

# FORsooth

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February 2007

## A ‘silent, gentle display’ notes US, Iraqi deaths in war

by Julie Segal

Three thousand tee-shirts threaded on a primitive clothesline stretching two miles. Three thousand tee-shirts from women and men representing Americans who have lost their lives in the Bush Administration’s unholy Invasion of Iraq. Brings to my mind the brave women in the 1983 who hung their children’s clothes, blankets and toys on the menacing fence surrounding the U.S. Army base at Greenham Commons in England. These women protested for years because they didn’t want a United States arsenal of world war in their country. After the baby clothes were hung, they formed a human chain around the fence and softly sang lullabies. A parent’s music of nurturing, teaching, guidance and peace.

“There is definitely a hush at this corner today, though some folks have honked their horns in alliance. I am hoping some cars are passing by with families whose children ask their parents what this silent, gentle display is all about,” said Judy

Munro-Leighton, one of three facilitators who guide and lead LPAC (the Louisville Peace Action Community). LPAC is an organization of volunteers protesting the Iraq Invasion since long before public opinion swelled against the tremendous

American military personnel and countless Iraqi citizens. “People heard about our demonstration plans and they donated bags stuffed with tee-shirts,” Munro-Leighton said. LPAC had its first and second teeshirt peace lines at Grinstead Drive from

she said. “In addition to displaying these shirts in memory of the fallen, our statement is in opposition to Bush’s plan to escalate the war with his ‘surge’ (that he announced Jan. 10). We’ve opposed this war for four and one-half years. We’ve taken every action we can think of and we will continue.”

At the traffic-filled corner of Taylorsville Road and Hurstbourne they stood. The day was overcast with a light, but chilly sprinkle of rain. Nothing could deter these hard working, brave souls for they were draped in the knowledge that their fortitude over the past four and one-half years was turning public opinion against the Bush Administration’s campaign of devastation in Iraq.

*The writer is a freelance writer in Louisville. She once served as National Membership Director for the U.S. Office of the Women’s International League for Peace & Freedom in Philadelphia.*

LPAC meets the 3rd Thursday of the month from 7 to 9 p.m. at Douglass Boulevard Christian Church on Douglass Boulevard at Bardstown Road in the Louisville’s Highlands. The meetings are held in the gymnasium building behind the church. Meetings are open to the public.

To contact U.S. Senator Mitch McConnell, U.S. Rep. John Yarmuth, and especially Republican members of Congress to cast your vote to end the Iraqi invasion, call 800-828-0498 (toll free).

loss of both American and Iraqi lives precipitated by the Bush Administration’s unprecedented trickerism of its citizens.

LPAC has hung out the United States’ dirty laundry before. Their clothesline alert began when 1,000 American soldiers had died in Iraq and again in October, 2005 when there had amassed 2,000 deaths of

Lexington Road to Cave Hill Cemetery where they received a great response from drivers and pedestrians.

“When the death count rose to 3,000 in December 2006. We collected a thousand more tee-shirts and added them to the clothesline,” explained Munro-Leighton.

“We are making a statement here,”

## Blacks and labor stand only when united, speaker says

by George Morrison  
FORsooth editor

African-Americans and labor have a relationship characterized by mutual success and missed opportunities, Kentucky Jobs with Justice coordinator Attica Scott said Jan. 18.

Scott, speaking at the Louisville FOR’s Third Thursday Lunch, said racial harmony on the labor front has happened in the south and north.

“In the 1890s, black and white dockworkers in New Orleans struck together,” she told the lunch gathering. “Waterfront unions were often a force for uniting workers across racial lines.”

A less favorable alignment was typified, however, by the plans last year to build a sports arena in downtown Louisville.

Labor backed stronger wages, but the city refused to agree to the plan. The lower-wage agreement drew the support of black contractors on the project, Scott said.

“Instead of working together, black contractors were fighting against the building trades (unions),” she said. “Instead of us being pitted against one another, allowing ourselves to attack one another in the media, we really need to sit down at the so-called table of peoplehood and work together.”

Scott, who was educated at Knoxville College in Tennessee, said four forces characterized black labor thinking in the 1920s, when African-Americans began becoming involved in organized labor: class unity on the left, which stressed commonalities of different races; Jim Crow-



— photo by George Morrison

**Attica Scott**

ism in the American Federation of Labor; Booker T. Washington’s vision of collaboration with capital; and the black separatism of Marcus Garvey and others.

From 1910 to 1920, the number of black industrial workers doubled to almost one million, Scott said.

