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September 2006

NIMBY, jobs for oppressed clash at Swift

by Ike M. Thacker IV and Eustace Durrett

There is a phenomenon common to issues as diverse as scattered-site public housing, garbage dumps, and air-polluting (or water-polluting) factories, called "NIMBY" — Not In My Back Yard. Well, you can add meat-packing plants to that list of NIMBY-inducing things.

In the past 15 years, there have been at least three attempts to move or close the Swift & Co. meat-packing plant at 1200 Story Avenue, in the area known as Butchertown. In 1996, Swift even made explicit plans to build a new plant probably elsewhere, but ran into NIMBY phenomena wherever it looked.

Thus it is understandable that people who work for Swift & Co. get more than a little nervous when somebody starts complaining, as Jim Segrest and his Butchertown Neighborhood Association recently have, about the stink, the traffic, and just the general anti-aesthetics of the Swift plant—which provides good, unionwage jobs starting at \$10 per hour with comprehensive benefits for some 1,000-1,100 blue-collar workers and another 300 or so in management.

But the Butchertown association hasn't just complained. It has instead gone so far as to file a suit challenging Swift's leasing of an old Metropolitan Sewer District (MSD) parking lot on Cabel Street, near the plant, in which to park its tractor trailers. To this, Local 227 of the United Food and Commer-

cial Workers (UFCW) has responded aggressively, seeking a court ruling to be considered a co-defendant in the neigborhood association's suit against Swift on the grounds that it and its workers would be substantially harmed if the suit were to succeed. This would give the union standing to go on the counter-offensive and launch a planned counter-suit against the unfriendly Butchertown Neighborhood Association.

Segrest, for his part, at least partially disavows any out-and-out effort to close Swift down; but he does say he thinks Swift should keep the plant from stinking and that "there's a more appropriate location" for such a large industry. Such talk would alarm even well-entrenched and "safe" industries; it takes little imagination to understand the effect it must have on beleaguered Swift & Co.(which took over an old Armour plant) and its workers. Segrest said he sympathizes with the shortcomings of Louisville's bus system, having once needed temporary workers out in the East End for \$6-per-hour jobs and encountered a real shortage of them because of the four-hour bus ride required.

Segrest also said that the April 20 injunction in question is only to block the Cabel Street parking lot, and only because it newly puts truck parking lots on both sides of Butchertown — which would mean, he says, trucks and the associated noise and pollution going through Butchertown 20 hours a day.

Barry McMillan, an outgoing UFCW Local 227 official, said there would actually

be much *less* Swift truck traffic through Butchertown under the new plan, because the trucks would simply not be routed through that neighborhood. Instead, they would come in a "back way" by River Road.

Besides, said McMillan, the trucks are obviously parking somewhere now (in fact, in three separate areas); the new setup would just consolidate parking. McMillan also said that the only two houses that will be passed on the River Road route are already being passed now. Indeed, Sean McHugh, a spokesperson for Swift's headquarters in Greely, Colo., said that all trucks under the new layout would be parked more than 200 yards from the nearest residences.

Barbara Stallard, who is 61 and an 18-year Swift employee, said that the people in those and other residences, in any case, likely had ancestors who worked in the plant or may even have done so themselves in lean times. Now, though, they were "out" and were turning their backs on Swift and especially the workers. Stallard went on to say that safety in the plant was pretty good — steel gloves, mesh aprons down to the knees, etc. There is not much injury, she said; carpal tunnel syndrome is probably the most frequent malady, and you can learn to "keep up" in about six weeks.

Stallard also estimated that 50 percent of Swift workers would lose their jobs if the plant were moved off the bus lines and into the suburbs, and McMillan confirmed that many of the workers came to work by bus, bicycle, etc.

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Cobble's punishment doesn't fit alleged act

by Eustace Durrett and Ike M. Thacker IV

Daniel Cobble is yet another ebony man who has run afoul of the ivory-colored U.S. criminal-justice system. On May 26, he was arrested for defacing federal government property.

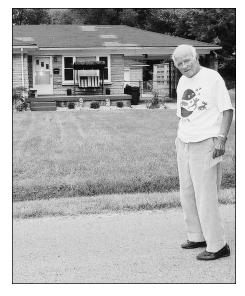
His alleged crime consisted of pouring tar on the outside steps and indoor floor of the federal courthouse here in Louisville, Kentucky. His motive was to be arrested so that he could bring up in a federal courtroom many constitutional violations in the federal justice system that he thought evident and significant.

To date, about three months after his arrest on a charge of what is surely a relatively minor and totally nonviolent offense, no bond or court date has been set. Apparently, Cobble is to be held indefinitely, with no way to get out of prison. Surely this is a case where the punishment does not fit the crime.

Press reports about the Cobble case May 27 referred to him merely as a "dishwasher" who had filed several lawsuits and

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Henry Wallace's bold words live at memorial tribute



— photo by Eddie Davis Henry Wallace stands in front of a Shively house in 2004 which was the center of a civil rights struggle he supported 50 years earlier.

by George Morrison FORsooth editor

Henry Wallace tried to point readers of the Courier-Journal and the Louisville Times toward a world where everyone has bread, land, health care, education and peace. Wallace, a radical journalist, farmer and unofficial curator of his own zoo, often enraged well-off Louisvillians by condemning racism in letters to the papers and praising Cuba and North Vietnam.

Wallace, who died April 19 at 90, inspired the oppressed and sometimes puzzled people by mixing financial wealth with Marxist politics.

A memorial tribute to him held July 26, the date of the start of the Cuban revolution, included music by some of his six children. Music is just one of the remarkable and varied talents the six have contributed to the community and other parts of the world, including documentary filmmaking, writing, savvy political organizing and careful stewardship of nature.

The service at Masterson's restaurant

also included the unveiling of the Henry Wallace Brigade, a delegation to Cuba geared to help members learn about the revolution and culture of the nation. It is tentatively planned for December 26 to January 3. For more information, or to help financially, call (502) 228-7123.

Some of Wallace's bold and unsettling letters to the editor were read aloud at Masterson's. Following are excerpts, with dates of publication:

June 11, 1962

Call F.O.R. at 502/458-8056

"A number of persons concerned with my future have urged that I move to Cuba.... They are entitled to know why I continue to live here.... The answer is that in Cuba there are native leaders (carrying out) a reform program which is already giving the impoverished masses their first ray of hope in 400 years and which is showing the way to the rest of Latin America.

"It is here in my own country that the radical left has work to do, with the military industrial complex of warfare state marching like a juggernaut toward nuclear disaster, with congressmen who think \$1.25 an hour is too high a minimum wage, with negros denied their civil rights, with 50 million Americans poorly fed, badly clothed and miserably housed. Those of us who believe in social justice have a sacred duty right here to do our best to right these obvious wrongs.

"In conformist America, where the slightest dissent from the official line is unpardonable heresy, where the commercial press is the mouthpiece of the government, where the two major parties are

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Pilgrimage's end Sept. 11 to include release of book

As walkers observe 100 years of Gandhian nonviolence by completing a pilgrimage on foot Sept 11 from Nelson County to Louisville, the Kentucky Coalition to Abolish the Death Penalty will announce the release of the book "Politics, Religion and Death: A Memoir of a Lobbyist," by Carl Wedekind.

A program starting at 5 p.m. in Louisville's Central Park Sept 11 will follow the conclusion of the five-day, 52-mile Gandhi-Merton Pilgrimage for Peace and Non-violence, which starts Sept. 7 at the Abbey of Our Lady of Gethsemani, where celebrated monk Thomas Merton lived and wrote on spiritual, ecumenical and social justice matters.

Interfaith Paths to Peace, which is organizing the pilgrimage, said the journey will end at the intersection of Fourth Street and Muhammad Ali Boulevard in downtown Louisville, where Merton had a realization in the late 1950s of love for all humanity that spurred him to work for peace and justice. Sept. 11 marks the 100th anniversary of Mohandas Gandhi unveiling his plan to free India from British rule nonviolently, the IPP noted.

At the Central Park event, speeches, music and prayer will precede Wedekind speaking about the campaign to rid Kentucky of its death penalty and his many journeys to the Kentucky capitol.

His 200-page book will be on sale at the park for \$16.96, said the IPP, which added that the price elsewhere includes shipping and is \$19.94. Visit www.kcadp.org to read a full review and to order through PayPal.

For more information about the events, contact Kentucky Coalition to Abolish the Death Penalty coordinator Kaye Gallagher at kcadp@earthlink.net or Interfaith Paths to Peace director Terry Taylor at Terry@InterfaithPathsToPeace.org or (502) 214-7322.

Again back down from tree, Julia Butterfly Hill to speak

Environmental activist and author Julia Butterfly Hill, who missed coming to Louisville as scheduled June 8 because she was up a tree in Los Angeles, is on her way to Louisville.

