

# FORsooth

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September 2007

## US health system's woes crossed the line in 1970s

by Eustace Durrett  
and Ike M. Thacker IV

Louisville native Peggy Kidwell was a non-citizen resident of Canada while working for five years on her doctorate at the University of Toronto when her mother suffered a heart attack and stroke in 1979, following which Kidwell brought her to Canada because the latter had neither health insurance nor savings.

The mother had emphysema, too, and had likewise been told that the paralysis of her right side, caused by the stroke, was permanent.

This paralysis was cured by Canadian doctors within two months; Kidwell had her mother with her in Toronto for some 11 months until her mother insisted on returning to Kentucky — after which she saw a cardiologist for less than five minutes. This U.S. doctor inadvertently left off one medicine from her list of prescriptions and said he would see her again in two months.

She died in six weeks. The funeral was on Christmas Eve.

Not surprisingly, Kidwell believes that the Canadian health care system is absolutely excellent (no bill resulted from her mother's treatment in Canada); she also said she knew many dozens of people

there and knows of no widely-reported long waits; care was provided *immediately*.

This is an incomplete review of some aspects of U.S. health care. However, consider these statistics:

The United States used to have the tallest people in the world. But no more. The short of it is that Americans met a height plateau after World War II and gradually fell behind the rest of the world's populations.

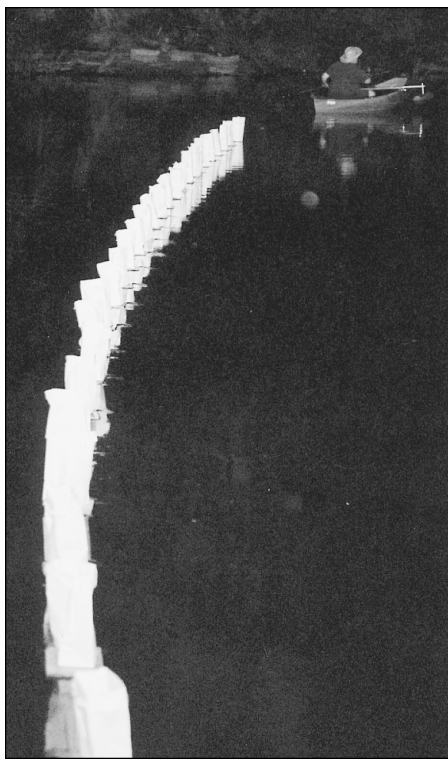
As early as the 1960s, most countries in northern and western Europe had taller (the long of it) citizens. The younger generations of Japan and other prosperous countries of Asia stand nearly as tall, on average, as Americans. Holland has the tallest men at six feet, two inches taller than their U.S. counterparts.

Many economists and nutritionists argue that height is correlated with a population's well-being. They say that, as a rule, tall people are healthier, wealthier, and live longer than short people. Some researchers have even suggested that tall people are more intelligent.

Tallness, in itself, doesn't make you smarter, richer, or healthier. It's that the same elements that make you taller — a nutritious diet, good prenatal care, and a healthy childhood — also confer these

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## Floating remembrances



— photos by Eddie Davis

**Lanterns on a pond in Cherokee Park in Louisville Aug. 5 commemorate the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, Japan. The program, organized by the Louisville FOR and other groups, also included a talk by Margie Hunt, right, of Louisville, a Hiroshima survivor, who said she harbors no ill will toward Americans, but strongly believes we must prevent nuclear weapons from being used again. See a poem about the gathering on page two.**

## Torrent of water, drought of votes concern FOR chief

by George Morrison  
FORsooth editor

Waterlogged documents and voter apathy are two problems concerning FOR executive director Mark Johnson, who attended many peace and justice events in the Louisville area in July as he traveled the nation to become more familiar with the organization since taking its top post in March.

Still, Johnson, the former treasurer of the Chicago FOR, was upbeat during a July 23 interview in Louisville about the national organization's work in Colombia and Iran, a new blog (www.forpeace.org) that allows internet users to converse on issues, and the "Festival of Peace" planned at the Nyack, N.Y. headquarters Sept. 13-to-16.

Johnson, 60, has devoted part of his first five months as director to a small disaster at Shadowcliff, the national FOR's headquarters on the Hudson River at Nyack. A sprinkler malfunctioned in July, sending a torrent of water into the unoccupied building and causing a third floor ceiling to collapse.

"I would have liked to have spent the last two weeks sort of catching up with correspondence and so on, but instead I spent the last two weeks sorting through



Mark Johnson

very wet, soggy papers," Johnson said.

Aside from the flood, the FOR is also dealing with a drought of participation in National Council elections.

"The last two elections have secured only a few hundred votes from a membership that is in, literally, the tens of thousands," Johnson said. "The process that was put in place to nominate candidates for the National Council by regions across the

country basically generated a slate for election that six or seven hundred people responded to. And the vacancies that had to be filled between natural rotations and some resignations meant that the entire slate ended up on the national council.

"So one of the questions that the organization wrestles with is how do you maintain a democratic relationship to your membership base and still sustain the recruitment of talented individuals to serve on the national council."

Finances are also a concern; although this problem resulted from good fortune among membership, Johnson added, explaining that the national FOR relies considerably on bequests and annuities.

"Well, there were a couple of years where not as many people passed away; not as many major gifts arrived," he said. "And it turned out that the organization was overextended in terms of staff and programs and that led to, as they say in the corporate world, some downsizing.

"So I've inherited a learner, meaner organization, and it means that the strategic plan that was adopted by FOR in 2005 has sort of been slow to take legs. So we're anxious now to make sure that we're staffed

*To help with FOR needs, go to [www.forusa.org](http://www.forusa.org), then select "JoinFOR/donate."*

to meet the goals of that strategic plan and that the staff we have is adequately compensated and has the opportunity for training and developing a culture of teamwork and coherence."

Despite these challenges, Johnson, a peace activist and conscientious objector during the 1960s who did c.o. alternative service in Beirut, Lebanon, talked

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A poem written to capture the experience of those who gathered by Willow Pond in Cherokee Park on the first Sunday in August to remember Hiroshima.

Margie Hunt, a Hiroshima survivor, and Lee Thomas, a serviceman at the time of the bombing, were among those who shared with the group.

# REFLECTING

62 years after the bomb

62 resounding, fading gongs—  
62 candles float along  
Reflecting on the surface of the pond—  
Reflecting as twilight descends  
Upon us gathered there,  
As we, listening, watching on the shore  
Reflect upon the pain of War  
And yearn for  
Peace.

62 years after the bomb

62 resounding, fading gongs—  
62 candles float along,  
As we reflect upon  
The words of those among us  
Who bore witness to the bomb  
That cleaved skin from bone—

The bomb that tore a gaping hole  
In hearts and history.

62 resounding, fading gongs  
As we reflect upon  
The story of one woman  
Of Japanese descent  
Who as an adolescent survived  
The horror of August 6, 1945—  
One who literally could not speak at all  
Of her experience—  
Not even to her family  
Until recently.

Reflecting, as 62 candles float along,  
On the story of a man—  
Then a young American soldier  
Waiting on a boat offshore  
At the moment of the bomb—  
Living witness to the devastation done—  
Living now as a passionate  
Ambassador for Peace.

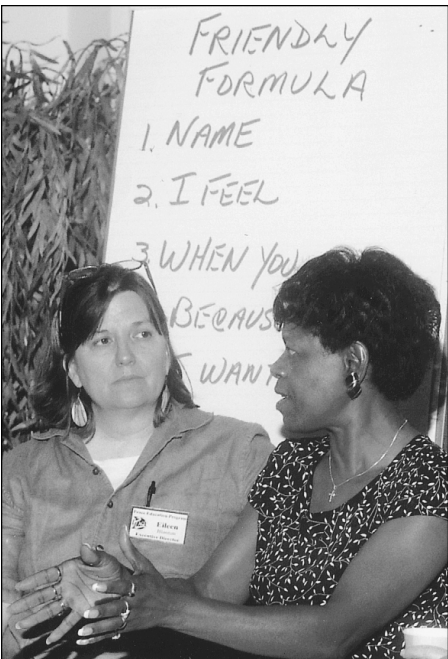
Reflecting, as 62 candles float along,  
On the old “Gonna Love One Another” song,  
On a prayer chanted by Tibetan monks,  
On a prayer in Hebrew prayed,  
And on a Rumi poem of unity,

Reflecting,  
As 62 gongs fade along with the light,  
As 62 candles float away,

Reflecting,  
As we go our separate ways  
Ever more convicted of the urgency

To live and work and pray  
For Peace.