The racism that characterized much of white unionism changed as civil rights became a powerful force, she added. One milestone of this change came in 1963, when top United Automobile Workers union officials paid \$100,000 in bail money for 800 civil rights activists who were arrested in Birmingham, Ala for their peaceful activism.

Two other steps forward happened in 1972, Scott added, when the Coalition of

Black Trade Unionists formed in response to the AFL-CIO refusing to endorse the presidential candidacy of U.S. Senator George McGovern.

Also that year, the Labor Committee for Latin American Advancement formed, she said.

Several people attending the lunch asked about the racial gap in peace and justice activism, specifically blacks choosing justice over peace and whites protesting for peace while failing to seriously embrace economic justice.

Scott cited an example while she was living in Knoxville as the Bush Administration was about to start the Iraq war and protests against the war were held only in white parts of the city.

“What we did was... to say ‘Why don’t you bring those protests to East Knoxville, which is a predominantly black area? Add some black folks to speak. Add some black organizations, like the NAACP, to co-sponsor some of the events with you.... Why don’t you travel and come to our part of the community?’ And that

happened on a couple of occasions and it was ... a very good way to continue the process of relationships.”

Looking around the room at the Rudyard Kipling restaurant (known informally as “the Rud”) in racially mixed Old Louisville, where the Third Thursday Lunches have been held since their start in the mid 1990s - usually attracting few minorities — Scott added: “It would be wonderful to have a gathering like this and ask the Coalition of Black Trade Unionists and the A. Phillip Randolph Institute to... co-sponsor it with you, and take it outside the Rud.”

*David Coyte, an activist with the Coalition for the Advancement of Regional Transportation, will speak at the Feb. 15 Third Thursday Lunch on transportation and its connections to peace. The lunch will be at the Rudyard Kipling Restaurant, 422 W Oak St. and costs \$7. It begins at 11:30 a.m. with the presentation at noon. Reservations are required by Feb. 13. Call Polly Johnson at (502) 473-8435 or Mary Ann Lambert at (502) 425-3844.*



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

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# March would make Thurgood Marshall, others proud

by Gracie Lewis

The Kentucky Alliance Against Racist and Political Repression joined the New Civil Rights Movement in Washington, D.C. in a march Dec. 6 to coincide with the U.S. Supreme Court’s hearing of the landmark cases from Louisville and Seattle about race and school admission.

Shanta Driver, a lawyer and chief organizer of BAMN (By Any Means Necessary) and an organizer of the March, led the way. This group has been instrumental in driving the New Civil Rights Movement forward in the struggle to Save Brown v. Board of Education and to defend affirmative action. On Sunday night, December 3, Kathleen Parks and I rallied at Howard University. Howard students gathered at 4:30 a.m. to lead the protest at the Supreme Court. It was a good thing to witness a new generation of leaders emerge right before my eyes.

Thurgood Marshall would have been very proud to see the diversity of the civil rights advocates and students who had gathered. This is where the Brown v. Board of Education case picked up speed more than 50 years ago — from the dedication and work of many Howard University law students who paved the way for the decision.

I was reminded of Dr. Martin Luther King’s profound statement concerning “The Measure of a Man.” He said, “the ultimate measure of a man is not where he stands in moments of comfort and convenience, but where he stands at times of challenge and controversy.”

We are standing at the time of challenge and controversy. Race does matter. Nancy Benac reported for Associated Press: “The Supreme Court is diving into a debate over school diversity that is as old as Reconstruction-era efforts to integrate blacks into the mainstream and as new as the 5:35 start time on some buses carrying students across town in Louisville, Ky.”

Yet do not be deceived; this battle is not solely about “diversity;” it is about white privilege and racism, and we will not slide back into segregation.

It is important that everyone understand that the Supreme Court will deter-

mine if race still matters in obtaining an education, and, if so, how much leeway districts should have to address it. We know that, in education, race matters. Honoring the legacy of warriors like Rosa Parks, Coretta Scott King, and Anne Braden we say, “No Rollback on Civil Rights Gains.”

Damu Leroy Wesley Smith, even on his deathbed, fought hard to make sure his 12-year-old daughter received a quality education. Henry Wallace and Sterling Neal, Jr., gave their lives fighting for equal access. They supported the federal court decisions now being challenged.

So, the Kentucky Alliance led the way, bringing along a progressive network of people familiar with the history of desegregation; activists of various races who fought to end segregation; retired school teachers who integrated facilities of once-segregated schools; adults who as children were some of the first black students to attend an all-white school; and civil rights and human rights leaders who have been involved in school desegregation; and youth who were eager to march. They merged to become the new generation of leaders. Oh, what a day we had in Washington, D.C.