Hill, who spoke by telephone to a crowd in Louisville while in the tree to protest a plan by the city of Los Angeles to evict farmers from land they were cultivating so the city could sell the property to developers, will speak Sunday, Sept. 17 from 2 to 6 p.m. at a workshop organized by Cultivating Connections. Registration is required and there will be a \$25 fee for the workshop, which will be held at Thomas Jefferson Unitarian Church, 4936 Brownsboro Rd.

Hill will also speak Tuesday, Sept. 19 at 7 p.m. at Frazier Hall at Bellarmine University, 2001 Newburg Rd.

For more information or to register for the Sept. 17 workshop, call Cultivating Connections at (502) 897-2721 or e-mail cultivating connections@insightbb.com. The group said in late August that some scholarships and work-studies were available for the workshop.

Cultivating Connections said of the workshop: "Through conversation, dialogue, and processes we will examine both the calling and responsibility to stand and act for peace and justice. We will explore perspectives and methods that help us approach direct action and dissent in a healthy, nonviolent manner.

"We will work to get past the base 'us vs. them' mentality to a place of understanding and acceptance that lays the ground work for dialogue and a true evolution of action and ideas.'

What is single payer health care?

Dr. Steffie Woolhandler to Speak in Louisville



Thursday, Sept. 14, 7:00 PM

Centennial Room Louisville Free Public Library 4th and York

Steffie Woolhandler, MD, MPH, is Associate Professor of Medicine at Harvard University and a cofounder of Physicians for a National Health Program.

The vast majority in our nation now believes we need health care for all. On that we agree. The question is: "What policy, what system will achieve universal, high quality, health care for everyone." Steffie Woolhandler advocates a single payer system and explains why. She believes we need to stop repeating our errors and "get it right." She's done the research, and she has the data at her command. There will be time for

Admission free. Public invited.

Dr. Woolhandler co-authored the study on medical bankruptcies. You can listen to her interview on that topic here:

www.democracynow.org/article.pl?sid=05/02/04/1537243

Dr. Woolhandler's interview on the Massachusetts Health Care Plan:

http://www.fair.org/index.php?page=2862

Physicians for a National Health Program KY: kyhealthcare@aol.com Kentuckians for Single Paver Healthcare KSPH: (502) 636-1551 General Meetings, 3rd Thursday of each month at 5:30 pm Board Rm, Mezzanine, Public Library, 4th and York Further info: www.kyhealthcare.org, www.pnhp.org

Rail car storage topic of eco-justice tour Sept. 29

by Gracie Lewis

An Environmental Justice Tour will be traveling during the last week of September. The Southeast region tour bus is scheduled to stop in Louisville on Friday, September 29.

The issue of concern in our town will be "The Storage of Rail Cars Near Schools and Residences and Notification of Chemical Incidents.'

Eboni Neal-Cochran has asked Fred Miller to speak about a recent federal law that allows local governments to draft

regulations related to the temporary storage of hazardous chemicals in rail cars. Activities for Friday will include canvassing the neighborhood. Organizers hope ctivist friends will join in this effort.

A luncheon or dinner program is planned while the tour is in town. The social justice and surrounding community is invited. For more information, call (502) 551-4734.

The writer is an activist with REACT, a group fighting pollution in West Louisville.



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FORsooth

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Staff

Editor	George Morrison
	Jean Edward
Production manager	Barbara Powers
Bulk mailing	Beverley Marmion

91 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.

Phil Schervish 558-7175 Cochairs:

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Kaminer: two states required

by Ike M. Thacker IV and Eustace Durrett

Reuven Kaminer, a longtime Israeli academician and peace activist who is an avowed atheist and a member of one of that country's three Arab political parties, presented a convincing and subtle case June 22 for the proposition that only a two-state solution can end the crushing sadness and heartbreak that Middle Eastern hatreds have created.

Kaminer spoke at the League of Women Voters building — which was appropriate especially because his wife (who was silently present) is a noted peace advocate in her own right, having been one of the original seven women keeping vigil as Israeli "Women in Black" in December 1987. Mr. Kaminer was born in Detroit, but he and his wife have lived in Israel almost continuously since 1951.

The Louisville Committee for Israeli Palestinian States, the lead sponsor of the event, was formed in spring 1989 from members of the Fellowship of Reconciliation and of the local Arab and Jewish communities. The Committee caught the Kaminers in one of their rare extended trips to the United States; and Reuven Kaminer did not disappoint. Early in his presentation, he pointed out that (despite the yelps of the 200,000 Israeli settlers on occupied Palestinian land who think God put them there) if Israel gave back every grain of Palestinian sand, only 22 percent of her territory would be lost.

The Israelis, though, said Kaminer, persist doggedly in their occupation of Palestinian territories; this fact may lead to the end of Israel's very existence, he asserted. You just don't cruelly dominate three and one-half million people for some 39 years (since the Six-Day War of June 1967) and get away with it, especially in a region where virtually every other country works for your defeat if not destruction, he explained.

The United States in Iraq is already learning, too, that "occupation corrupts," Kaminer added, noting the Haditha massacre after only about two years of domination.

It appears that ordinary Israelis are, if only belatedly, beginning to realize this fact, too, he said, noting the result of the recent elections there was the decisive defeat of Netanyahu, Likud, the settlers, and the right generally. Likud's share of the vote dropped precipitously, from 30 percent to 10 percent; and the "moderate" Ariel Sharon won handily, only to be incapacitated by multiple strokes. This Sharon, of course, is the same Ariel who had been the very "bulldozer" who cleared the way for settlements.

Kaminer said Sharon felt his hand was forced by plans advocated by European nations and many others, all of which said Israel *had* to go back to pre-1967 borders, period.

Similarly, he told the crowd, the recent Palestinian elections, in which the radical fundamentalist group Hamas was victorious, show that ordinary Palestinians now find the status quo thoroughly unacceptable.

"If al Fatah can't win for us," Kaminer said the voters seem to have said, "then we'll look elsewhere" — even more recently, to war through another fundamentalist group based largely in Lebanon, Hezbollah.

Thus have the Palestinian people proven beyond the shadow of a doubt — through use, Kaminer admits, of tactics of which he may not exactly approve, and despite multiple betrayals — that no Israeli economic or military superiority can keep them from getting a Palestinian state. But at the same time, Kaminer avers, Israel has shown that no current force is capable of causing its end or of "driving Israel into the sea" (here he quotes Gramsci, a Marxist writer, and elsewhere uses the term "dialectic" — apparently Kaminer is influenced by Marx).

So, we must look for a *two*-state solution to the Israeli-Palestinian chronic

Ending the Israeli Occupation of Palestine is an AMERICAN Issue

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

at the VIGIL

12 Noon – 1:00 PM each Friday Corner of 6th Street & Broadway Louisville, Kentucky

Louisville Committee for Israeli/Palestinian States (502.451.5658) www.louisvillepeace.org/twostates.html

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

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

KITLAC Kentucky Interfaith Taskforce on Latin America and the Caribbean



Kentucky delegation to Venezuela Winter/Spring 2007

KITLAC is organizing a Witness for Peace delegation to Venezuela in early 2007. We will have the unique opportunity to meet directly with Venezuelan civil society leaders to gain an understanding of the "human face" of US policy towards Venezuela.

Planning and outreach will begin soon, and we'd like anyone interested to be a part of it.

Please contact us if you are interested at kitlac@yahoo.com

Amy Shelton 561.9120

crisis, Kaminer said. If there is to be one, he said, it will be based on three principles:

- Israel must shrink to its pre-June 1967 borders;
- There must be a Palestinian capital established in Jerusalem.
- The Palestinian people must see a "basic, revolutionary" improvement in their overall (economic etc.) situation.

Corresponding to these three principles, Kaminer added, are three reasons why no *one*-state solution will work:

- Neither the Palestinians nor the Israelis want one state each side wants its own state, complete with a flag, independence, etc.
- Nobody on the international scene wants a one-state solution, either.
- The "liberal/socialist utopia" that many had imagined Israel would become just didn't happen.

Kaminer concluded his remarks by placing the Palestinian-Israeli conflict in international perspective. It is, he said, just one of three current Middle-East crises, the other two being in Iraq and Iran. In pursuit of the former, Kaminer said, the realist Condoleezza Rice admits there have been a "thousand" mistakes, whereas the ideologue Donald Rumsfeld admits none at all ("without blemish"). Through it all, President Bush is trying to stay the neoconservative course, but succeeding, if at all, only with great difficulty.

On the United States, by the way, Kaminer is at least somewhat optimistic, believing that we now have a "fighting chance" at boosting the cause of a just settlement in the Mideast and that "Israel will not fight the United States to keep the territories."

And fight, he said, is what we must do: "We must fight day-to-day against the occupation," for it is a shameful thing indeed, said Kaminer. The fact that the Palestinians' Arab "brothers" have treated them badly, talking a good game while consorting with Israel in business and other matters, is no excuse for us to copy, especially since there is a "majority position" even within Israel against the occupation, he said.