Margaret Stewart  
August 2007



# Reaching to Rwanda

— photos by Eddie Davis

Six peace educators from Rwanda studied methods of training mediators June 24 to 26 in a program at Central Presbyterian Church in Louisville organized by the Peace Education Program, which for 25 years has taught nonviolent conflict resolution in Louisville area schools and community centers.

Left photo, Brenda Moorman (right), an educator through Peace Ed, discusses resolution techniques while Peace Ed executive director Eileen Blanton listens. Bottom photo, Cliff Irons, in dark shirt, youth services coordinator at Iroquois High School, speaks. Next to him are Rwandan peace educators, from left, David Bucura and Sizere Marcellin.

Blanton said the Rwandans have been training adults of the Hutu, Tutsi and Twa people in conflict resolution in light of the genocide of the 1990s and, through the June program, they learned ways to teach youth.



# Yarmuth backs war curb

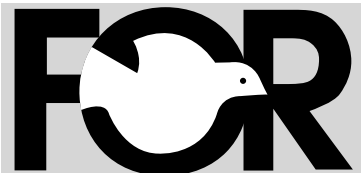
Two area activists for a peaceful resolution of the Iran-U.S. conflict have helped secure the backing of U.S. Rep. John Yarmuth of Louisville for the cause.

Husband and wife David and Ona Owen, who traveled to Iran last year as part of an FOR-sponsored delegation, asked Yarmuth, a democrat elected last fall, to oppose the Bush administration’s leaning toward war with Iran.

During a meeting with Yarmuth in

January, they told the congressman of their trip. In a letter of response, Yarmuth wrote: “I am a proud sponsor of H.Con.Res 33, legislation which expresses the sense of Congress that the President should not initiate military action against Iran without first obtaining authorization from Congress.”

Yarmuth’s letter described the need for authorization as “not discretionary; it is a legal and Constitutional requirement.”



Founded 1915

# FORsooth

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## 92 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.

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# Dearth of social forum news hints at fear of left in US

by Ike M. Thacker IV  
and Eustace Durrett

Despite the fact that about 35,000 people attended the first U.S. Social Forum (USSF), held in Atlanta June 27-to-July 1, there was almost no mainstream media coverage of the event (although unnecessary riot police were at the ready, even the local newspaper carried only two articles on the USSF).

Perhaps this was partly due to the palpable fear of the rally goers and rallies, of which one of the speakers at the report-back at the Americana Community Center July 19 spoke (this speaker constituted the entire “Berea contingent”).

After all, when that many avowed leftists get together and start talking about unity across causes and coalition-building among the various and varied social-justice organizations, if the status quo is to avoid trembling it had best shut its eyes (we hope it does so all the way up until the dawn of the revolution).

Or perhaps the lack of coverage was at least in part because the organizers of the event did not sufficiently court it.

The first two speakers at the report back noted that there were “too many” workshops (hundreds of them!) at the USSF, at least some of which were not up to par (the second speaker, though, did allow as how the ones she actually attended were “fabulous”); this would seem to suggest at least some problems in planning the first event of its kind, for the side of the political spectrum known for its disorganization.

The result was, it is perhaps best to say with the third speaker at the report-back, “overwhelming” in both good and bad ways. This speaker understood the perceived need to “please everybody,” and said that overall the USSF was “a really, really good experience.”

Later speakers would echo these themes: all agreed on at least three things—it was hot in Atlanta those late-June days, there were

lots of people there, and there were a lot of workshops (and concerts and parties).

There was not a lot of reporting at the debriefing on the actual content of the USSF or its workshops, but what there was sheds little light on why the fear of it that the “Berea contingent” noted existed. Even a presentation by U.S. Socialists was quite *un*-ideological, said one speaker, and the most radical thing another mentioned was a USSF moderator’s comparison between “guest-working” and slavery.

And that old bugaboo of disunity still does bedevil the left. One of the main things that a sizable Lexington contingent, made up largely of University of Kentucky students, suggested was cooperation and coordination between grassroots organizations and their national officers. But recently even pro-immigration groups and their “leaders” could not agree on whether to support or reject President Bush’s proposed overhaul of immigration policy.

Other speakers (the presenters as a

group, addressing 40-to-50 people, constituted a partial “who’s who” of the Louisville left) compared the current “RAP INTELPRO” (government surveillance of rappers) to the COINTELPRO of the 1960s and 1970s; talked of a Kentucky Social Forum, to perhaps be set sometime in 2009 and the next USSF, scheduled for 2010; and spoke of the very encouraging prominence of youth among USSF attendees.

In sum, the USSF report back’s only significant flaw was that it was perhaps too brief. The *content* of the Atlanta event got short shrift (having very nearly been able to attend, we were hungry for more).

The theme of the USSF was that another world is possible and a different U.S. necessary; that such a large event which prompted at least two of the people who attended it to ask the question of whether *any* U.S. is really needed could go virtually unnoticed is at first blush disconcerting but upon reflection perhaps a good thing.



## Letters to FORsooth Fuel unclean

Here in Kentucky, our leaders, including our governor and our legislators, are heavy into high-stakes gambling — with our environment and with the health and the lives of the people of our commonwealth and of our world.

In an effort to affect elections and to exercise partisan one-upmanship, our leaders are forgetting why they were elected. They are trying to bulldoze the citizens of this state into accepting coal-to-liquid technology without doing their homework and without caring about the consequences of this technology on our world and on the environment. Our leaders do this under the guise of creating more jobs, progress and winning votes.

We must not allow our governor and our legislators to sell the soul of this commonwealth and to push this technology on us. We must not allow them to continue to give huge subsidies to the coal industry and to prop up their own political campaigns. We must stop this corporate welfare that is destroying our waters, our mountains, our health, our democracy and the health of our planet.

Coal-to-liquid fuel is not an alternative energy that will lead to better health for us or for our environment. It is not a “clean” technology

Now more than ever, we need leaders who are wise, who do what is best for their constituents and for generations to come. Please call your representatives and tell them to stop this rush to coal-to-liquid technology here in Kentucky.

**Sister Rose Marie Cummins, OP**  
St. Catharine, Ky.

*Note: This letter was also signed by Sister Elaine Desrosiers, OP, Sister Rita Hommrich, SCN, Sister Adrian Marie Hofstetter, OP, Sister Margaret Marie Hofstetter, OP, and Wren Smith, CoL*

## FOR chief

(continued from page 1)

glowingly about FOR work around the world, including Colombia.

There, the FOR backs the peace community of San José de Apartadó a community of 1,300 people created in 1997 to oppose violence by all sides in the nation’s civil war.

“Most Americans would be surprised to learn that Colombia is the third largest recipient of U.S. foreign military aid. It has the third largest percentage of its population that is displaced by war,” Johnson said. “It has an enormous experience in violations of human rights and of deaths and assassinations.”

Johnson said FOR activism in Colombia typifies proactive nonviolence work in wars not yet on American front pages, which he said also describes the organization’s delegation to Iran last year.

“To have a group of people who have a transformative experience in Iran prepared to give guidance and support to any legislative effort to constrain the current administration from the prospect of an invasion of Iran is an important part of our work,” he said.

Johnson also was upbeat about the youth-oriented “I Will Not Kill” campaign against militarism and a global day of fasting and repentance Oct. 8 to note the killing and oppression of Native Americans.

Johnson said the work in Colombia in particular has inspired the FOR to a wider challenge to violence.



“Our campaign growing out of the Colombia project is to expand the number of voices in the effort to de-militarize the world. There are seven hundred-and-ninety-some U.S. military bases and presences on foreign soil. And our goal is to try to be a part of that community that makes the effort to dismantle that... military presence around the world.”

### “Be the Change” Concert

4th Annual Concert and Community Choir  
Led by Harry Pickens  
Sunday, September 9, 2007  
4:00 - 5:30 pm  
First Unitarian Church, 809 S. 4th St.

Celebrating the 25th Anniversary  
of  
The Peace Education Program

Free Admission - Donations Accepted





# Throwing weight around — a worthy ending after all

Look closely at this column, for you may be reading history. I'm going to do something rare, if not unprecedented, in the field of editing.