I was one of the speakers at the rally in front of the Supreme Court. I informed the participants how this case started and that it was not about “race” but about an untimely decision by the petitioner to transfer her son into the school of her choice. Because parent Crystal Meredith did not file for a transfer in a timely manner, the race-conscious Student Assignment Plan — which allows schools to be not less than 15 percent, nor greater than 50 percent African-American — was taken into consideration, and her son was denied entrance at that time.

The following year she filed in a timely manner, and her son was admitted into the elementary school of her choice, Bloom Elementary. He had been attending there for two years when this case was accepted by the Supreme Court. The parent has also moved into the Bloom Elementary area.

So, the question remaining is why is the Supreme Court intervening? We must be smart enough to look beyond mere appearances and get to the heart of the

matter. This case is about “white privilege,” not about racial preference. It offers a real opportunity for the court to roll back the gains of the Civil Rights movement. America is one of the most racially and ethnically diverse nations in the world. Times have changed. This generation will be working in a global market, and we have to address the issue of diversity. Further, we need whatever time we have to concentrate on the real issues of our schools, such as deteriorating infrastructures, the achievement gap, smaller classrooms, more teachers, and preparing a new generation to work in a global market. But, here we stand at this moment in history where we can slide right back into a segregated society all over again!

This decision will not only affect Louisville and Seattle, but more than 1,500 school districts nationwide with voluntary

desegregation plans. Because of the stakes, students and activists gathered at the Supreme Court early in the morning; in fact, they camped out. Students from across the country participated in the rally and march. After hearing speeches from activists and lawyers, such as Hillary Shelton of the NAACP, Dr. Charles Ogletree, professor at Harvard University, and many others, participants marched from the Supreme Court to the Lincoln Memorial in freezing weather. Tom Moffett, an 82-year-old veteran civil rights advocate from Louisville, proudly marched alongside this new generation of leaders. He said: “I didn’t get tired until I got to the Lincoln Memorial.”

*The writer is an activist with the Kentucky Alliance Against Racist and Political Repression and REACT, a group fighting pollution in West Louisville.*

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Note: If you are already receiving *FORsooth* but haven't sent a contribution lately, please send your check now to help with our increasing expenses.

## Call for reform of media is almost total at hearing

Louisville media reform activists lent their voices Dec. 11 to a nearly unanimous call for less corporate control of media.

Seven members of the Louisville Media Reform Community traveled to Nashville’s Belmont University, where the Federal Communications Commission held a hearing on media ownership. A news release by the LMRC called the hearing: “a six-hour thunderstorm of near unanimous voices calling for an end to corporate supported media policy... a rally to take back the airwaves.”

Commissioners heard first from a panel representing the Nashville music community: singers, songwriters, producers, who weighed-in solidly against dumbed-down playlists, and for locally owned radio, the LMRC said.

The release said speakers were “soundly opposed to the Clear Channel-ization of radio that smothers independent artists’ opportunities.”

For more information about the LMRC’s work, go to [www.louisvillemediareform.org](http://www.louisvillemediareform.org)

## Back from Cuba, brigade is available for speaking

Members of the Henry Wallace Brigade are reporting about their trip to Cuba in December at forums around Louisville.

The brigade, named for the late justice activist and strong supporter of Fidel Castro’s revolution, have spoken at The Braden Center and a church and are available to speak before other groups.

A news release said the talks’ topics have included:

- Why has the United States had an economic embargo on this nation for over 45 years and why does our government not want us to travel to Cuba?
- How can a poor country provide health care and education for all of its people?
- Is there democracy in Cuba?
- How is the situation for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people in Cuba?
- Does racism still exist in Cuba? What are they doing about it?

Call (502) 558-3568 for more information or to invite a Henry Wallace Brigade member to speak about her or his experience.



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Founded 1915

FORsooth

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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.

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# Global effort aims to aid masses by curbing corruption

by Tom Louderback

How many times have you heard your family and friends complain that donating money to international relief efforts is a waste because of government corruption in the poor countries? Maybe you figure, as I do, that complaints like these are just excuses.

You know that non-governmental organizations (NGOs) do effective work in many countries where the governments have failed.

These NGOs include CARE, Save the Children, World Vision, American Jewish World Service, Catholic Relief Services, Church World Service, UNICEF, and dozens more. As you can see, many of them are household names. You're as confident as I am that money donated to them is used efficiently. Your donations are money well-spent.

Here's some more good news. There is also an international NGO working for more effective anti-corruption laws in countries around the world, particularly the less-developed countries. It's known as Transparency International. See

[transparency-usa.org](http://transparency-usa.org). The organization has chapters in 80 countries.