Despite this majority position among her citizens, though, official Israel refuses to negotiate without preconditions, which, Kaminer said, makes it very difficult to support her, in spite of Arab terrorists etc. Another factor which has this effect is the fact that Israel is sucking water out from under Palestinian lands for its own use, he added.

Hamas, Hezbollah, and international censure are all Israeli creations as well as being Israeli banes, Kaminer said. Israel can help Palestinian and international moderates by moderating her positions; and people in the U.S., said Kaminer, are beginning to realize that we *can* have Israel as an important strategic ally *without* illgotten Palestinian territories.

Coordinator sought

Affordable Housing Trust Fund seeks an Affordable Housing Trust Fund Campaign Coordinator for 15 hours per week. This temporary position is funded for 7 months minimum, with the possibility of employment for longer. The Coordinator would plan, coordinate & facilitate Louisville AHTF Working Group meetings, coordinate & track legislative movement, coordinate with and participate in the Housing Action Team, mobilize Community Supporters, educate the community on the need for a local Affordable Housing Trust Fund. Please send all resumes BY U.S. MAIL ONLY to MHC, P.O. Box 4533, Louisville, Ky 40204.

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Quality is job 1 – minus the job – for giant auto maker

"The sun never sets on the British empire" was a saying used to describe its worldwide piracy. But the sun set on that empire, as it did on the Roman, Austro-Hungarian, Ottoman and so many other inhumanities.

Within the U.S. sultanate, the current big holder of the wage-slave whip, General Motors has been the exemplar of corporate capital control, as in the old saying: "What's good for General Motors is good for the USA." But private enterprise can't breathe unless it expands, and so if you look under the hood of a "made-in-the-USA" car you will see parts from all over the world.

And now, General Motors, Ford and Chrysler — the Big Three "U.S." auto makers — are in deep trouble. Foreign small cars are in, gas guzzlers are walking the plank. Through merger and otherwise, if they are American, then they are also European (Daemler-Chrysler, not Chrysler-Daemler). And now, shiver me timbers (for you who are under age 60, it means "holy defecation"), they may soon be dancing to the beat of Japanese, Korean and French batons. Bilge-sucking has gone global.

Here in Louisville, Ford Motor Company's two factories, the Louisville (Auto) Assembly Plant and the Kentucky Truck Plant, announce six- and five-week layoffs — part of a national plan, the Courier-Journal reported Aug. 19, "to slash fourth-quarter production by 21 percent, or 168,000 vehicles, to reduce mounting inventories. Next month, Ford is scheduled to announce details of its restructuring plan, which could call for more permanent job cuts.

"During the second half of 2005, company officials said several times that they were working on a plan that would involve cuts because Ford had more plants than its sales justified."

They key phrase is: "Reduce mounting inventories." Now, I ain't nothin' but a retired unskilled factory worker, but let me throw somethin' out to y'all. What if-what if-each company did not secretly compute and estimate future sales and thus plan production segmentally? What if these buccaneers all joined forces and did it together-for the public good?

To answer this we have to know how Mr. Wilson, then the CEO of GM, responded to the chair of a U.S. Senate committee, many years ago. The latter queried declaratively, as in make-small-talk first: "And General Motors is in the business of making automobiles." Whereupon Mr. Wilson, in an unguarded paroxysm of candor, responded: "No, senator. General Motors is not in the business of making automobiles. General Motors is in the business of making money."

We have to know this to understand that when the ecstasy of corporate greed meets the agony of worker future employment uncertainty, a crisis results. The seven assembly plants and seven parts plants Ford plans to close will disrupt the lives and livelihoods of more than 35,000 workers.

As the old Wobbly poem puts it: We have fed you all for a thousand years

And you hail us still unfed.
For there's never a dollar of all your gold
But marks the workers dead.
We have yielded our best
To give you rest
And you lie on crimson wool.
And if blood be the price of all your wealth,
Good God, we have paid it in full.

But, not to worry. Companies take care of their own. Northwest Airlines is laying off a whole bunch of its loyal employees in its move out of bankruptcy — never mind the workers' bankruptcy.

"To help prepare employees for possible job losses or transitions, Northwest sent out a 165-page handbook titled 'Ground Operations Restructuring Q&A and Employee Support,' "Michelle Singletary reported August 24 in the Washington Post.

In its section, "Coping With Job Loss," NWA lists "101 Ways to Save Money," to wit: "Buy spare parts for your car at the junkyard. Get hand-me-down clothes and toys for your kids from family and friends. Take a shorter shower. Buy old furniture at yard sales and refinish it yourself. Volunteer two hours a month at a food-sharing program to get reduced-cost food. Hang clothes out to dry. Borrow a dress for a big night out or go to a consignment shop. Ask your doctor for samples of prescriptions. Don't be shy about pulling something you like out of the trash."

Northwest CEO Doug Steenland, and others, apologized, after the fact, for their insensitivity. So now I am completely relieved that corporate decency has returned to its high integrity level, once again.

But there are, dear readers, decent human beings who have walked the earth. One of them was a dear friend and colleague, Victoria Gray Adams, a leader, in the 1960s, of the Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party (MFDP). African



Americans were at that time not allowed to join the racist Democratic Party of Mississippi, so the MFDP was created.

Sister Gray Adams was also the first woman to run for the U.S. Senate. She was from a small hamlet near Hattiesburg, Miss., where I was a civil rights worker in the 1960s.

Her life was one of dignity, resistance, compassion, dedication. Please allow me to include the following, which I wrote to Sister Vicky on June 5, soon after we surmised that she would not live much longer:

"Do you remember when you and I stood in front of a large audience to pay tribute to the memory of that amazing sparkplug of the Hattiesburg movement, Johnnie Mae Walker? We were in New York City (or was it Washington D.C.?) and Johnnie Mae had recently passed. We were at a meeting of the National Committee for Independent Political Action. How elegant you were then, and now.

"I'll be in Philadelphia, Miss.in two weeks, attending the 42nd annual commemoration of the martyrdom of Chaney, Schwerner and Goodman. And I know you will be standing tall at our side. Bless you."

Victoria Gray Adams was 79 years old when she passed.

Mailbag

The July-August column, focusing on Israel, Lebanon, and the Occupied Palestinian territories, elicited many responses. Thank you — it makes the effort to put out a column almost every month worthwhile. Space permits comment on only a few.

One reader liked the substance, but objected to so many quotes. I did this for effect, quoting prominent Israelis who oppose their country's aggression. But I think the criticism is correct. Actually, I should also have referenced Lebanese and Palestinian intellectuals as well.

Another letter questioned my spelling "Hizbollah," saying it should be "Hezbollah." I have seen it spelled both ways, although the latter is more common. Similarly, the New York Times wrote "Yasir Arafat" while most people spell the name "Yasser." I once visited Mr. Arafat in his muqtada in Ramallah in the West Bank, and saw a Palestinian document with the spelling "Yasir."

Most who emailed me praised the column. One who did not, however, wrote: "I miss your logic when you deny the right of a people to fight for their land, but, instead, insist they should

accept occupation." I have always felt, and stated, that the Israeli occupation is the main stumbling block to peace, and I have never said Palestinians should accept occupation.

Further, most Palestinians today recognize the Green Line (pre-1967 border) as the boundary of their state. That is, they accept a plan whereby 22 percent of their original land goes for the Palestinian state in the West Bank and Gaza, and 78 percent does not.

Is this just? No. Is it reality? Yes, or, rather, not yet - since Israel keeps grabbing more and more land, and who knows whether even 22 percent will be the final boundary?

My critic made a second point, regarding Hizbollah: "if we use your premise any nationalist movement you deem 'reactionary' should not be supported, leaving the population in perpetual bondage until they come up with a program to your liking." No, dear reader, you distort my view, which clearly pointed out: "Hizbollah, the Lebanese Shia Islamic group founded in 1982 to fight the Israeli occupation of southern Lebanon."

Hizbollah, nonetheless, is narrow nationalist. I support national struggles for liberation; I do not support reactionary politics that do not differentiate between a people and a government. I remember, on a trip to Nicaragua many years ago, hearing a Sandinista leader saying: "Hay una diferencia entre el gobierno de los estados unidos y el pueblo de los estados unidos (there is a difference between the government of the U.S. and the people of the U.S.)."

Contact Ira Grupper at irag@iglou.com.



MISSION AGAINST TERROR

MISSION AGAINST TERROR is a critically acclaimed film that raises the question: "Why are people who fight terrorism imprisoned in the U.S. while known terrorists are allowed to walk the streets of Miami freely?" It follows the case of the five Cubans currently serving long sentences in U.S. jails for trying to prevent terrorist attacks on Cuba. It also depicts the long history of violence against innocent Cubans by right-wing groups based in Miami that are supported by the U.S. government.