I'm going to reinstate a sentence I edited out of a piece in the last FORsooth.

Gracie Lewis, a faithful contributor of pieces on everything from pollution in Louisville to the Venezuelan revolution of Hugo Chavez, had published in the July-August FORsooth one of her many stories on the Louisville-Seattle busing case before the U.S. Supreme Court.

This was her first since the decision greatly reducing the use of race in student assignment. The piece as it ran ended with "Now we await U.S. District Judge John Heyburn's decision as to how best to arrive at that and what kind of time line we are under."

What Gracie submitted, however, continued that final sentence, so it ended the piece with: "Ted Gordon need not start throwing his weight around!"

I thought it was a little brusque to describe Gordon, the Louisville plaintiff's attorney, that way, so I deleted it.

Well, since then, Gordon asked Judge Heyburn to:

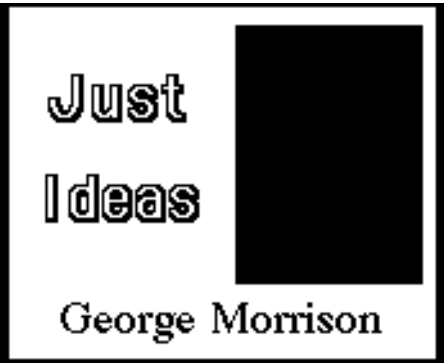
- Order the immediate implementation of a new student assignment plan conforming to the Supreme Court's ruling, even though that was logistically impossible with school starting in a few weeks.
- Jail Jefferson County Public Schools Superintendent Sheldon Berman and other school officials if they didn't implement the plan immediately.
- Order his legal fees in the case reimbursed by the school district, to the tune of \$200 per hour - and he didn't stop there; Gordon also wanted JCPS to pay him a bonus because the high court decision had national implications.

To be fair to Gordon, civil rights cases customarily do result in the winning side's fees being reimbursed, but I don't think you'll find any record of Thurgood Marshall asking that the superintendent of Topeka's schools be incarcerated.

And Marshall's Brown vs. Board was a 9-0 victory, unlike the 5-4 Louisville-Seattle decision, which very nearly went the other way, as Justice Anthony Kennedy expressed strong support for the concept of achieving integration.

- Asked that his client, parent Crystal Meredith, who brought the Louisville suit after her white son was denied admission to an advanced program because of the racial guidelines, be paid \$125,000 in damages, arguing that the denial of the school of her choice caused her to incur expenses, such as lost wages and car trips.

Meredith's son, in fact, was denied admission to the Bloom Elementary advanced program largely because she missed the application deadline. Furthermore, he was admitted the next year.



Whereas Gordon makes him out to be Alfred Dreyfus, Sacco and Vanzetti all rolled into one Louisville child, a year's delay in school admission in large part because of a parental oversight hardly qualifies a person for inclusion in Amnesty International bulletins.

I don't begrudge Crystal Meredith the right to pursue — as she told reporters — what she sees as best for her son. However, I ask whites such as her, who allege undue setbacks because of discrimination remedies like busing and affirmative action, to acknowledge the concrete ways in which they have moved forward, or started life with undue privileges, because of segregation or discrimination like that with which Louisville was rigidly beset until the modern civil rights struggle.

Of course many whites have been

plagued by poverty, disability or other social problems, but even we have traditionally been able to land on our feet in ways that discrimination and segregation blocked minorities from doing.

I say "we" because my father's background in and near Appalachia makes us a classic example. Portions of Dad's family were troubled by multiple generations of poverty, out-of-wedlock births and violent deaths.

But before concluding that this sounds so much like low-income black America that we, too, are owed affirmative action, consider this: Dad sprang from this very difficult and disadvantaged background into the almost all-white world of television news anchoring in the early 1950s. This was thanks to his using the GI Bill at a segregated university, receiving government backing of his and mom's mortgages in segregated suburbia and being hired by several television stations which had no black and almost no women on-air people.

Most of this racial exclusiveness that opened doors for me was backed by or outright created by government, including the very judicial body that sided with Meredith in June; the U.S. Supreme Court enshrined totally unconstitutional segregation into this nation's fabric — and into the fabric of Meredith's and my families — with its 7-1 Plessy vs. Ferguson decision in 1896.

It upheld segregation six more times

before Brown vs. Board, each time obliterating the hopes of millions of minorities by allowing a caste system in a nation where equal protection of the law was supposed to be guaranteed.

Student assignment based on neighborhoods, when neighborhoods have been so rigidly segregated (generally by government fiat), isn't on a non-racial basis at all. Race was taken into account - to put it mildly - when Louisville's housing was segregated, so ending race as a student assignment factor furthers that process of taking of race into account.

That's not necessarily an FOR position, although the organization strongly supports equal education for people of all races and backgrounds.

Sometimes, however, it seems there is little we can do to oppose entrenched power, particularly a Supreme Court bearing the stamp of the conservatism of three of the last four presidents.

However, here is one thing we can do. We hereby reinstate the sentence by Gracie: "Ted Gordon need not start throwing his weight around!"

Better yet, let's all examine how statutory discrimination worked for or against us so we whites can someday stop throwing around - consciously or not — the weight we gained from inequality.

Contact George Morrison at klm86@att.net.

## Third Thursday Lunches

*presented by the*

### Fellowship of Reconciliation

*September 2007 - January 2008*

#### September 20 *Palestine: Citizen Diplomat Fact Finding*

Phil Schervish, Ph.D, Professor of Social Work at Spalding University, will discuss the results and findings of an eight member fact finding delegation to Israel and Palestine, including exploring and understanding the matrix of control and the future of the two-state solution.

#### October 18 *Ending Domestic Violence Together*

Dale Van Fleet Herink, Vice President of Development at the Center for Women and Families, will join us to define domestic violence, understand its dynamics and look toward prevention in this Domestic Violence Awareness Month presentation.

#### November 15 *Organizing Faith Communities for Abolition of the Death Penalty in Kentucky*

Doug Stern, a consultant to the Kentucky Coalition to Abolish the Death Penalty, will speak about KCADP's efforts to engage faith communities in key legislative districts statewide to support the abolition of the death penalty. He will talk about his experiences and give an overview of death penalty issues being considered for the 2008 Kentucky General Assembly.

#### January 17 *Churches Calling for Economic Justice in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century: That All Shall Enjoy the Work of Their Own Hands*

Elizabeth Hinson-Hasty, Assistant Professor of Theology at Bellarmine University, will discuss the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Social Creed that is currently under review by member denominations of the National Council of Churches, highlighting significant issues that Christians of privilege should consider when calling for social and economic justice.

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Buffet Lunch at 11:30 • Presentations at Noon  
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# The great emancipator’s great vision relevant in 2007

Listen to the words of Abraham Lincoln, taken from a letter he wrote in 1864: “I see in the near future a crisis approaching that unnerves me and causes me to tremble for the safety of my country.

“As a result of war, corporations have been enthroned, and an era of corruption in high places will follow, and the money power of the country will endeavor to prolong its reign by working upon the prejudices of the people until all the wealth is aggregated in a few hands and the republic is destroyed. I feel, at this moment, more anxiety for the safety of my country than ever before, even in the midst of war. God grant that my suspicions may prove groundless.”

Are Lincoln’s suspicions, almost two centuries ago, applicable today? A second-term U.S. president often spends much time kissing up to corporate gurus, hoping to get the millions and millions of dollars to build a presidential library — that pillar of self-promoting pap that lame ducks crave. But what do you do if your imperial war in Iraq is kicking your imperial you-know-what?

Do you continue to replace generals until you find one who will say what you want? Or do you find another country to invade, like Iran or Venezuela? Or do you jack up the Patriot Act to stifle dissent? Or is it all of the above?

Many fear that this is what makes George Bush-the-younger so dangerous. Looks like the Democrats will re-take the White House. This could make a big difference in social welfare programs domestically, but what about our aggression internationally?



Hillary has no guts. Obama is not appreciably better, what with his jingoistic statement encouraging the U.S. military to wipe out Al Qaeda in Pakistan. Edwards is very good on labor issues, but did not know, when questioned, that Cuba’s healthcare system was state-run! And Kucinich, who is principled, progressive and smart — doesn’t have a chance.