Transparency International advocates the following reforms country by country:

- A national office in each country for the investigation and prosecution of bribery.
- Increased public awareness that bribery is a crime.
- Readily accessible reporting systems for bribery complaints.
- Adequate protection for whistle-blowers.
- Requirements that tax departments report the bribes they uncover.
- Corporate criminal liability laws.
- Longer statutes of limitations that allow sufficient time for investigation of bribes.
- Corporate anti-corruption compliance programs.
- Extension of Transparency International's anti-corruption network to more countries.

Transparency International's activities include ongoing research of international transactions, annual progress reports,

annual surveys of best practices, an anti-corruption handbook, international consulting, annual strategic planning meetings, and anti-corruption conferences.

Speaking to a Transparency International anti-corruption conference in Africa a few years ago, President Festus Mogae of Botswana pointed out the obvious.

"Corruption exacerbates poverty in that it effectively transfers real resources from official state coffers to the few rich and powerful," he said. The president added that corruption distorts prices and increases the costs of public works. It also corrupts economic development by funneling funds to projects that produce little public benefit.

Other speakers said that corruption is especially cruel to poor people, saying it destroys human rights and public hopes for economic stability and democracy and has been a contributing factor to civil strife and war in Liberia, Sierra Leone, Burkina Faso, Malawi, Kenya, The Democratic Republic of the Congo, and other countries.

As for solutions, the participants of this conference generally agreed that "strictly legalistic approaches" to fighting

corruption are not good enough.

Time and time again, speakers detailed a critical need for public support from the local civic organizations. Public officials who are willing to commit themselves to reform need strong public backing, they said. Or, as one participant put it, local civic organizations can make reform happen "by empowering citizens through civic education so that they can demand accountable and transparent governance from their governments and local authorities."

This is where Transparency International and its local chapters step into the picture. They are assembling the "anti-corruption tool kit" citizens and their public officials need.

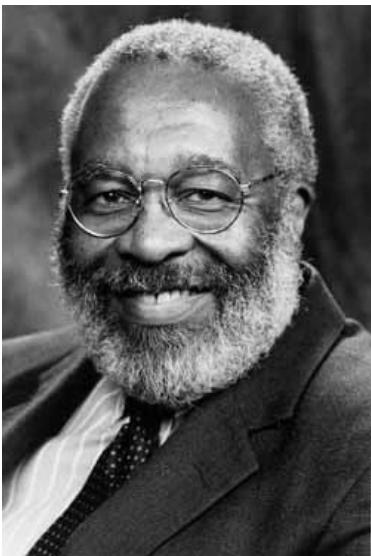
The next time you hear someone complain about corrupt governments in poor countries, tell him or her you've heard that civic organizations all over the world are pressuring their governments for anti-corruption reform.

*The writer, of Louisville, is a volunteer for several causes and a member of the Louisville Friends Meeting.*

## Vincent Harding

**"Thomas Merton and the Tragedy and the Hope of America."**

**Thursday 22nd February, 2007, 7 pm**  
**Frazier Hall, Bellarmine University**  
Free and Open to the Public



Vincent Harding was an associate of the late Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, in the sixties he met and corresponded with Thomas Merton, and now serves as Professor of Religion and Social Transformation at Illiff School of Theology in Denver, Colorado. He has written numerous books, including *Martin Luther King: The Inconvenient Hero*.

Before Illiff, Vincent Harding taught at Pendle Hill Study Center, University of Pennsylvania, Temple University and Spelman College. Among his publications are *The Other American Revolution*; *There Is a River, Vol. 1*; *Hope and History*; *Martin Luther King: The Inconvenient Hero*, and *We Changed the World* (with R. Kelly and E. Lewis). Dr. Harding has had a long history of involvement in domestic and international movements for peace and justice, including the southern Black freedom struggle. He was the first director of the Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial Center in Atlanta and served as director and chairperson of The Institute of the Black World. He was senior academic consultant to the award-winning PBS television series, *Eyes on the Prize*.

He currently serves as co-chairperson of the Veterans of Hope Project: A Center for the Study of Religion and Democratic Renewal at Illiff, and as Vice President of Institutional Transformation.

The Thomas Merton Center would like to thank the following sponsors of the event: Cultivating Connections, the Bellarmine University Ethics and Social Justice Center, the Bellarmine University Office of Campus Ministry, Interfaith Paths to Peace, and the Louisville Chapter of the Fellowship of Reconciliation. If you would like to help in sponsoring this visit please contact Paul Pearson at the Thomas Merton Center – 502 452 8177, [pmpearson@bellarmine.edu](mailto:pmpearson@bellarmine.edu).