September 12, 2006 marks the beginning of the eighth year of incarceration of the Cuban 5. September also marks the 30th anniversary of the assassination of Orlando Letelier and Ronnie Moffit in Washington, DC. Letelier was Chile's ambassador to the U.S. while Salvador Allende was president of Chile. The two were murdered by Cuban counter-revolutionaries working closely with the CIA. October 6, 2006 will also mark the 30th anniversary of the bombing of Cubana flight #455 off the coast of Barbados by Luis Posada Carilles and Orlando Bosch. The civilian aircraft was blown up in flight killing all 73 on board. It was the Miami terror network of Bosch and Posada that the Cuban 5 were sent to monitor in order to prevent terror attacks on Cuba launched from south Florida.

Join Us WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 27TH 7:00pm

Highlands-Shelby Park Branch Louisville Free Public Library 1250 Bardstown Road (Mid-City Mall)

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Friends can be counted on, if computers can't always

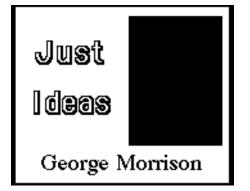
Late last year, I heard the worst two words one can hear in the 21st century.

"It's crashed." The repairman was talking about my hard drive's ability to connect to the internet, which was shot because some circuits had fried.

Buying a new hard drive would be less expensive than repairing it, but since my current one works just fine as a word processor, I just didn't want to make such an investment.

I would try to get along without daily in-home e-mail and the rest of the internet's amenities, a sobering prospect, since having no internet access largely means you have dropped out of the human race.

Furthermore, it meant doing FOR sooth in another location than my home. After almost four years of editing and designing this newspaper with the instantaneous ability to, check, say, the full name of the Brookings Institution, or the facts surrounding the U.S and British coup against Iran in 1952 (those are two things I



remember checking with the internet before the crash) I didn't want to give it up.

I am a night owl and do much work on this paper well after libraries have closed, so to keep the information highway open to me, I asked two friends if I could impose myself on them for a couple or three days each month to do the many tasks that result in your FORsooth.

They were Bill Wolfe and Ivonne

Rovira, residents of Louisville's Highlands and the parents of three children ages 16 to 12. Yes, those ages say it all - a family already harried enough without someone camping out two or three days a month in their home to take advantage of their high speed internet connection.

We had been friends for more than 10 years and I had done extensive child care

The fact that I won't be doing FORsooth at their home is the least of the consequences of our parting company, and I am very appreciative on behalf of the whole FOR for the Wolfe-Roviras' generous lending of their home so that this newspaper could continue. For now, I am getting by using public library computers in spot fashion to receive and send

We shared so much, but friendships – like hard drives – crash, too.

for them when Alex, Laura and Phillip were younger and Ivonne, an FOR member, often lobbied in Frankfort for more open and honest government as executive director of Common Cause Kentucky. Bill, then as now, worked as a reporter and editor for the Courier-Journal.

We shared so much, but friendships - like hard drives - crash, too.

information by the internet and doing just fine using the word processing function at home.

Another friend, FOR sooth contributor and FOR member Ike Thacker, will soon be connected to high speed internet service and said I am welcome to use his service for the honorable task of getting the word out about nonviolence and justice.

MMMMMMMMM



The Gandhi-Merton Pilgrimage for Peace And Non-Violence

SEPTEMBER 7-11, 2006

An Interfaith walk from the Abbey of Gethsemani To Louisville Led by **Fr. John Dear, SJ** and **Author Phil Cousinea**u

Photograph of Thomas Merton by Sibylle Akers. Used with permission of the Merton Legacy Trust and the Thomas Merton Center at Bellarmine University

Join us!

For a Free, City-wide Interfaith Celebration of

The Pilgrimage of Non-violence

7:30 P.M. ON SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 2006

BEULAH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH 6704 Bardstown Rd, Louisville

Featuring Celebrated Peacemaker Fr. John Dear, SJ;
Phil Cousineau, award-winning author of *The Art of Pilgrimage*;
and the participants in the Gandhi/Merton Pilgrimage

Become a Peace Pilgrim! Walk the Final Mile of the Pilgrimage! Monday, September 11, 2006, 5:00 p.m. at Central Park

Join the Gandhi/Merton Pilgrims as they walk the final mile down Fourth Street to Muhammad Ali Boulevard.

Bring your friends and family, walk the final mile to 4th and Muhammad Ali. Then join us afterward at the Muhammad Ali Center for free refreshments and a reception honoring the pilgrims.

September 11 is the 5th anniversary of the attacks on New York and Washington, but it is also the Centennial of Mahatma Gandhi s first non-violent campaignwhich began on September 11, 1906. Please join us as we mark these anniversaries with a commitment to nonviolence.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

Call (502) 214-7322 or e-mail Terry@InterfaithPathsToPeace.org



Letters to FORsooth

The headlines jump out to us: "Bush: Democrats wrong on Iraq." Who in their right mind would see our involvement in this war as anything less than a misguided perception as to our proper role in world affairs?

In the heat of the day, we seem to have forgotten that Bush's original reason for pushing the button of armed conflict against a nation that did not raise a military threat to our country, was the mythical story that "weapons of mass destruction" were poised against us. What a whopper!

So here we are... several years later, still waging a no-win war, unable to extricate ourselves so that George Bush can save face until he's out of office. It is a shameful testimony to the traditions of our nation, that many crucial domestic programs undergo budget cuts, in order to feed an unjust war.

If you who are reading this would only ask yourself this question: "What would it mean to the people of this nation to wipe the slate clean and make a fresh start?" Vote Democratic!

Anthony P. Hasson Louisville



September 2006 Page 5

REMEMBERING **HENRY WALLACE**

Henry's life was celebrated with a glorious dinner on July 26, 2006 at Masterson's Restaurant in downtown Louisville. The program, carried out by Henry's children and grandchildren, was fascinating.

One part featured the reading of some of Henry's letters to the editor of our local newspaper. They were always short and to the point. I have saved one such letter and his picture in the drawer where I keep postage stamps, so that I continue to think of him. This particular letter was written when the debate about prayer in public schools was raging.



Prayer is for churches

I note between yawns that someone once again wants to install mandatory Christian prayer in Oldham County public schools. How about Muslim prayer? How about Shinto prayer? Or Confucian prayer? Hindu? Religions are separate but equal. Personally I prefer the Caramisuki faith, a breakaway from the Caramachiskis. We worship the devil on the theory that he is bad and can hurt you if you don't cozy up to him, while God is good and you have nothing to fear from Him. Prayer is for churches, not schools.

My best memory of Henry, however, is about the role he played in helping us start the Louisville chapter of the Fellowship of Reconciliation. This story also highlights what might happen as a result of getting arrested and spending some time in a jail cell.

It so happened in 1975 when the Vietnam War was finally over that many peace activists were taking a rest after ten strenuous war years. George Edwards, however, a professor at the Presbyterian Seminary had been reading FELLOWSHIP, published monthly by the national office of the Fellowship of Reconciliation. He was especially moved by the articles that Richard Deats wrote explaining that the administration in Washington was moving ever forward to bolster the military industrial complex (about which President Eisenhour had issued strong warnings).

Although George had never met Richard Deats, he was very eager to bring him to Louisville for an extended speaking engagement. He began searching around for some way to

Calendar (continued from back page)

Sept 25 (Mon) F.O.R. STEERING COMMITTEE (every 4th Monday). Presbyterian Seminary, 1044 Alta Vista Road, Nelson Hall, #10, 7:30pm. Visitors welcome. Call Phil Schervish, 451-6638 or Dennis Bricking, 895-8516.

Sept 26 (Tue) KCADP (Ky Coalition to Abolish the Death Penalty) every last Tuesday. Highland Presbyterian Church, 1011 Cherokee Road. 6:30pm. Call Kaye Gallagher, 721-8885 or Mark Meade, 541-9998. kcadp@earthlink.net

Sept 26-Oct 31 (Six Tuesdays) CREATING ABUNDANT LIFE COMMUNITIES. Exploring the new book by David Korten, The Great Turning: From Empire to Community, discussing the problems of war, terrorism, climate change and rising poverty. Presented by Marilyn Stoner, psychotherapist specializing in guided imagery and creativity, and David Tribble, massage therapist and student of communities as bodies that engender life. Center for Faith & Action, James Lees Presbyterian Church, 1741 Frankfort Ave, 7:00-9:00pm. \$60 plus book. Call 896-0172. www.faith-action.org

Sept 26 (Wed) "MISSION AGAINST TERROR", a film about the "Cuban Five" who are serving long prison terms in the U.S. for trying to protect Cuba from terror groups operating from Florida aimed at overthrowing the Cuban government. A local attorney from the National Lawyers Guild will talk briefly about the status of their appeal. Louisville Free Public Library in the Mid City Mall, 1250 Bardstown Road. Free. 7:00pm. Sponsored by Louisville Free the Five Committee, 917/623-1021. Fueldemocracy@yahoo.com

Sept 28 (Thu) FORsooth LABELING at Beverley Marmion's. 6:30pm. Please share your expertise and enjoy the conversation. We need you for one hour. Call Beverley, 451-5658.