An example of how gutless is the Democratic Party comes from MOVEON.org. On August 8 it quoted from a Washington Post editorial: “The Democratic-led Congress, more concerned with protecting its political backside than with safeguarding the privacy of American citizens, left town early yesterday after caving in to administration demands that it allow warrantless surveillance of the phone calls and e-mails of American citizens, with scant judicial supervision and no reporting to Congress about how many communications are being intercepted. To

call this legislation ill-considered is to give it too much credit: It was scarcely considered at all.

“Instead, it was strong-armed through both chambers by an administration that seized the opportunity to write its warrantless wiretapping program into law — or, more precisely, to write it out from under any real legal restrictions.”

Yet with the Democrats in power poor and working class people have some breathing room on the domestic front (enshala [may God grant it] is what my Arabic-speaking friends say). Will we be smart enough to become strong, and pressure the Democrats to do the right thing?

Speaking of doing the right thing, on June 1st, 74 workers at Ohio Valley Aluminum Co. (OVACO) in Shelbyville, Kentucky, were forced out on strike by an employer trying to deny them their dignity and their right to a voice on the job. OVACO is a smelter plant that produces logs and billets from scrap aluminum.

OVACO management has refused to bargain in good faith with the workers, as the law requires.

The company’s demands are intended to break the United Steelworkers local. The union-represented group in Shelbyville includes pouring operators, assistant pouring operators, furnace operators, dolly drivers, saw operators, assistant saw operators, truck drivers and maintenance workers.

OVACO has been recruiting “scab” replacement workers, particularly from the large Latino population in the Shelbyville

area. Fortunately, many local Latinos refused to cross the picket line.

Some of the documented unfair labor practices include: changing starting rates of pay; coercing employees to sign a letter of withdrawal from the union; threatening to terminate employees for standing with the union on the picket line; unilaterally changing the payday for employees without bargaining; and unilaterally changing work rules without bargaining (info gathered from the United Steel Workers, Kentucky Jobs with Justice and *The Courier-Journal*).

Let’s turn from unfair labor practices to unfair journalism practices. Katie Hafner reports in the *New York Times* August 19: “Last year a Wikipedia visitor edited the entry for the SeaWorld theme parks to change all mentions of ‘orcas’ to ‘killer whales,’ insisting that this was a more accurate name for the species.

“There was another, unexplained edit: a paragraph about criticism of SeaWorld’s “lack of respect toward its orcas” disappeared. Both changes, it turns out, originated at a computer at Anheuser-Busch, SeaWorld’s owner.” Read the whole article to see how big companies like Pepsi, ExxonMobil, Wal-Mart, Diebold and Dell have altered Wikipedia entries.

So, what’s so new about big capital de-fumigating itself from the stench of misleading information? Your scribe was struck by a headline in the *New York Times* on July 31: “More Lenders Feeling Pain From Defaults.” It is indeed sad that these folk, who speculate on whether there will be roofs over people’s heads, are now facing consequences similar to the variable-rate borrowers they were sucking dry.

Maybe there will be an article soon about the seemingly countless victims of these lender-vultures, the thousands and thousands and thousands of families forced to abandon the American dream of home ownership.

Oh, and while we are on the topic of unfairness, I lived in Georgia and Mississippi in the 1960s and well remember the disgusting “colored” and “white” signs on restrooms. And I remember reading about the signs the British colonizers put on park benches in China: no dogs or Chinese allowed.

There is still a yearning for those good old days. An August 3 dispatch from Mike Drummond (McClatchy Newspapers) headlines: “At U.S. base, Iraqis must use separate latrine.” It references Forward Operating Base Warhorse, Iraq: “The sign taped to the men’s latrine is just five lines: ‘US MILITARY CONTRACTORS CIVILIANS ONLY!!!!’ It needed only one: ‘NO IRAQIS.’ ”

Well, notwithstanding President Truman’s order to integrate the military in the 1940s, we are following in true American tradition. Aint democracy wonderful?

Comeuppance department: Stephen Bartlett wrote your scribe in early July to correct info in our column on the U.S. Social Forum in Atlanta: “The slogan goes: Another World is Possible, Another UNITED STATES is Necessary.

“Also, it is not very significant but I would not characterize the first WSF as Brazilian initiated, since the planners were from across Latin America and Europe. They happened to choose Porto Alegre Brazil for the first forum in 2001, and the Brazilian organizations were key to making that happen, but the planners of the original WSF were, as I said, international in scope.” Both criticisms are correct.

Let’s close by returning to the issues of democracy and decency. *The Boston Globe* on August 16 carried an AP dispatch from Kansas City, Missouri: “A man threw his seriously ill wife four stories to her death because he could no longer afford to pay for her medical care, prosecutors said in charging him with second-degree murder.” It did not indicate whether those who withhold your medical care unless you pay for their Lamborghinis were also charged with murder.

Contact Ira Grupper at irag@iglou.com.

## THE HESCHEL/MERTON PILGRIMAGE FOR PEACE AND NON-VIOLENCE 2007

Interfaith Paths to Peace is pleased to announce *The Heschel/Merton Pilgrimage 2007*, a 5-day event, Oct. 11-15, designed to involve 50 individuals in a 5-day pilgrimage in and around the Louisville area to draw attention to finding non-violent ways to address the major problems confronting our community, the nation and the world.

Building on the highly successful Gandhi/Merton Pilgrimage for Peace and Non-Violence held in September of 2006, this year’s pilgrimage is named to honor Thomas Merton, and Abraham Joshua Heschel, one of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century’s greatest Jewish thinkers, and a major force in peace and justice. Heschel worked closely with the Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. This year marks the Centennial of Heschel’s birth.

Sponsors and partners for the event as of this date include the Fellowship of Reconciliation, Louisville Chapter; the Episcopal Diocese of Kentucky; The Thomas Merton Center and Archives at Bellarmine University; St. William Catholic Church; Christ Church Cathedral; the Center for Interfaith Relations; CrossRoads Ministry; the Americana Center; Douglass Boulevard Christian Church; and Pax Christi, the Roman Catholic peace and justice organization.

To register, call Interfaith Paths to Peace at 214-7322 or e-mail [Director@InterfaithPathsToPeace.org](mailto:Director@InterfaithPathsToPeace.org).

### What are the goals of the pilgrimage?

The pilgrimage itself is designed to:

1. Deliver high quality non-violence training led by nationally renowned non-violence educator Jim McGinnis (of the Institute for Peace and Justice) to a group of 50 individuals drawn from a wide variety of backgrounds, and representative of the world’s great religions and cultures.
2. Enable these pilgrims to return to their synagogues, mosques, churches and temples to train others about how to confront and overcome problems related to peace and justice through non-violent means.
3. Confront the pilgrims with the problems related to peace and justice (hunger, homelessness, violence, poverty, war, disease, lack of affordable healthcare, refugees) in our own community and around the world, and acquaint them with the groups and organizations in Louisville that address those problems.

Those who participate will receive:

- ✧ An in-depth introduction to the key concepts and practices of non-violence led by renowned non-violence educator Jim McGinnis of the Institute for Peace and Justice,
- ✧ An introduction to the key concepts of peace, justice and non-violence in the world’s great religions.
- ✧ An in-depth examination of the full spectrum of peace and justice issues in our community as we walk through many of the city’s neighborhoods.
- ✧ An opportunity to witness to the power of non-violence to people throughout the Louisville area during the pilgrimage.
- ✧ An opportunity to more fully embrace active non-violence in our daily lives.

### Who can take part in the pilgrimage?

Participation in the pilgrimage is open to persons of all religions and to those who describe themselves as spiritual but who do not identify themselves with any religion.

### What is required; what will be provided?

It is expected that those who make the commitment to walk in the pilgrimage will be able to walk (or roll) for up to seven miles per day. Housing and food (with vegetarian options) will be provided. Pilgrims will need to bring a sleeping bag. Please note that the sleeping bags and backpacks will be transported for the pilgrims each day. While there is no fee for taking part in the pilgrimage, it is hoped that each pilgrim will make some form of financial contribution to offset the cost of the trek.

PRESBYTERIANS  
SEEK A NEW PATH  
TO THE FUTURE

A report by George Edwards

I found it quite amazing that **Rick Ufford-Chase**, the new Executive Director of the Presbyterian Peace Fellowship, was brought here by the Mid-Kentucky Presbytery to speak at its Annual Resource and Training Institute. The meeting was held at Beulah Presbyterian Church in Fern Creek on August 25, 2007.