# Theses: homelessness is shown to be deadly problem

by Ike M. Thacker IV  
and Eustace Durrett

The following is based on remarks delivered by Ike Thacker to the Louisville Metro Council Nov. 9.

Thank you very much for this fifth opportunity to address the council. Two of my previous four presentations have dealt with the problem of people who have no place to live in the U.S.; what follows is thus a somewhat familiar “refrain.” But there are some significant new twists regarding the scourge of homelessness this time, so perhaps you all can at least “refrain” from throwing rotten tomatoes or whatever at me.

Seriously, now: the philosopher and economist Karl Marx in the spring of 1845 penned his now-famous “Theses on Feuerbach” (Feuerbach was an older contemporary of Marx’s who had written widely and influentially on philosophy, religion, and psychology).

It seems that Marx, the “fiery” radical, was attracted to, and attracted, “fiery” lifelong students. “Feuer” means “fire” in German, constitutes the first five letters in “Feuerbach,” and was the last name of the editor of the only Marx-Engels anthology I have read cover-to-cover.

Anyway, for our purposes here, only Marx’s 11th and final Thesis on Feuerbach is relevant. It reads, in its entirety:

“The philosophers have only interpreted the world, in various ways; the point, however, is to change it.”

In the spirit of Feuerbach and Marx, then, I offer the following “Theses On Homelessness:”

**I – Homelessness in the U.S. exists for some only as a source of sick, deadly fun.**

**Evidence:** a report aired on CBS’s “60 Minutes” on October 1, 2006, birthday of the Chinese government (and me) noted

that each month for the past five years, at least one homeless person has been killed in the U.S. for no apparent reason. Packs of baseball-bat-wielding teenage boys go “bum-hunting,” for “fun” suggested in part by a similar video game. The result is murder, or at least manslaughter.

Where once, for example in the 1930s, we viewed the homeless as harmless hobos and helped them (“There but for the grace of God go I”), today many feel threatened by them and kill!

**II – Homelessness is, in fact, deadly on its own.**

**Evidences:** Even the conservative JAMA has reported that [in Atlanta] the median homeless death age is 44!

A nationwide U.S. study in the mid-1980s put this age at 51.

In New York City in 1999, homeless people’s death rate was 2-3 times “normal.”

**III – There are lots of homeless persons in the U.S thus suffering, and the number is growing rapidly.**

**Evidences:** there exist widely varying estimates, but those of the National Law Center on Homelessness and Poverty are pretty generally recognized as the best (by the way, there were only about 500,000 people homeless in the U.S. in 1987). The Law Center estimates that 3.5 million

people experience homelessness in a given year in the U.S., of whom 1.35 million are children; 700,000 to 2 million persons in the U.S. are homeless on any given night.

Dr. Ellen Bassuk of the National Center on Family Homelessness puts the figure at about 1.5 million and notes that (all of her figures are for 2006, as opposed to only one percent 20 years ago, are members of families.

Locally, we know that there are some 10,000 homeless households (out of only 287,000 total: this according to the top Abramson administration official, testifying before a subcommittee of this Council).

**IV – The homeless do NOT choose to be so.**

This would seem to be obvious, but there are numerous conservatives who really say, incredibly, the reverse (one early one was Ronald Reagan himself, who as a sort of parting shot two days before Christmas in 1988 said that the homeless “make it their own choice”).

Marlene Gordon, executive director of the Coalition for the Homeless, has the obvious rejoinder (to which I would add questioning how many “choose” homelessness to begin with): nobody, she notes, wants to grow up to be homeless, and whatever small number do make such a “choice” as adults would not do so if they had mental-health and/or substance-abuse problems resolved.

**V – Homelessness is often “forever.”**

**Evidences:** Here, local figures mirror national ones that put “chronic” homelessness at about three-fifths of the total, so I give local “numbers:” approximately 60 percent of Louisville’s homeless in 2003 had been without a place to live for more than six months; some 36 percent had been homeless for more than a year.

**VI – Building new basic shelter for the homeless, or even just collecting rent from them, would stimulate the economy very significantly.**

Just think (this is pretty obvious): millions locally and billions nationally.

What all of this comes down to, to conclude with a sort of unnumbered final thesis, is a basic, simple fact which we as a nation have somehow forgotten since the “Reagan summer” of 1980 (i.e., we have cut funding for housing assistance by some 75 percent since then): putting roofs over people’s heads is, without qualification, a tremendously good thing.