Sept 29 (Fri) NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE TOUR BUS EXPECTED IN LOUISVILLE, focusing on "The Storage of Rail Cars Near Schools and Residences and Notification of Chemical Incidents." These tours are organized primarily by a coalition of more than 70 environmental justice, social justice, public health, human rights, and worker's rights groups. They seek to expose leaders to the devastating impact of toxic contamination on people of color and in poor communities across the United States. A musical event is planned for Saturday night to highlight connections between mountaintop removal in eastern Kentucky and air pollution in Louisville. Cosponsored by **REACT.** Call 551-4734.

Sept 30 (Sat) TOUR de SPIRIT: Ride Through Louisville's Great Neighborhoods, presented by National City and Chase. Register before 9/15 for \$25 (children \$7) and get a free t-shirt. Late fee \$30 (children \$10). Benefit for UrbanSpirit. Gifts are tax deductible. Register online with a credit card, or print a brochure and mail a check. www.urbanspirit.org/2006tourdespirit.htm

Sept 30 (Sat) VIPASSANA MEDITATION RETREAT (for beginners). Presented by Glenda Hodges-Cook, Director of the Center for Faith and Action. She has practiced vipassana meditation for thirty years. By focusing on moment-to-moment experience in the body and through the senses, we come to see the transitory nature of life and are able to cultivate greater compassion and equanimity. Takes place at the Barn behind St Agnes Catholic Church on Newburg Road. 9:30-4:00pm. Bring a cushion, light shawl and sack lunch. \$30 suggested. Call 896-0172

Oct 1 (Sun) FOCUS ON COLOMBIA. The Moderator of the Presbyterian Church of Colombia, the Rev.VILMA YANEZ, will be featured at a community potluck supper at Central Presbyterian Church, 4th & Kentucky Streets, 6:00pm. Her remarks will cover the political climate, the death threats, the "drug war" and more. Everyone cordially invited. Learn more by visiting www.PCUSA.org/peacemaking/intl/international.htm

Oct 1 (Sun) DARE TO CARE, Food Bank Festival on the Great Lawn at Waterfront Park, presented by Kroger. A fun family event. Watch for details.

Oct 3-24 (Four Tuesdays) T'AI CHI & CHI KUNG, Chinese exercises for strengthening flexibility and healing the physical body, and for calming and clearing the mind. Chi Kung breath, movement and meditation are included in each session. Presented by REBECCA MARTIN, PhD, counselor and educator in the fields of holistic health, metaphysics, energy systemes, parapsychology and east/west spirituality. Center for Faith & Action, James Lees Presbyterian Church, 1741 Frankfort Ave, 6-7pm. \$40. Call 896-0172.

Oct 4-25 (Four Wednesdays) INTRODUCTION TO CHRISTIAN SPIRITUALITY for those seeking to deepen their covenant relationship with God and to sustain this relationahip, presented by Dr. E. Glenn Hinson, Professor Emeritus at Baptist Theological Seminary at Richmond, Va. Center for Faith & Action, James Lees Presbyterian Church, 1741 Frankfort Ave, 7:00-9:00pm, \$50. Call 896-0172.

OUT OF TOWN EVENTS

Oct 20-22 (FSS) KENTUCKIANS FOR THE COMMONWEALTH, Annual Meeting and 25th

Anniversary Celebration! Hindman, Ky. Call 606/878-2161. Fax: 606/878-5714.

Oct 20-22 (FSS) NATIONAL WEEKEND OF FAITH IN ACTION ON THE DEATH PENALTY, sponsored by Amnesty International. **Kristin Houle, Coordinator.** Phone: 202/544-0200, ext.496. Fax: 202/546.7142. E-mail: khoule@aiusa.org. www.amnestyusa.org/abolish/sdpac

Winter/Spring 2007, KENTUCKY WITNESS FOR PEACE DELEGATION TO VENEZUELA. Meet directly with civil society leaders. Put a "human face" on US policy toward Venezuela. Sign up now! Call Amy Shelton, 561-9120. kitlac@yahoo.com

finance such an undertaking. His mind kept returning to the days of the open housing struggle of 1966-67 when he had found himself often marching side by side with **Henry Wallace**. They had ample opportunity to converse, especially in one instance when they sat next to each other on the cold floor of the jail cell where they were refused chairs or mattresses.

Their marching days continued through the Vietnam War, with Henry's wife and children usually joining in, so that a strong relationship developed. Thus it happened that George called Henry on the telephone one day to explain his wish to invite Richard, and Henry came up with \$500 to get the ball rolling. In those days \$500 could accomplish a great deal.

In determining possible speaking opportunities for Richard, they realized that through the Vietnam protests many strong friendships had resulted with individuals in key places throughout the area. Audiences were arranged at the Baptist Seminary, Bellarmine College, the University of Louisville, Spalding College, the Presbyterian Seminary, Lexington Theological Seminary and Berea College, in addition to a large city-wide gathering in Louisville. The time was ripe and the response to this peace message was overwhelming.

At the end of the week, voices were being heard about the need to have an ongoing peace group in Louisville. George invited all of those concerned to come to an organizational meeting. He arranged to have it at the Presbyterian Seminary. The small group of about eight people decided to form a Louisville Chapter of the Fellowship of Reconciliation. From that time on, until his death last spring, Henry always responded graciously and generously to encourage the growth of the organization.

Seeds were planted. A number of those who have served on the FOR Steering Committee are found in key places of leadership throughout the city. The message continues to come through despite strong militaristic forces at work.

RAYTHEON LANDS \$2 MILLION DOLLAR CONTRACT IN LOUISVILLE

The Louisville Military Industrial Complex Continues to Grow

An article appeared recently in "Business First" announcing that the Raytheon plant at the Airport Industrial Center in South Louisville has been selected to manufacture and test prototype guidance electronics systems for the Non Line-of-Sight Launch System precision attack missile.

Work is expected to begin by October under the \$2 million contract with the U.S. Army, according to John Eagles, director of public affairs for the local Raytheon operation.

The first prototype is scheduled to be delivered by next August. The plant will make 32 different prototypes through 2008, when it will be reviewed by the Army to see whether it will be chosen to manufacture the final version. By 2009, the Army plans to begin manufacturing 30,000 of the precision attack missiles.

The missiles are designed to attack both moving and stationary targets at ranges up to 25 miles. The missile includes a networked data link, providing in-flight updates to ground and airborne sensors.

(Many thanks to Marc Wessels for sending us this alert).

WAL-MART BIDS GERMANY "AUF WIEDERSEHEN"

After trying to crack the German market for nearly a decade, Wal-Mart Stores abandoned its efforts in the country as of July 28, 2006. All 85 of its stores were sold to Metro (at a discount!) a major German retailer. This comes just two months after Wal-**Mart** sold all 16 of its outlets in South Korea to a local retailer.

According to an article by Parmy Olson in **Forbes Small Business Attache** (7.28.06) Germany is a particularly tough market for Wal-Mart's brand of low-margin, high-volume retailing, which depends on keeping the company's labor and other costs low. This pull-out may indicate a growing trend.

In Britain, where Wal-Mart owns the number-two supermarket chain, Asda, the company missed its sales and profit goals last year, while rival J. Sainsbury has slowly been eating into its market share.

Indications are that Wal-Mart may begin to focus more on developing markets in Asia and the Americas.

Third Thursday Lunches

presented by the

Fellowship of Reconciliation

September 2006 to January 2007

Report from FOR's Fact-finding and Peace Mission to Iran September 21

rille Blakemore, Katherine Fulkerson, Gray Henry, Richard Humke, David Owen, Ona Owen and Emil Roy will report on their recent visit to Iran, during which they met with NGOs, visited many historical sites and made personal contact with Iranians of all ages. They will describe their journey, their impressions and their perspective on the outlook for peace between our nations

Advocacy for Development: The Peace Connection October 19

Larry Hollar, Bread for the World regional organizer, will discuss grassroots efforts to increase U.S. funding to meet the Millennium Development Goals to reduce hunger, poverty and disease and enhance education and the environment Kentuckians are being mobilized to support BFW's approach to justice advocacy

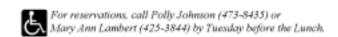
November 16 Single Payer: The Best Medicine for a Sick Health Care System

Garrett Adams, MD, Physicians for a National Health Program-KY and Kay Tillow, Kentuckians for Single Payer Healthcare, will explain how non-profit, publicly funded and privately delivered health care can solve the health care crisis in the U.S.