Rick spoke three times, twice in workshop settings and once in a plenary session. This brief resume of his remarks does not pretend to be a stenographical account but a sharing of some impressions from an octogenarian trying to keep up with an eloquent leader in the new generation. His general theme was “**On Being Church: Standing with Jesus Against the Culture of Fear.**”

Despite his candid admission that some uncertainty still overshadows his career choice, one becomes immediately aware of the charismatic gifts of this 43-year old son of a Pennsylvania pastor. His very extensive knowledge of the Presbyterian Church derives from his recently completed two years as Moderator of the General Assembly — the denomination’s highest officer.

Some years ago Rick enrolled at Princeton Theological Seminary but dropped out because the curriculum and teaching turned him off by the lack of its connection with the



problems the church must face in the world of our time. He has become enthused by the theological sophistication of the late **Miles Horton, founder of the Highlander Folk School** at New Market, Tennessee, as expressed in Morton’s recently republished book, *The Long Haul*. Morton’s experience in facing problems of racial, international, economic, and ecological violence is a model for us in the church of this era.

Rick’s social gospel is strongly embedded in biblical texts like Luke 6:1-11 where Jesus places greater weight on serving human need than on sabbath prohibitions. He also prefers Lucan features (Luke 7:17ff) of the Sermon on the Plain rather than parallels in Matthew. His prayers deal with the struggle against human injustice without encouraging retaliatory violence or appealing to the wrath of God.

Rick enunciates clearly and has vocal power which relies on vigorous from-the-diaphragm exercise. His rhetorical skill is evident in his facial expression also, marked by a captivating smile which encourages friendship and good will. But he willingly admits that he is “bound to offend almost everybody.” He avoids debating. The sparring it cultivates increases rancor. So he turns his body aside so that the heat of the debater does not hit him squarely in the face.

Rick told a story about an army chaplain who chided him for calling the Iraq war unwise, illegal, and immoral because such words hurt deeply those who reject these characterizations. Rick has learned that passion must not destroy humility and assures us that over time he has given more attention to nuance in his judgments. After a two-hour conversation with the chaplain, Rick stated his wish that disagreement should not cause enmity. The chaplain finally conceded one point: Rick is not a wimp!

Rick agrees with church statisticians who claim that 75% of Presbyterian congregations were, early on, in favor of the war in Iraq, while 75% of the pastors were opposed to it. In addition, official church polls show with some consistency more liberal inclination on sensitive social issues among the ministers. Rick did not use the term “neocons” or “fundamentalists” in his speeches, perhaps because he avoids stereotyping.

Rick proposes accompaniment — go there and be with those directly affected by natural disaster or human brutality — as in Darfur, New Orleans, The Democratic Republic of the Congo, Gaza, Lebanon, etc., work pioneered by Christian Peacemaker Teams. The Presbyterian Peace Fellowship now has volunteers going on a monthly rotating basis to Colombia to accompany those in a particularly vulnerable situation. PPF was in Nicaragua during the Contra War alongside ecumenical agencies such as Witness for Peace. For several years, Rick worked with the Borderlinks program in Tucson together with the Rev. John Fife.

Rick’s vision of the future church is inventive, courageous, and worthy of in depth consideration by all who take religion seriously.

STUDENTS FACE THE MILITARY

**A word of caution.** High schools are back in session across Jefferson County and that means students — and military recruiters — are headed back to our schools. Nationally, the Pentagon spends \$4 billion a year on its recruiting efforts. Students, parents and JCPS can focus though, during the high school years, on getting the best academic/career opportunities possible for our students and finding a safer, surer way to pay for it than military service — to “aim higher” as the old Air Force recruiting slogan goes.

The federal **Opt Out** program — allowing high school students and families to deny release of contact information to the military — is a simple step to help avoid a long barrage of recruiting letters, phone calls, and videos during high school. Look at the **Opt Out** form in your JCPS handbook or registration materials and tell your friends about it.

Students in grades 9-12 (or their parents) need to sign and return the **Opt Out** form to their school office before *September 14* to effectively deny release. Freshmen and sophomores might not be thinking about this yet, but they need to. If they don’t **Opt Out**, their information could go to the military this year, and a subsequent **Opt Out** sign-up would be meaningless.

We think most students and parents may not even know about the **Opt Out** form. Over the last few years, the JCPS **Opt Out** rates have been varying wildly from school to school, from 1% to greater than 60%, The American Civil Liberties Unit in other Kentucky counties found that some school systems didn’t even have a process to comply with this federal requirement.

We would like to hear from students how this information and the **Opt Out** form are presented in their schools. Did you and your parents know about it? Was the form distributed *only* in the handbook? Any discussion in class? Any mailings to the home to parents about it? We’d also like to hear about where and when the military is in your school making contacts — lunch rooms? classes? assemblies? signs? literature? etc.

Our “**Aim Higher**” **committee** (counter\_recruit@yahoo.com) is part of the **Louisville Fellowship of Reconciliation**. We track the increasing military presence in JCPS, and we actually pushed JCPS to develop this federally-required **Opt Out program**. Contact us if you have questions about **Opt Out**, enlistment, and alternatives, or if you can share information about the military presence in your school.

Please contact **Chris Harmer, 893-2334**.

Singer-Songwriter-Activist

# ANNE FEENEY

with special guest **John Gage**

Anne Feeney performs music designed to  
'comfort the afflicted and afflict the comfortable'

She has sung at thousands of demonstrations and labor rallies from the WTO uprising in Seattle to the March For Women's Lives in Washington, DC. Her songbag draws on Irish, bluegrass, traditional, labor, folk and contemporary material. Feeney's anthem, "Have You Been To Jail For Justice?", is featured on Peter Paul & Mary's CD, "In These Times".

*"Anne Feeney is the best labor singer in North America"*  
-Utah Phillips

*"a catalyst in the topical song movement"*  
-Peggy Seeger

*"I adore Anne Feeney, not only because she's a wonderful songwriter, which she is, but also because she's a person who has lived her songs. Anne is a role model for us."*  
-Peter Yarrow, Peter Paul & Mary

**FRIDAY  
OCTOBER 5TH  
8:00PM**

**Central Presbyterian Church  
Fourth St. & Kentucky Ave.**

Benefit for Kentuckians For Single Payer  
Healthcare & Physicians for a National  
Health Program-KY

DONATION \$8.00

For tickets send check, payable to  
PNHP-KY, to Kay Tillow, 1227 S. 6th #2,  
Louisville, KY 40203

Further information call 636-1551

**We still need YOU!**

If you have been thinking about stepping up and replacing Jean Edwards as volunteer editor of the Calendar for Peacemakers on page 8 of each FORsooth, NOW is the time! You'll need a reliable internet-access computer, but we will give you complete training. You'll never have a dull moment!

**Contact George Morrison  
944-6460 or klm86@att.net.**



# 40th Anniversary of the Israeli Military Occupation of the West Bank, the Gaza Strip and East Jerusalem June 1967-June 2007

*Call upon the U.S. to act with courage and determination  
to end the occupation and secure a state of Palestine  
beside the state of Israel*

## at the VIGIL

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

*Louisville Committee for Israeli/Palestinian States (502.451.5658) [www.louisvillepeace.org/twostates.html](http://www.louisvillepeace.org/twostates.html)*  
*Fellowship of Reconciliation (FOR)/Louisville Chapter (502.458.8056) [www.louisville-for.org](http://www.louisville-for.org)*  
*American-Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee (ADC)/Kentucky Chapter (502.893.9828) [www.adckentucky.com](http://www.adckentucky.com)*

# ‘A transformed Alice Walker’ calls for deeper insights

## We Are What We Have Been Waiting For

by Alice Walker 257 pp.  
The New Press, New York, 2006

reviewed by Corrine McCann

In this book of meditations, poetry and essays we meet a transformed Alice Walker. She challenges the reader to look with deeper insight into life in these times. And these are times of global enlightenment. Native American, African and Earth Spiritualities weave with Buddhist thought, feminist theology and other wisdom writings. Walker shares much of her own journey, including the angry and violent years of the 1960s. She addresses the pain of censorship and what it does to her and to others. In defense of her writing with words