*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.*



## PAUL ROBESON FILM FESTIVAL

In celebration of  
Black History Month  
*February 2007*

*The films to be shown on successive weekends:*

***Song of Freedom* [1936]  
*Jericho (Dark Sands)* [1937]  
*Big Fella* [1938] and  
*The Emperor Jones*\*\*[1933]**

### Screening schedule:

**11:00 a.m. Saturdays---February 3, 10, 17, 24, at Highlands/  
Shelby Park Branch Library, Mid-City Mall (1250 Bardstown Rd.)**

**4:00 and 7:00 p.m. Sundays---Feb. 4, 11, 18, 25, at The Elaine Chao  
Auditorium in the basement of the Ekstrom (main) Library,  
University of Louisville. (Easiest parking -Speed Museum ramp)**

**FREE admission! (\$5.00 donation encouraged to help defray screening  
costs and benefit the Kentucky Alliance Against Racist and Political  
Repression). For more information, contact Ike Thacker at 502/409-8706  
or ike5775@yahoo.com, or David Horvath at 502/852-7589.**

**\*\*The last of these is probably the best-known. It is based on the Eugene  
O'Neill play, in which Robeson also played the lead. *Song of Freedom* was  
reshown at the 1950 celebrations of the Ghanaian independence party.**

Sponsors include: The University of Louisville Commission on Diversity  
and Racial Equality, The Ekstrom Library and The Left Alternative.



# The battle of 22nd street and the racial bias it revealed

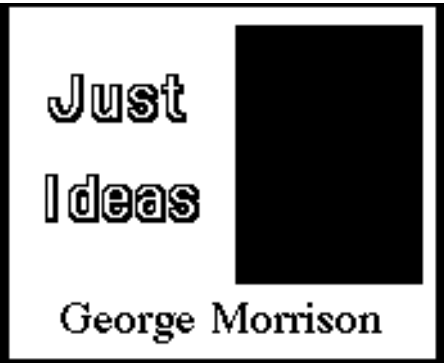
When racial justice activists recently asked the city to rename 22<sup>nd</sup> street for Martin Luther King Jr., they shed light on long hidden biases, resentment and the tendency to minimize the accomplishments of the great civil rights leader.

Twenty-second runs mostly through the historic African-American neighborhood of Russell, but north of Main street, it is in Portland, a majority white neighborhood, which, like Russell, is aware of its history and ethnicity.

Unlike Russell, however, the thought of renaming the street for King alarmed leaders and many residents. At a public hearing, Portland folks listed every reason for opposing the name change, stopping just short of race itself.

In television interviews, some residents said they want it known that Portland isn't a black neighborhood. Many at the hearing said they want the street to be named for someone who reflects the Irish and German heritage of Portland.

One man said that Martin Luther King Jr. "is not a part of our neighborhood."



A letter writer to the Courier-Journal deftly responded by asking whether the number 22 has some special significance to the Irish and German people. After all, residents have never asked that the name 22<sup>nd</sup> street be changed so it would reflect such ethnicity. Good point.

To the claim that King "is not a part of our neighborhood," I would ask Portland residents to reconsider the popular myth that underlies that statement - the myth that the civil rights movement left poor whites

behind by advocating only for minorities.

It's a widely believed notion; national news media repeatedly asked civil rights leaders during the 1960s and early 70s whether they were leaving whites behind.

So what was the movement? Consider that in the final days of his life, Martin Luther King was busily planning a "Poor People's March" on Washington - not a black people's or white people's march; this was to push society to help all the poor.

That march was, overall, considered unsuccessful, partly because King wasn't there to direct it, but its momentum helped lead to the creation of the Women Infants and Children nutrition program (WIC), which benefits whites in need on the same basis as minorities. This means it benefits Portland as much as Russell or other black neighborhoods.

Consider the food stamp program, which has reduced hunger in Portland and the school breakfast and school lunch programs, which have also eased suffering. King's efforts led directly to these and Portland feels their presence every school day.

Head start, which serves all poor children without regard to race, is another benefit Portland enjoys thanks to King's courageous activism.

Remember also that the civil rights movement brought about a U.S. constitutional amendment eliminating poll taxes, which were used in the south to prevent blacks from voting, but which prevented millions of poor whites, too, from casting ballots and controlling their government.

Kentucky did not have poll taxes, but the fact that no state does today is another victory by Martin Luther King and the civil rights movement for all poor people, whites included.

The late Anne Braden (I still can't get used to saying that), who died last year, said in many interviews when the questioner would dredge up the old myth about poor whites being left behind: "Every victory of the civil rights movement benefited poor whites."