Blacks and Labor: Building a Movement Together

Attica Scott, Coordinator, Kentucky Jobs with Justice, will give a brief history of the subject, then explore some of the opportunities and tensions that exist as these groups support a progressive social justice movement and finally, suggest opportunities for action by identifying ways in which both groups can work more collaboratively

The Rudyard Kipling • 422 West Oak Street • Louisville Buffet Lunch at 11:30 • Presentations at Noon \$6.00 • Reservations required



Page 6 FOR sooth

January 18

Henry Wallace (continued from page 1)

different only in that one is symbolized by an elephant and the other by a jackass, there is a tremendous need... for constructive political criticism, for censure of stupid and venal policies at home and abroad."

April 3, 1970

"May I protest your continuing use of the words 'enemy' and 'foe' in referring to the Vietcong and North Vietnamese.... How can people who have never crossed my border nor fired a shot against my soil be my enemies?.... The Vietnamese peasant defending his land against local tyranny and foreign intrusion is not my foe, but my friend and I wish him well, along with his compatriots from the north who help him.

'You might say that those who oppose Washington's design to dominate Southeast Asia are our enemies because they are 'killing our boys.' But they wouldn't be killing them if our boys had not been sent illegally and often unwillingly 10,000 miles from home to kill Vietnamese boys and quite a few girls, babies and old women, too.'

March 18, 2000

"A letter writer said in your issue of March 11 'if Desmond Rudolph had been white (civil rights leader Louis) Coleman wouldn't have been heard from at all.' Exactly, because if Desmond Rudolph had been white, he wouldn't have been shot to death by two policemen."

April 13, 1999

"Ethnic cleansing? Our forefathers were professionals at it. How else did we come into possession of America the Beautiful from sea to shining sea? It was robbing, slaughtering and exiling to miserable concentration camps Native Americans, then generally referred to as 'redskins'....

'When Columbus invaded it in 1492, he began the most brutal and complete bit of ethnic cleansing in history. Let us hope that Slobidan Milosevich doesn't read our history and adopt the methods we employed."

March 5, 1975

"The death of my friend Carl Braden takes from us one of the most personable, determined and effective men iof our time who never ceased to devote his myriad talents to making the word a more decent place for all us to live. A dedicated leftist

radical, Carl was harassed and hounded by the lunatic rightwing conspiracy as well as by... the FBI.

"But he was more amused by their antics than annoyed as he went about his life's work of aiding and leading America's poor, underprivileged and exploited masses. Carl and his wife Anne along with their selfless associates are largely responsible for ... especially in the south... a new and promising era of civil rights and liberty, social justice and labor relations for which good people everywhere are in

"Like the late, great Che Guevara, Carl Braden could have said 'Wherever death may surprise us, let it be welcomed if our battle cry has reached even one receptive ear and another hand reaches out to take up our arms.' "

July 20, 1988

"As a parent of six children, one of them lesbian, I was encouraged by the turnout of some 250 persons for Louisville's second annual March for Justice, capping Gay-Lesbian Pride Week.

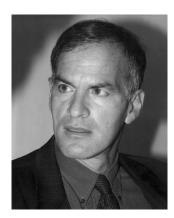
"While trudging over hot sidewalks from Central Park to the courthouse, I reflected on the time several years ago when my daughter told me 'Daddy, I want to change my name.' I asked what she wanted to change it to and she replied she wanted to take my mother's and her mother's maiden names. I told her 'no problem' and she made the change.

'Sometime later she announced to me: 'Daddy, I'm a lesbian.' I told her that was fine with me, adding that about 10 percent of our population was gay or lesbian. I assured her she had my continued love, support and admiration as she became, openly, a member of one of the world's most oppressed minorities.

"Next, she told me 'Daddy, I want to have a baby, but there won't be a man involved.' I said 'That sounds difficult.' But then she said she planned to be artificially inseminated. About a year later, she gave me a charming grandson, of whom I am as proud as I am proud of her, which is very proud.

"Just a while ago, she asked: 'Daddy, do you ever go to weddings.' I said I wasn't often invited and less often attended. But would you go to a ceremonial one, she pressed. I answered that if it would be her wedding, she could count on me. So now, I am keeping my only suit cleaned and pressed for the occasion."

The Louisville Committee for Peace in the Middle East presents



Norman Finkelstein

Image and Reality of the Israel-**Palestine Conflict**

Wednesday September 20, 2006 University of Louisville Strickler Hall Room 102 /:30 pm Belknap Campus (Easiest parking in Speed Museum Ramp)

Norman G. Finkelstein received his doctorate in 1988 from the Department of Politics, Princeton University, for a thesis on the theory of Zionism. He currently teaches political theory at DePaul University in Chicago.

Finkelstein is the author of five books:

Beyond Chutzpah: On the misuse of anti-Semitism and the abuse of history, The Holocaust Industry: Reflections on the exploitation of Jewish suffering, Image and Reality of the Israel-Palestine Conflict, A Nation on Trial: The Goldhagen thesis and historical truth named a "notable book of 1998" by the New York Times Sunday Book Review, it has been translated into three foreign languages, The Rise and Fall of Palestine: A personal account of the intifada years (University of Minnesota: 1996); translated into two foreign languages

Cosponsors include The University of Louisville Students United for Peace and Justice Department of Anthropology and the Muslim Student Association. For more information call 479-9262

Cobble (continued from page 1)

run a carpet-cleaning business. In fact, Cobble is so much more. He has one patent — for a "breathing" recreational-vehicle cover — to his credit, and very nearly received another for a relativity-enhanced crankshaft (not to mention a third invention, in which a file divider has a pouch attached to it).

And Cobble is one of the most idealistic and principled persons we have ever known. He fought city-county merger almost single-handedly, taking the case all the way to the Kentucky Supreme Court, and in what turned out to be a cruel irony even spent hundreds of hours trying to get the "system" to listen to him through the creation of the Pro Se' Plaintiffs and Litigants Association ("pro se" means a person serving as her or his own lawyer in court), known to him simply as the PPLA.

Cobble had tried to bring many violations to public attention and correction by a number of state and federal lawsuits. He had brought all of the suits pro se', acting as his own attorney. The government's implicit response was a letter in which Cobble was threatened that charges could be brought against him for practicing law without a license. In fact, he could not afford an attorney and was simply exercising his rights as a citizen. He prepared for his suits with extensive research at the University of Louisville Law Library.

Cobble told the judge that he would defend himself in the "tarring" case as well, but requested a public attorney to assist him on technical legal matters only. He was told that he could defend himself or accept a public attorney — all or nothing. Since he insisted on doing it his way, he was asked to take a psychological evaluation test.

Cobble refused and the court refused to give him a trial hearing date until he agreed to the test.

Cobble has still not agreed to submit to such a psychological evaluation. The U.S. government used to criticize the Soviet Union for placing dissidents in mental hospitals. Even if these charges against the Soviets were true, certainly they were no worse than this case.

Besides the refusal of a trial hearing date and the failure to set even the highest bond, Cobble has been refused access to a law library and the transcripts of his court appearances. The government did say he could have copies of the transcripts at 50 cents per page. There are some hundreds or even thousands of pages; with Cobble's financial situation he obviously couldn't afford this.

On August 20, between 3 and 4 a.m., Cobble was transferred from a prison in Kentucky to one in Oklahoma.

Neither his wife nor any other relative or friend was informed of this transfer. Pina, his wife, found out from a relative of another prisoner.

After being incarcerated for nearly three months without a bond or hearing date being set, the difficulty of obtaining transcripts, and the refusal to allow him to have a civic attorney to help him defend himself (the Sixth Amendment refers to the right to "assistance" of an attorney), Cobble, with this transfer to Oklahoma, has been almost totally isolated beyond reach of even his wife. Pina works in child care at \$6 per hour, hardly the income to travel from Kentucky to Oklahoma.

We remember that there's something in the U.S. Constitution about cruel and unusual punishment, especially when you haven't been convicted.

Jobs at Swift

This is not very surprising when one realizes, as Jesse Harris of the UFCW (he is also State Labor Chair for the NAACP and serves on the board of the Kentucky Alliance Against Racist and Political Repression) has said, that "at least 70 percent" of the employees at Swift & Co. are either members of minority groups or are women and he said that more than onethird of the employees, about 300, are African-Americans.

Swift, in fact, is one of the prime providers of good union-wage jobs for African-Americans in all of Metro Louisville, Harris said.

And Swift does not employ only African-Americans, but other minorities and oppressed groups (such as Hispanics (continued from page 1)

and ex-felons) as well. People can walk, ride their bicycles, or ride the bus and still get to their jobs at Swift's current location. This situation would be very difficult to duplicate if the plant moved. In short, Butchertown came by its name honestly: a lot of "butchering" takes place in and around its environs. Thus it has been for more than 100 years; and the Swift

employment to more than 1,000 people, many of whom would likely have trouble getting good jobs elsewhere. Keeping Swift open and in its current location is a justice issue. Groups such as the Louisville Branch NAACP and the Kentucky Alliance have already passed

plant in which much of this is done provides

resolutions in support of the workers and union at Swift Packing in

Butchertown.