## BOOK REVIEW

that are shocking and provocative, Walker mentions that some readers have only glanced at the first few pages of *The Color Purple* and then set the book aside because of unconventional language. Walker has frequently defended her writing by mentioning that other cultures, especially of those persons who are downtrodden, oppressed, broken and marginalized do indeed speak and relate differently than the relatively burden free. She has urged readers to go beyond their comfort level and view her novels with understanding and compassion for the characters. In *We Are What We Have Been Waiting For*, the good of socialism and Fidel Castro and the happy, humble people of

Cuba are acknowledged. The not so good of capitalism, the unequal distribution of wealth, and the abominations of war and its consequences are scrutinized. Those mentioned in detail regarding war are peace activist Cindy Sheehan and others who lose loved ones in Iraq and the Middle East. Walker quotes Albert Einstein, who warned that World War III might be fought with nuclear weapons. If any survive that holocaust, WWIV would be fought with sticks and stones. Regarding the Gospels, Walker mentions the Gnostics and Nag Hammadi scrolls as well as the Canonicals. Readers are urged to write their own Gospels. From the Gospel of Shug, (a character in *The Color Purple*) we have this Beatitude: “Helped (Blessed) are those who love the whole cosmos rather than their own tiny country, city or farm; to them will be shown the unbroken web of life and the meaning of infinity.”

Some of Walker’s chapters end with meditations and/or invitations. These are to help the reader expand his or her own evolutionary consciousness, a way to global peace. Try this exercise paraphrased from page 218: Stand for one minute in a circle or alone with your hand on your heart. Chant the following for 60 seconds: One Earth, One People, One Love.” Perhaps these words will resonate within and throughout the day. Walker’s book is full of surprises. It includes some of her shocking words, so readers beware. As the cover states, it is written for “inner light in a time of darkness.”

*The reviewer lives in Crawfordsville, Ind. and is the retired coordinator of the Earth Education Project of the Kentucky Dominican Sisters.*

# From child’s play at Pentagon to struggling against it

## House of War

by James Carroll  
Houghton Mifflin, Co., 2006, 657 pp.

reviewed by Miriam Corcoran, SCN

“Like slavery before it, war as a legitimate activity can be left behind, and with it the prospect of nuclear war. Indeed, this is an old hope for the new age.” With these consoling words, *Boston Globe* columnist James Carroll inspires readers as they near the end of *House of War*. Subtitled *The Pentagon and the Disastrous Rise of American Power*, this 657-page volume includes text, notes, bibliography, and index.

Carroll wrote 14 books prior to this one and is probably best known for his National Book Award winner, *An American Requiem*. In *House of War*, Carroll recounts the significance of the Pentagon in American and world history from the building’s ceremonial groundbreaking on September 11, 1941, to 2006, the year of the book’s publication. It is indeed singular that the Pentagon commenced almost sixty years to the minute before American Airlines flight 77 crashed into it on September 11, 2001. James Carroll’s personal connection to the Pentagon began in 1947 at age four when his father, Joseph Carroll, received a commission in the reserves as a brigadier general of the U.S. Air Force, the book said, adding that the older Carroll then designed the Air Force Office of Special Investigations which

functioned at the Pentagon. Thus, young James slid down the building’s slick floors and later learned of its various missions as he grew to manhood, he wrote. James Carroll spells out in convincing detail his book’s sub-title, referring to the disastrous rise of American power. *House of War* qualifies as a “two marker book” — one bookmark for the text and another for the copious notes which reveal Carroll’s extensive research. This reader often needed to review Carroll’s accounts of the many defense personnel who have led that “disastrous rise of

American power” from 1943 to the present. This book almost provides a college lecture series in American and world history as it recounts the ways the U.S. has dominated our planet militarily. Carroll concludes his text with a compelling quote that reflects the hopeful words which opened this review. Indeed, all is not “gloom and doom” in *House of War*. Rather, James Carroll believes we can change. Speaking of his deceased father, Carroll writes, “I

learned from him the ultimate lesson of my own mortality. How briefly on the earth we are. Too briefly, I insist, not to find another way to live than by killing.”

*The reviewer is a nun with the Sisters of Charity of Nazareth.*

## CALENDAR (continued from back page)

Oct 12 (Fri) **DECONSTRUCTING VIOLENCE AND BUILDING PEACE**, one-day interdisciplinary conference 8:30-5:00 including panel and break-out discussions. **Keynote Speaker FATHER JOHN DEAR.** (www.johndear.org) Sponsored by the College of Social Sciences & Humanities at Spalding University. Egan Leadership Center. Prior registration \$20. Send check or money order to Spalding University, Dean, CSSH, 851 S 4th St, Louisville, KY 40203. After October 1, \$25 at the door.

**OUT OF TOWN EVENTS**

Sept 15 (Sat) **MARCH ON THE WHITE HOUSE. THOUSANDS WILL GO TO WASHINGTON TO “TURN UP THE HEAT.” Saturday protest will be followed by Monday actions in the halls and offices of Congress to coincide with the report by General Petraeus on the progress of the “surge” in Iraq.** Action will include a mass Die-In/Funeral. www.Sept15.org

Sept 16 (Sun) **YOU ARE INVITED! THIRD ANNUAL FESTIVAL OF PEACE** at FOR’s national headquarters in Nyack, NY. A celebration on the great lawn behind beautiful Shadowcliff overlooking the Hudson River. Open House, 1-5 pm, free. Enjoy live international music, entertainment, children’s activities and performances. Refreshments, books, gifts available for purchase, plus a silent auction and presentation of the Martin Luther King Award and the Pfeffer Peace Prize. It’s worth the trip! Contact Anita Fee, [anita@forusa.org](mailto:anita@forusa.org), www.forusa.org, 845/358-4601, ext.32.

FINANCIAL REPORT	
July 2007	
BEGINNING BALANCE .....	\$6,188.10
Refunded Check .....	150.00
Donations & Honorariums .....	<u>330.22</u>
TOTAL .....	\$6,668.32
EXPENDITURES:	
FORsooth Editing .....	\$150.00
FORsooth Layout .....	100.00
FORsooth Mailing .....	250.00
FOR National Dues .....	75.00
Office Expenses .....	<u>125.58</u>
	\$700.58 <u>\$700.58</u>
ENDING BALANCE .....	\$5,967.74
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	



# US health system’s woes (continued from page 1)

other qualities. This one simple statistic can essentially mean how well a society prepares its children for life. John Komlos, an economic historian at the University of Munich, has spent a quarter of a century computing data on the height of nations. He and other researchers have been trying to figure out how the wealthiest country in the world, during the most robust economic expansion in its history, could simply stop growing. In the June 2007 issue of *Social Science Quarterly*, Komlos suggests the blame may lie within America’s poor diet and inadequate health care. “American children might consume more meals prepared outside of the home, more fast food rich in fat, high energy density and low in essential micro-nutrients,” write Komlos and co-author Benjamin E. Lauderdale of Princeton University. “Furthermore, the European welfare states provide a more comprehensive social safety net, including universal health care coverage.” Here’s an interesting short list of U.S. health care statistics:

- The U.S. is ranked 42nd in life expectancy. Some of the 41 higher-ranked countries are Japan, most of Europe, Jordan, and the Cayman Islands.
- The U.S. has one of the highest obesity rates in the world.

- The U.S. has a higher rate of infant mortality (6.9 per 1,000 live births) than Canada, France, Australia, Britain, and others.
- Health care spending by the U.S. is twice and more the amount spent per capita by Canada, France, Australia, and Britain. This is for the same amount of care. Of course, the four mentioned countries have national health care systems.

In addition to accurate statistics there are also myths and outright deliberate lies by the health-care-for-profit system. Some examples follow:

- Covering all Americans will lead to rationing.
- We cannot afford to cover all U.S. citizens.
- Systems such as Canada’s would result in long waiting lists for needed health care.

The statistics presented so far do not even cover the tip of our health care problem in either a humane or a financial sense. Most nations have already seen that a situation such as ours is absurd and tragic. The idea of creating a single-payer government national health care system has been around in the U.S. at least since Harry S. Truman.