Indeed, Martin Luther King Jr. was and is very much a part of Portland.

Contact George Morrison at [klm86@netzero.net](mailto:klm86@netzero.net).

## Third Thursday Lunches

*presented by the*

### Fellowship of Reconciliation

FEBRUARY-APRIL, 2007

- February 15<sup>th</sup>

**Transportation Policy and Peacemaking: Seeing the Connections**  
David Coyte, President of the Coalition for the Advancement of Regional Transportation, will present CART's position that there is no single US internal investment policy that affects our foreign policy more than transportation. Coyte will discuss the socially unjust, environmentally destructive and economically unsustainable nature of our current policies and present alternatives that will address these issues.
- March 15<sup>th</sup>

**Interactions of Gender and Race: Heroic Struggle, Political Expediency and Moral Conviction in the Movement for US Women's Suffrage**  
In celebration of Women's History Month, Mary Karen Powers, Director, U of L Women's Center, will discuss the interaction of gender and race. This issue was difficult for some suffragists of the 19<sup>th</sup> Century, who accepted racial segregation as a necessary cost to win southern support for passage of the 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment to the Constitution. The issue remains a challenging one for activists committed to social change in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.
- April 19<sup>th</sup>

**Cuba: Revolution in Motion**  
Representatives of the "Henry Wallace Brigade", (23 people who visited Cuba in December, 2006) will discuss the dynamic progress in Cuba around issues of racism, homophobia and community building. They will share how Cubans are dealing with issues that concern us all.

Please note: The Rudyard Kipling Continues to Welcome Us for These Luncheons!

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



For reservations, call Polly Johnson (473-8435) or Mary Ann Lambert (425-3844) by Tuesday before the Lunch.

# Thousands gather to consider ways to win back media

A sea of people, over 3,500 strong, converged on the Convention Center in Memphis, Tennessee on January 12 for the National Conference for Media Reform. The hotels, even the Beale Street tourist area (“home of the blues”), were festooned with placards welcoming us, and our disposable incomes.

Your humble scribe gets majorly frustrated at the vapid, vacuous, regurgitated national news via the public relations whores of General Electric (owner of the NBC network), billionaire Rupert Murdoch (FOX), Viacom (CBS), Disney (ABC), Time-Warner (CNN) ad nauseum.

Local Louisville TV news consists of human interest tidbits, traffic accidents, robberies and rapes (horrible crimes, to be sure), and a wee bit of information on economics, politics and social services relevant to the huddled masses and the middle class — just as it is in the rest of the country. What if they eliminated the inane banter, had a lot of info on economics, politics and social services?

Almost nothing is broadcast about the economic and political rape of the Louisville working class by the business elite, of the battles of organized labor, women, minorities, lesbians and gays, disabled, older folk, etc. Our one major newspaper, the Gannett (USA Today)-owned Courier-Journal, has no labor section. What they do cover on labor is to be found in the Business section.

The National Conference on Media Reform, a much-needed antidote, assembled journalists, some small business people, labor union officials, bloggers, alternative radio and other activists, technocrats and intellectuals.

There was a smorgasbord of speakers: Bill Moyers, Rev. Jesse Jackson, Danny Glover and Jane Fonda were informed and nuanced plenary keynoters, serenading us with the possibilities for public control of the airwaves, and challenging us to take action against the media mogul Macbeths-who-doth-murder-sleep.

Danny Glover reminded us: “Our compelling task is (figuring out) how to organize our struggles into... power.” Jane Fonda, whom I had not heard speak on matters other than exercising for many years, was politically brilliant, and funny as well: “Why, I even had big media right in my very own bedroom,” she said, referring to her ex-husband, then head of CNN. You can see the entire conference on streaming video at [www.freepress.net](http://www.freepress.net).

There were a few socialist and anarchist groups present, hawking publications and t-shirts. But conspicuous in their absence from the dais, or most panels, were folk from groups like the Black Commentator or Portside, of analysts like Michael Parenti, folk who see the corporatization of media not as an aberration or mis-ordering of priorities, but rather as the effort of an economic system in decay trying to hide its malignancy.

The number of African Americans present - 200 — was praised by Malkia Cyril, of the Youth Media Council (Oakland, California), yet it should have been higher. There was not enough Latino/



Latina representation.

About 20 people attended the conference from here in Louisville, representing Louisville Media Reform, Jefferson County Teachers Association (part of the National Education Association), Jobs With Justice, Kentucky Alliance Against Racist and Political Repression, Kentuckians for the Commonwealth and the Kentucky Foundation for Women. A reporter from alternative paper LEO was also present.