Your group can do the same, or provide even more concrete help, by calling the UFCW Local 227 at (502) 582-3508. The local can provide a model resolution, if desired; by signing on, you will be supporting some very deserving, diverse and hardworking folks.

Ike M. Thacker IV, of Louisville, is an advocate for radical socioeconomic equity, focusing especially on housing issues. Eustace Durrett, of Frankfort, is an advocate for economic equality and rail transit.

FINANCIAL REPORT **July 2006**

BEGINNING BALANCE\$4,991.40

FORsooth ad revenue	30.00
Contributions	305.00
TOTAL\$5	5,326.40
EXPENDITURES:	
FORsooth Editing \$150.00	
FORsooth Layout 100.00	
FORsooth Printing 264.00	
FORsooth Mailing 212.00	
FOR National Dues 75.00	
Banking fee 5.00	
Office Expenses 33.31	
<u> </u>	\$839.31

ENDING BALANCE.....\$4,487.09

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



PLEASE SEND CONTRIBUTIONS TO:

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

September 2006 Page 7

Calendar for peacemakers

- Sept 3 (Sun) CARLA'S LAWN PARTY, hosted under the big trees at Carla's home. Proceeds benefit the Fairness Campaign and the Kentucky Alliance Against Racist and Political Repression (longtime allies in the struggle to build a community where ALL people are treated with dignity and equal rights). Delicious dinner catered by the Wiltshire Pantry. Sliding scale donations \$15 to \$500. Your RSVP is requested. Call 893-0788. e-mail: fairness@fairness.org
- Sept 3 (Sun) **VIGIL FOR PEACE** every first Sunday evening remembering all those suffering from conflicts in the Middle East. Bring a sign or 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.louisvllepeace.org
- Sept 4 (Mon) **CELEBRATE LABOR DAY AT THE LOUISVILLE Z00** with **Kentucky Jobs with Justice**,1100 Trevilian Way, l0am to 3pm. Call 625-3724.
- Sept 4 (Mon) WALKING IN THE WORLD (Mondays through Oct 2). Exploring individual creativity, sequel to the entry for Sept 5. Presented by GLENN RAYMOND, Center for Faith & Action, 1741 Frankfort Ave, 7-9pm, \$60 plus text. 896-0172. www.faith-action.org
- Sept 5 (Tue) **THE ARTIST'S WAY** (Tuesdays through Oct 3), Opening one's thinking to develop the artist within, drawing from the book, *The Artist's Way A Spiritual Path to Higher Creativity*, by Julia Cameron. \$60 plus text. 7-9pm. Presented by **GLENN RAYMOND**, artist, teacher, counselor.
- Sept 6-8 (WTF) "SCHOOL INTEGRATION: Past, Present and Future." A Conference commemorating the struggles and victories during 50 years of integration in the Public Schools. Sponsored by NAACP, Louisville branch. Freedom Fund Banquet will be the closing event of the Education Conference, featuring Bruce S. Gordon, President and CEO of the National NAACP. The public is invited. Hyatt Regency Hotel. \$70 Call 502/776-7608. e-mail: kathryn@lounaacp.com
- Sept 7 (Thu) INTERFAITH DINNER DIALOGUE, with Hindu, Buddhist, Christian, Jewish, Muslim participation. At the Hindu Temple, 4213 Accomack Drive, 5:30 to 8:30pm. \$6.00. To register call Highland Community Ministries, 451-3695.
- Sept 7-1l (TFSSM) GANDHI-MERTON PILGRIMAGE FOR PEACE AND NONVIOLENCE. An Interfaith Walk from the Abbey of Gethsemani to Louisville. Led by John Dear, SJ and Phil Cousineau, author of *The Art of Pilgrimage*. Celebration of the Pilgrimage will take place on Sunday, Sept 10 at Beulah Presbyterian Church, 6704 Bardstown Rd, Louisville at 7:30pm, with John Dear and Phil Cousineau speaking. On Monday, Sept Il everyone is invited to gather at 5:00pm at Central Park and walk the final mile down 4th street to Muhammad Ali Blvd, the site where Merton had a realization that led to his work for peace and justice. Reception honoring the pilgrims will follow at the Muhammad Ali Center. (Note that Sept Il is the Centennial of Mahatma Gandhi's first nonviolent campaign in 1906). Sponsored by Interfaith Paths to Peace. Call 502/214-7322. *Terry@InterfaithPathstoPeace.org*
- Sept 8 (Fri) NOON VIGIL FOR PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST, including a news update. EVERY FRIDAYAT 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.
- Sept 8/9 (FS) **SING-OUT** and **RAISE FUNDS** for the work of the **Peace Education Program.** Practice with the Community Choir and Harry Pickens on Friday night, 7:00—9:00, and again on Saturday, 10:00—12:00 and 1:00—3:00 with lunch provided. Central Presbyterian Church, 4th & Ky. Call 589-6583.
- Sept 10 (Sun) CELEBRATE! Bring family and friends to the "BE THE CHANGE" Community Choir and Concert directed by internationally renowned jazz pianist HARRY PICKENS. Benefit for the Peace Education Program, with Dawne Gee of WAVE 3-TV as concert emcee. First Unitarian Church, 4th & York Streets, 4:00—5:30pm. Call 589-6583. Sept 10 (Sun) "AIM HIGHER" focusing on military counter
- Sept 10 (Sun) "AIM HIGHER" focusing on military counter recruitment. Every 2nd Sunday at 7:00 pm, 2236 Kaelin Avenue at the FOR office. This group would welcome invitations to speak about conscientious objection, military recruitment, and the possibility for highschool students to "opt out" of having their names given to recruiters. Call Chris Harmer, 893-2334. *charmer@ch2m.com*
- Sept 11 (Mon) **RECLAIM SEPTEMBER 11, Hundredth Anniversary of Gandhi professing the vow of nonviolence. Join the Gandhi-Merton Pilgrimage for Peace and Nonviolence.** The 50 mile walk begins at the Abbey of Gethsemani, at Merton's hermitage, with interfaith prayer every morning and gatherings at churches in the evening. See the description above at the entry for Sept 7-11. Contact Terry Taylor, 502/299-7591. *tatduende2@yahoo.com*
- Sept 11 (Mon) KENTUCKIANS FOR THE COMMON-WEALTH (KFTC), Jefferson County Chapter Meeting, 6:30 pm, at the Louisville Office, 325 W Oak St. Plans are underway to celebrate KFTC's 25th anniversary at the annual membership meeting Oct 20-22 in Hindman, Ky. Call 589-3188.
- Sept 13 (Wed) KITLAC (Ky Interfaith Taskforce on Latin America and the Caribbean). Every second Wednesday, Presbyterian Seminary, Nelson Hall, Room 10, 7:30 pm. Call David Horvath, 479-9262, or Pat Geier, 456-6586.
- Sept 14 (Thu) **BEING CHURCH TODAY: Confessions & Explorations in Postmodern Ecclesiology** (Ten Thursdays through Nov 16). Presented by the **Rev. JOEL WEIBLE**, associate pastor at Highland Presbyterian Church. Roundtable discussion facilitated by participants on the ways cultural changes impact how we think about and practice being church in North America today, A book by Eric Law. *The World at the Crossings: Living the Good News in a Multicultural World* will provide focus. The first session will be at Highland Presbyterian Church, 1011 Cherokee Rd, 12:30—2:00pm, \$30. Brown Bag Lunch. Call Center for Faith & Action, 896-0172. www.faith-action,org
- Sept 14 (Thu) **PHOTOGRAPHIC EXHIBIT "Peaceful Places"** and **RECEPTION** with speaker **DIANNE APRILE.** 5:00-7:00pm, UL Ekstrom Library, in the Photographic