The Clintons even made a spirited effort to overhaul the U.S. system in the 1990s, but were defeated by the efforts of men like Louisville’s own David Jones, co-founder and longtime CEO of Humana,

Inc. who took off a whole year from his “humane” work there to direct the efforts of the health “care” trade organization to frighten and demoralize the country’s population and perpetuate the myths and lies (you won’t get to choose your own doctor; you’ll have to wait years for elective surgery, etc.). So, what’s new 15 years later? Michael McAllister, the current CEO of Humana, is carrying on the grand tradition of fear mongering set in motion by Jones. He claims in an opinion piece written by him and published in the *Courier-Journal* that the CHAMP bill recently passed by the U.S. House of Representatives will pit the seniors in health care need against poor children in health care need, as far as finances go. The bill was written specifically to help children. The C in CHAMP is for children; the H is for health. Edward Langton, M.D., board chairperson of the American Medical Association, responded to McAllister’s op-ed piece in a letter to the *Courier-Journal*, saying that McAllister’s article “is fear mongering at its most shameless. The legislation renews health insurance for children in low-income families and preserves seniors’ access to care by stopping steep Medicare cuts to doctors. To help pay for these two important health care

priorities, Congress will level the playing field between payments to private insurers offering Medicare Advantage plans and traditional Medicare. “Right now, the government is providing the insurance industry with a \$65 billion subsidy, and the cost of this overpayment to Medicare private health plans is borne by all taxpayers.... While McAllister crows to Wall Street analysts that Humana’s second quarter was ‘probably the best quarter we’ve had’ — in part due to a whopping 33 percent increase in its second-quarter Medicare Advantage business — physicians caring for Medicare patients face a 10 percent cut in Medicare payments next year. We believe Congress has its priorities in the right place by passing CHAMP, as do the AARP and other advocates for patients.” So, the long and short of U.S. health care is greed, truly one of the “seven deadly sins.” In this case, greed is certainly a matter of life and death.

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

# Calendar for peacemakers

Sept 5 (Every Wednesday) **DREAM GROUP: Explore the wealth of wisdom in your dreams.** Led by **SUE MAURER** who holds a Certificate in Spiritual Direction from the Haden Institute in North Carolina, and **FRED TANNER** who is trained in Jungian thought. 7:00-9:00. Center for Faith & Action, James Lees Presbyterian Church, 1741 Frankfort Ave. Call 896-0172. Donations welcome.

Sept 6 (Thu) **SINGLE PAYER HEALTH CARE**, every first and third Thursday, 5:30pm. Main library, 4th & York Sts, Board Room, Mezzanine. Call Kay Tillow, 636-1551.

Sept 6 - Sept 13 (Two Thursdays) **LABYRINTH: Inner Connection**, a tool for inner transformation. This ancient form of meditation is a metaphor for our spiritual journey. Led by trained labyrinth facilitators **JEAN PANTHER** and **JANET WILL**. 7:00-8:00 pm. \$30. NOTE LOCATION: Church of the Epiphany, 914 Old Harrods Creek Rd. Call the Center for Faith and Action, 896-0172.

Sept 6 - Oct 11 (Six Thursdays) **YOGA FOR BEGINNERS** led by **Alex Cleveland** who has lived in India and has taught Iyengar style hatha yoga for ten years. Sponsored by Center for Faith & Action. 7:00-8:00 pm. \$60. Crescent Hill United Methodist Church, 201 S Peterson. Call 896-0172. [www.faith-action.org](http://www.faith-action.org)

Sept 7 (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 for a two state solution 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 7 (Fri) **YOUNG DEMOCRATIC SOCIALISTS**, every Friday afternoon, 2:30-4:00 pm. Louisville Free Public Library, Mezzanine, Fourth & York Streets. Call Edward Elam, 502/712-2338.

Sept 7-9 (FSS) Events celebrating the 100th Anniversary of the birth of **ABRAHAM JOSHUA HESCHEL**, Bellarmine University. Contact Dr. Paul Pearson, 502/452-8177. [pmpearson@bellarmine.edu](mailto:pmpearson@bellarmine.edu)

Sept 8 (Sat) **PEAK OIL** Every 2nd Saturday, main library 4th & York, Mezzanine, board room. 9:00am. Call George Perkins, 425-6645.

Sept 8 (Sat) **SATURDAY ACADEMY RESUMES WITH SPECIAL GUEST, Rep. John Yarmuth**, 11:00am. At 11:30, Dr. Blaine Hudson will present the African World Seminar followed by a reception at 12:15. From 12:45 until 2:00 The Race & Reality Series will present a panel on the Supreme Court Decision and JCPS featuring **Raoul Cunningham, Suzy Post, Deborah Stallworth** and **Nancy Demartra**. Free, open to all. DuValle Education Center Cafeteria, 3610 Bohne Ave. Call Marian Vasser, 852-2252.

Sept 8 (Sat) **UNITED NATIONS ASSOCIATION LUNCHEON** featuring **Rep. John Yarmuth**. University Club, Grand Ballroom, UL Belknap Campus. \$25. For tickets, call Genny Scheldorf, 239-5931.

Sept 9 (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](mailto:charmer@ch2m.com)

Sept 9 (Sun) **“BE THE CHANGE” CONCERT WITH COMMUNITY CHOIR LED BY HARRY PICKENS**. First Unitarian Church, 809 S 4th St, 4:00 pm. Celebrating the 25th anniversary of the Peace Education Program. Special guests include John Gage, Renee Morgan-Brooks, Cynthia Fletcher and others. Choir practice will take place on Friday, Sept 7, 7:00 pm and on Saturday from 10:00 to 3:00. Lunch provided. To join the choir, call 589-6583 or e-mail: [peaceeducation@iglou.com](mailto:peaceeducation@iglou.com)

Sept 10 (Mon) **VIPASSANNA MEDITATION**, ancient Theravadan Buddhist practice using the breath as focus of awareness, led by **GLENDa HODGES-COOK** who has practiced vipassanna meditation for thirty years. Every Monday, 6:00-8:30 pm. Donations welcome. Center for Faith & Action, James Lees Presbyterian Church, 1741 Frankfort Ave. Call 896-0172.

Sept 12 (Wed) **KITLAC** (Ky Interfaith Taskforce on Latin America and the Caribbean). Every second Wednesday at the Presbyterian Seminary. Nelson Hall, Room 10, 7:30 pm. Call David Horvath, 479-9262, or Pat Geier, 456-6586.

Sept 13 (Thu) **CITIZENS AGAINST POLICE ABUSE (CAPA)**, every second Thursday at the office of the Kentucky Alliance Against Racist and Political Repression, 3208 W Broadway. 7:00 pm. Call K. A. Owens, 778-8130.

Sept 13 (Thu) **AMERICAN PALESTINE PUBLIC AFFAIRS FORUM (APPAF)**. Every second Thursday at the League of Women Voters Bldg, 115 S Ewing (off Frankfort Ave). 7:30 pm. Call Bashar Masri, 773-1836.

Sept 15 (Sat) **MASS MARCH IN WASHINGTON, DC, TO END THE WAR NOW**. The so-called “Surge” has succeeded at nothing but the killing of an ever-larger number of Iraqis in neighborhoods throughout Baghdad. Every month, more than 3,000 Iraqis are killed, and the US death toll has been higher in the last three months than in any other three-month period of the war. Contact A.N.S.W.E.R. Coalition (Act Now to Stop War and End Racism). [www.Sept15.org](http://www.Sept15.org)

Sept 16 (Sun) **LOUISVILLE COMMITTEE FOR ISRAELI/PALESTINIAN STATES**. (Every third Sunday) First Unitarian Church, 4th & York Streets, 3:00 pm. Call Beverley Mamion, 451-5658.

