS

Aug 6 (Wed) **CEREMONY OF REMEMBRANCE**, marking the 58<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the bombing of Hiroshima, Japan. Y-12 Nuclear Weapons Plant in Oak Ridge, TN, 6:00-9:00 am. August 9 (Sat) will feature nonviolence training all day. Organizer Lissa McLeod is searching for someone to drive a van or bus from Indianapolis (or wherever) to pick up folks along the way. If someone can do this, please contact Lissa at the Oak Ridge Environmental Peace Alliance, 1-865-483-8202. E-mail: [orep@earthlink.net](mailto:orep@earthlink.net), [www.stopthebombs.org](http://www.stopthebombs.org) Fax: 1-865-483-9725.

Aug 10 (Sun) **MARCH TO THE Y-12 PLANT AT OAK RIDGE**, 10:00 am. **Y-12 is the last full-scale nuclear weapons production facility in the U.S.** It is being upgraded to go into full production of new “mini nukes.” **Rally and Direct Action**, 11:30-2:30. Bishop Gumbleton will be present the whole four days.

Oct 16-19 (TFSS) **NATIONAL COALITION TO ABOLISH THE DEATH PENALTY (NCADP) NATIONAL CONFERENCE.** Nashville, TN, Sheraton Downtown Hotel, 623 Union Street. (615-259-2000). For information, call Leona Martin, 202-543-9577. e-mail: [lmartin@ncadp.org](mailto:lmartin@ncadp.org) Register online: [www.ncadp.org](http://www.ncadp.org)

Nov 5-18 **DELEGATION TO COLOMBIA**, sponsored by **FOR** and **Global Exchange**. Visit the Colombian peace communities in resistance; experience Colombia first-hand. For details: [www.forusa.org](http://www.forusa.org)

## Regular Meeting Times for Area Organizations

AD HOC COALITION FOR AFFIRMATIVE ACTION – (778-8130)  
ADDICTION RECOVERY ADVOCATES OF KENTUCKIANA – 2nd Wednesday (585-3375)  
AMERICA 2000 DEMOCRATIC CLUB – 3rd Tuesday (451-2155)  
AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL – 1st Saturday (637-8951)  
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] – 3rd Saturday (778-9427)  
CLARK & FLOYD COUNTIES AIDS COALITION – 3rd Thursday (288-2706)  
CLOUT [Citizens of Louisville Organized and Working Together] -(583-1267)  
COMMITTEE FOR ISRAELI/PALESTINIAN STATES – 3rd Sunday (451-5658)  
COMMON CAUSE – 1st Tuesday, every other month (228-1534)  
COMMUNIST PARTY USA – Saturday evenings (648-8197 or 473-2659)  
CONVERSATION CAFE – Wednesday evenings (454-4820)  
CONVERSATIONS WITH GOD – Books by Neale Donald Walsch. 1st Monday (468-2305)  
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 583-4670)  
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 Wednesday (584-1444)  
JEFFERSON COUNTY WELFARE REFORM COALITION – 2nd Friday (585-3556)  
JUBILEE NETWORK – (583-4670)  
JUSTICE RESOURCE CENTER – 3rd Saturday (774-1116)  
KENTUCKIANA NATIVE AMERICAN SUPPORT GROUP – 1st & 3rd Thursdays (635-2817)  
KENTUCKY JOBS WITH JUSTICE (582-3508, ext. 124)  
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 (585-2895)  
KITLAC (KY INTERFAITH TASKFORCE ON LATIN AMERICA & THE CARIBBEAN) – 2nd Wednesday (583-4670)  
KY RAINBOW/PUSH COALITION – (774-4000)  
LESBIAN SUPPORT GROUP – 2nd and 4th Thursdays (587-6225)  
LPAC (LOUISVILLE ACTION COMMUNITY) – (558-9124)  
LOUISVILLE WOMEN CHURCH – 2nd Sunday (456-5261)  
LOUISVILLE YOUTH GROUP – Friday nights (454-3300), [www.louisvilleyouthgroup.org](http://www.louisvilleyouthgroup.org)  
METROPOLITAN HOUSING COALITION – 4th Wednesday (584-6858)  
MOBILIZING TO END VIOLENCE (MEN) – (449-9044)  
NAACP (National Association for the Advancement of Colored People) – 3rd Monday (634-1804)  
NAGASAKI/HIROSHIMA COMMEMORATION COMMITTEE – 1st Sunday (458-8056)  
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](mailto:brozier@bellsouth.net))  
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)

**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.**

**WARNING: DATES IN THIS CALENDAR ARE CLOSER THAN THEY APPEAR.**