- Archives Gallery. Sponsored by The Merton Institute for Contemplative Living through Sept. 29. Open weekdays 9-5pm. The exhibit consists of turn-of-the century photographs by Theodore Eitel of the Abbey of Gethsemani in Nelson County and Cherokee Park in Louisville. Call 852-7589.
- Sept 14 (Thu) STEFFIE WOOLHANDLER, M.D., Associate Professor of Medicine at Harvard University, addressing: "What Is Single Payer Health Care?" Dr. Woolhandler, cofounder of Physicians for a National Health Program, will explain why she advocates a single payer system. Louisville Free Public Library, Centennial Room, 4th & York Sts. Free. 7:00pm. Sponsored by Physicians for a National Health Program KY. Call 636-1551. kyhealthcare@aol.com
- Sept 14 (Thu) APPAF (American Palestine Public Affairs Program). Every second Thursday, League of Women Voters Building, 115 S. Ewing (off Frankfort Ave). 7:30 pm. Call Bashar Masri, 773-1836.
- Sept 16 (Sat ff) **SATURDAY ACADEMY RESUMES.** (High school students and adults) First & Third Saturdays at Shawnee Community Center, 607 S. 37th St. Second & Fourth Saturdays at Duvalle Education Center, 3610 Bohne Ave. 11am to 2pm. Each program begins with a 90 minute African world seminar led by **Professor Blaine Hudson**, Dean of UL College of Arts and Sciences, and a Pan-African Studies faculty member. The next 90 minutes feature workshops, speakers and special events presented by UL faculty, students and community partners. Contact Linda Wilson, 502/852-0271. *Ilwils01@louisville*, *edu* or Bani-Hines-Hudson, *banihineshudson@yahoo.com*
- Sept 17 (Sun) **COMMITTEE FOR ISRAELI/PALESTINIAN STATES.** (Every Third Sunday) First Unitarian Church, 4th & York Sts, 3:00 pm. Call Beverley Marmion, 451-5658.
- Sept 17-19 (SM) JULIA 'BUTTERFLY' HILL RESCHEDULES. She will lead a workshop from 2 to 6 on Sunday afternoon at Thomas Jefferson Unitarian Church, 4936 Brownsboro Rd, titled, "From the Inside Out: Everyone's Activism." \$25. She will speak at 7:00pm on Tuesday at Frazier Hall, Bellarmine University on Newburg Road. Free. Enter off Norris Place. Call Cultivating Connections, 897-2721. www.cultivatingconnections.org

Sept 18 (Mon) **DEADLINE FOR THE OCTOBER ISSUE OF FORsooth.** Contact **George Morrison**, **editor**, 944-6460, E-mail: klm86@netzero.com **Note: For calendar listings**, contact Jean Edwards, 458-8056. E-mail: edwardsfor@bellsouth.net

- Sept 18 (Mon) VIPASSANA MEDITATION GROUP FOR BEGINNERS (every Monday evening) for persons of any religious tradition or no tradition. The Pali word "vipassana" means :to see clearly." This ancient Theravadan Buddhist practice initially uses the breath as focus of the awareness in becoming deeply present for each moment of life. Presented by GLENDA HODGES-COOK, Director of the Center for Faith and Action, James Lees Presbyterian Church, 1741 Frankfort Ave. 6:30-8:30pm. Donations encouraged. Call 896-0172. www.faith-action.org
- Sept 20 (Wed) ACLU FREEDOM FILES SERIES: "Youth Speak." Film and Conversation. Louisville Free Public Library, Centenniel Room, 4th and York streets, 7:00pm. Call Program Associate Maria Ramirez, 502/581-9746. maria@aclu-ky.org
- Sept 20 (Wed) NORMAN FINKELSTEIN: "Image and Reality of the Israel-Palestine Conflict." UL Strickler Hall, Room 102, 7:30pm. Presented by the Louisville Committee for Peace in the Middle East.
- Dr. Finkelstein teaches political theory at DePaul University in Chicago. Author of five books, his doctoral thesis in 1988 dealt with the theory of Zionism. Call 479-9262.

Sept 21 (Thu) THIRD THURSDAY LUNCH sponsored by the Fellowship of Reconciliation: "REPORT FROM FOR'S FACT-FINDING AND PEACE MISSION TO IRAN." Seven Louisvillians who were part of FOR's national delegation to Iran in May will relate their experiences and share their perspective on the outlook for peace between our nations. Rudyard Kipling Restaurant, 422 W Oak St. Buffet lunch, \$6, begins at 11:30. Presentation at noon. Reservations required. Call Polly Johnson, 473-8435 or Mary Ann Lambert, 425-3844.

- Sept 21 (Thu) **SINGLE PAYER HEALTH CARE.** Monthly meeting, every third Thursday, 5:30 pm. Public Library, 4th and York Sts, Board room, mezzanine. Call Kay Tillow, 636-1551.
- Sept 21 (Thu) **LPAC** (Louisville Peace Action Community). Monthly meeting 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. www.louisvillepeace.org
- Sept 22/23 (FS) **KENTUCKY WOMEN'S BOOK FESTIVAL**, honoring and celebrating the outstanding accomplishments of women writers in and from Kentucky, featuring noted authors **Sallie Bingham**, **bell hooks**, **and Sena Jeter Naslund**. Their books will be available for browsing and purchase at the festival bookstore. Festival activities include numerous workshops, book signings, a luncheon and an awards program recognizing Women Who Write Poetry and Short Prose. Spalding **Egan Center**, 851 S 4th St. Friday, 8:30-7:00. Saturday, 9:00-6:00. Call Carridder M. Jones, chair, 502/426-9158. *cmjone01@louisville.edu* www.kwbf.info
- Sept 24 (Sun) **14th ANNUAL LOUISVILLE AIDS WALK.** Live entertainment, kids activities, and registration begin at 1:00 at the Belvedere, with special guests: **Dawne Gee, Heather French-Henry,** and **Dr. Adewale Troutman.** Walk begins at 3:00pm. Help build a *Bridge of Hope.* Together we can make a difference in the lives of our neighbors who live with HIV/AIDS. Call 502/574-5947. www.louisvilleaidswalk.org
- Sept 24, Oct 29, Dec 3 (Three Sundays) CONTEMPLATIVE CONCERTS with HARRY PICKENS, internationally known jazz pianist seeking to inspire constructive action in service of a world that works for all. Center for Faith & Action, James Lees Presbyterian Church, 1741 Frankfort Ave, 7:30pm. Donations welcome. Call 896-0172. www.faith-action.org

Regular Meeting Times for Area Organizations

ACORN (Association of Community Organizations for Reform Now) – (568-1918)

AD HOC COALITION FOR AFFIRMATIVE ACTION – (778-8130)

ADDICTION RECOVERY ADVOCATES OF

KENTUCKIANA – 2nd Thursday (585-3375) AMERICA 2000 DEMOCRATIC CLUB –

4th Tuesday (459-0616)

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL – 1st Saturday (637-8951)

APPAF (American Palestine Public Affairs Program) – 2nd Thursday (895-8155)

BREAD FOR THE WORLD – 1st 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)

CLARK & FLOYD COUNTIES AIDS COALITION – (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 (454-7797)

(454-7797)

COMMUNIST PARTY USA – Sunday evenings (473-2659)

COUNTER RECRUITMENT, "Aim Higher" – Second Sunday (893-2334)

EARTH SAVE LOUISVILLE - 2nd Sunday (569-1876)

CONVERSATION CAFE - Wednesday evenings (454-4820)

FAIRNESS CAMPAIGN – Quarterly community dialogues and volunteer opportunities (893-0788)

FELLOWSHIP OF RECONCILIATION – 4th Monday (451-6638 or 895-8516)

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

GREATER LOUISVILLE SIERRA CLUB – 3rd Tuesday (897-3335)

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY – Wednesdays, Thursdays, Fridays & Saturdays (637-6265)

HATE FREE SCHOOLS COALITION – 3rd Thursday (454-3300)

INTERFAITH PATHS TO PEACE – 1st Tuesday (214-7322)

JOBS WITH JUSTICE KENTUCKY (625-3724)

JUSTICE RESOURCE CENTER – 3rd Saturday (562-6737) 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 (541-9998)

KITLAC (KY INTERFAITH TASKFORCE ON LATIN AMERICA & THE CARIBBEAN) – 2nd Wednesday (479-9262) KY RAINBOW/PUSH COALITION – (774-4000)

LOUISVILLE COMMITTEE FOR ISRAELI/PALESTINIAN

STATES – 3rd Sunday (451-5658) LOUISVILLE MEDIA REFORM COMMUNITY –

3rd Wednesday (584-4811) LPAC (LOUISVILLE PEACE ACTION COMMUNITY) –

3rd Thursday (558-9124) LOUISVILLE WOMEN CHURCH –

Meditation 1st & 3rd Sundays (473-8435)

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

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

METROPOLITAN HOUSING COALITION – 4th Wednesday (584-6858) MUHAMMAD ALI INSTITUTE FOR PEACE AND

JUSTICE, at UL (852-6372) NAACP (National Association for the Advancement of

NAACP (National Association for the Advancement of Colored People) – 3rd Monday (776-7608)

NAMI (National Alliance for the Mentally Ill) – 2nd Monday (245-5287)

PARENTS, FAMILIES & FRIENDS OF LESBIANS AND GAYS (P-FLAG) – 3rd Sunday (329-0229)

PEACE & COMPASSION BUDDHA CIRCLE/CML – (451-2193, brozier@bellsouth.net)

POWER [PEOPLE ORGANIZED AND WORKING FOR ENERGY REFORM] – 2nd Monday, jointly with KFTC (778-2687)

RCRC [Religious Coalition for Reproductive Choice] – (866-606-0988)

RESULTS (a hunger lobby) – 2nd Saturday (451-4907) SHADHULIYYAH SUFI SPIRITUALITY GROUP –

(637-5010) SINGLE WOMEN'S GROUP – 3rd Sunday (812-866-1667)

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.