Sept 17 (Mon) **DEADLINE FOR THE October issue of FORsooth**. Contact **George Morrison, editor**, 944-6460, E-mail: [klm86@att.net](mailto:klm86@att.net) **Note: For calendar listings**, contact Jean Edwards, 458-8056. E-mail: [edwardsfor@bellsouth.net](mailto:edwardsfor@bellsouth.net)

Sept 19 (Wed) **DR. MARY ANN STENGER, UL Professor of Humanities, addressing “Women, Religion & Spirituality: Issues of Power in Global Perspective.”** Sponsored by the U L Department of Women's and Gender Studies as part of the Fall Lecture Series. Chao Auditorium, U of L, 3:00 pm. For details, call 852-8160 or e-mail Dr. Anita Harris at [anita.harris@louisville.edu](mailto:anita.harris@louisville.edu)

Sept 20 (Thu) **THIRD THURSDAY LUNCH** sponsored by the **Fellowship of Reconciliation**, featuring **Phil Schervish**, presenting **“PALESTINE: CITIZEN DIPLOMAT FACT FINDING.”** Phil was part of the eight member **Citizen Diplomat Fact Finding** delegation to Israel and Palestine last February sponsored by the **FOR** Peace-Builders Delegation. Dr. Schervish will help us explore and understand the Matrix of Control and the future of the Two-State solution. He is Professor of Social Work at Spalding University and Cochair of the Louisville FOR chapter. Rudyard Kipling Restaurant, 422 W Oak St. Buffet lunch, \$7, begins at 11:30. Presentation at noon. Reservations required. Call Polly Johnson, 473-8435 or Mary Ann Lambert, 425-3844.

Sept 20 (Thu) **LPAC (Louisville Peace Action Community)** every third Thursday evening. Douglass Blvd Christian Church, 7:00pm. Call Judy Munro-Leighton, 456-6914, or Ellen Schagene, 451-6392. [www.louisvillepeace.org](http://www.louisvillepeace.org) E-mail: [pcunity@yahoo.com](mailto:pcunity@yahoo.com)

Sept 25 (Tue) **KCADP (Ky Coalition to Abolish the Death Penalty)** every last Tuesday. Highland Presbyterian Church, 1011 Cherokee Rd, 6:30pm. Call Kaye Gallagher, 721-8885 or Mark Meade, 541-9998. [kcadp@earthlink.net](mailto:kcadp@earthlink.net)

Sept 25-Dec 18 (Thirteen Tuesdays) **THE ARTIST'S WAY** — “to develop the artist within” drawing from the book by Julia Cameron, *The Artist's Way* — *A Spiritual Path to Higher Creativity*. \$80 plus text. 7:00-9:00. Presented by **GLENN RAYMOND**. Center for Faith & Action, 1741 Frankfort Ave, James Lees Presbyterian Church. Call 896-0172.

Sept 27 (Thu) **FORsooth LABELING**, at Beverley Marmion's, 6:30 pm. **HELP always NEEDED!** Call 451-5658.

Sept 27- Nov 8 (Six Thursdays) **JIN SHIN JYUTSU PHYSIO-PHILOSOPHY (Now I Know—and Help—Myself)**. This ancient healing art will be taught by **JEANNE SULLIVAN, RN, BSN** who has 26 years experience in nursing, and is a member of the American Holistic Nurses Association. She is a certified Jin Shin Jyutsu practitioner and National Coordinator for the Mary Burmeister Jim Shin Jyutsu Outreach. 7:00-9:00 pm. \$90 plus \$18 for texts. This class will be repeated Nov 29-Jan 3. Center for Faith & Action, James Lees Presbyterian Church, 1741 Frankfort Ave. Call 896-0172. [www.faith-action.org](http://www.faith-action.org)

Sept 28 (Fri) **PIZZA and A MOVIE: “Paths of Glory”** — Stanley Kubrick's classic anti-war film. Sponsored by the Center for Faith & Action and Interfaith Paths to Peace. Pizza at 6:00pm. Film at 6:30pm. Please note new location: Christ Church Cathedral, 425 S 2nd St. Free. Donations welcome for pizza. Call 896-0172.

Sept 29 (Sat) **HEALTHY FOOD LOCAL FARMS CONFERENCE** sponsored by Community Farm Alliance at Bellarmine University. Call 502/775-4041. Fax: 502/775-4039

Sept 29 (Sat) **TENTH ANNUAL UNITY DINNER** sponsored by the **Kentucky Alliance Against Racist & Political Repression**. Louisville Gardens, 525 Muhammad Ali Blvd, 6:00 pm. Social hour at 5:00 pm. Keynote Speaker: **Rev. Dr. William Barber**, President of the NAACP in Durham, NC. Honorees will be **Mattie Jones, Kay Tillow, Christopher 2X, Brittany and Ashey Taylor, and Freddy Peralta**. Tickets are \$40. Table of eight \$320. To reserve tickets or tables, call 778-8130. Fax 778-8137, E-mail: [kyall@bellsouth.net](mailto:kyall@bellsouth.net)

Sept 30 (Sun) **LOUISVILLE AIDS WALK**, to benefit people living with HIV/AIDS. 1:00 pm, on the Belvedere. Supports multiple agencies that deliver direct services to people in our community. Call 574-5947. [www.louisvilleaidswalk.org](http://www.louisvilleaidswalk.org)

Sept 30 (Sun) **CONCERT FOR CONTEMPLATION** with **HARRY PICKENS**, internationally known pianist. This will be a kind of sonic yoga, tapping the power of music to help you slow down, relax and deepen your conscious connection with the Source of peace within. 7:30 pm at James Lees Memorial Presbyterian Church, 1741 Frankfort Ave. Donations welcome.

Oct 1 (Mon) **25th Anniversary of UoFL Army ROTC**. Events to mark the occasion will be announced.

Oct 3-31 (Five Wednesdays) **BOOK DISCUSSION LED BY POLLY AND DAVID JOHNSON: *The Left Hand of God — Healing America's Spiritual and Political Crisis*** by Michael Lerner. 7:00-9:00 pm. \$60 plus cost of the book. Center for Faith and Action, James Lees Memorial Presbyterian Church, 1741 Frankfort Ave. Call 896-0172. Note: After the first session, meeting date will be determined by the group.

Oct 2-Nov 6 (Six Tuesdays) **MINDFULNESS MEDITATION FOR BEGINNERS**. Explore the background of vipassana, a Pali word meaning “to see clearly”, and receive guidance in this particular style of Buddhist practice. **GLENDa HODGES-COOK**, a thirty-year vipassana practitioner and Director of the Center for Faith and Action, will lead this group. \$75. James Lees Presbyterian Church, 1741 Frankfort Ave. Call 896-0172. [www.faith-action.org](http://www.faith-action.org)

Oct 5 (Fri) **ANNE FEENEY IN CONCERT, with special guest JOHN GAGE**. Benefit for Kentuckians for Single Payer Healthcare and Physicians for a National Health Program-KY. Central Presbyterian Church, Fourth & Ky streets. 8:00 pm. Donation \$8.00. For tickets send check payable to PNHP-KY to Kay Tillow, 1227 S 6th St, #2. Call 636-1551.

Oct 6 (Sat) **CARE TO BUILD COMMUNITY?** Visit a loosely knit group exploring the various forms of intentional living. Potluck every first Saturday. 5:00-7:00 pm. Call Center for Faith & Action, 896-0172.

Oct 7 (Sun) **VIGIL FOR PEACE** every first Sunday evening remembering all those suffering from conflicts in the Middle East. Bring a sign. Bardstown Road at Douglass Blvd. 7:00-8:00pm, sponsored by **LPAC** (Louisville Peace Action Community). Call Judy Munro-Leighton, 456-6914.

Oct 11-15 (TFSSM) **THE HESCHEL/MERTON PILGRIM-AGE 2007** sponsoed by Interfaith Paths to Peace. Designed to involve 50 individuals in a 5-day pilgrimage in and around the Louisville area, marking the Centennial of the birth of **Abraham Joshua Heschel** and discovering nonviolent ways to address the major problems confronting our community, the nation and the world. Renowned nonviolence educator **Jim McGinnis** of the Institute for Peace and Justice will present an in-depth introduction to the key concepts and practices of nonviolence. To register, call Interfaith Paths to Peace, 214-7322, or e-mail: [director@interfaithpathstopeace.org](mailto:director@interfaithpathstopeace.org).

(continued on page 7)

## 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 Forum) – 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)

COMMUNIST PARTY USA – First Sunday at 5:00 PM (384-3875)

COMMUNITY FARM ALLIANCE OF JEFFERSON COUNTY – 2nd Tuesday (775-4041)

CONVERSATION CAFE – Wednesday evenings (454-4820)

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

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

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 (582-5454)

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 – (774-4305)

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

LOUISVILLE MEDIA REFORM COMMUNITY – 3rd Wednesday (584-4811)

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

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](http://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 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](mailto: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)

911 TRUTH LOUISVILLE (502-609-6020)

YOUNG DEMOCRATIC SOCIALISTS – every Friday at 2:30 PM (712-2338)

*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.*