There were almost 100 panels and workshops at the conference, running concurrently maybe 10 panels at a time. Miyoung-Joon Kim, an activist from South Korea, spoke on a panel titled “Beyond Rights and Reform: Imagining a Global Movement for Media Justice Featuring You.” He said: “U.S. activists (need to learn from) experiences of other countries.” And then he explained neo-liberalism, free trade agreements, and the need for general access to broadband, all struggles in which South Korean activists are invested.

Janvieve Williams spoke in behalf of the U.S. Human Rights Network, representing 250 organizations. They produce a program, “This week in Peoples’ History.” One show talked about how a woman died after abortions were banned in Nicaragua.

Another panel your correspondent attended, “Quality Journalists Equals Quality Journalism,” featured speakers from The Newspaper Guild, the Communication Workers of America (CWA), a reporter from the St. Louis Post-Dispatch, and a journalist/union officer from the Memphis Commercial-Appeal. The report of the struggle at the Commercial-Appeal, where workers have not had a raise in years, was wrenching.

Linda Foley, president of The Newspaper Guild, pointed out that, since 2001, 40,000 journalists have lost their jobs, 36,000 of them in newspapers alone. Some job loss estimates go as high as 70,000. She went on to describe bloggers:

“Forty two percent of bloggers don’t verify facts; 59 percent, when wrong, don’t publish corrections.” Your humble correspondent arose to point out that in addition to bloggers publishing “crap,” so do “trained journalists,” the latter because they are often the stenographers for big business and have no choice if they want that paycheck. The focus should not be on “qualifications,” but rather unity. Amen.

The conference was invigorating, if focused on an overabundance of issues. There has been talk of gathering together the Louisville attendees, from the various groups, to discuss it further.

Lucinda Marshall, representing the Kentucky Foundation for Women at the conference, recently reported on Sarah Olson, a reporter for Truthout: “She is the reporter who is being subpoenaed to testify in the case of 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Ehren Watada [the first commissioned officer to refuse deployment to Iraq]. This case has the potential of having a chilling impact on journalism and free speech.

“As I read about her case, what really struck me is (sic) that this could so easily happen to any of those of us who regularly interview people and because of that, this feels very personal.”

Olson explains why she will not testify: “It is stunningly ironic that the Army seeks my testimony — the testimony of a journalist — in a case against free speech itself. What could be more hostile to the idea of a free press than a journalist participating in the suppression of newsworthy speech?”

Olson continues: “It seems clear that the U.S. Army is attempting to redefine the parameters of acceptable speech and to classify dissent as a punishable offense. Subpoenaing journalists in this case unequivocally sends the message that dissent is neither tolerated nor permitted.”

Part of the reason for this malicious threat of prosecution has to do with the changed international view, one that is now overt in its criticism of U.S. aggression and atrocity in Iraq. Over 3,000 U.S. citizens, mostly soldiers, and hundreds of thousands of Iraqis, mostly civilians, have died, and now more are dying, even after our reasons for invading Iraq to begin with have been shown to be pure lies.

But the times, indeed, they are a-changin’. What we’ve done to Iraq is related to what we’ve done at Guantanamo. Writes Alexia Garamfalvi in a dispatch Dec. 25: “No one thinks that Donald Rumsfeld will end his days in a German prison. Or that there is any real chance he will have to face trial in

Germany over allegations that he authorized policies leading to the torture of prisoners at U.S. detention facilities in Iraq and Guantánamo Bay, Cuba.

“But that doesn’t mean that a complaint filed in Germany last month won’t have some ripple effects. The complaint asks a federal prosecutor there to begin an investigation, and ultimately a criminal prosecution, of the former secretary of defense (Donald Rumsfeld) and other U.S. officials for their roles in the abuses.

“ ‘Rumsfeld is no longer untouchable,’ says Wolfgang Kaleck, the German lawyer who filed the complaint along with the New York-based Center for Constitutional Rights (CCR) and the International Federation for Human Rights. ‘He is now deeply connected with claims of abuses and torture. We have taken the first step to begin the legal discussion on his accountability.’ ”

Just as two parts of the world, Iran and Nicaragua, came to haunt the U.S. in the 1980s as the Iran-Contra Affair, so now the Abu Ghraib tortures and the crimes committed at Guantánamo are also being linked via this CCR suit.

Well, now, it’s yours truly’s come-uppance time, from my picky, if faithful, readers. One of the listservs that carries this column is from Chicago. Dennis Dixon wrote in with reference to the December-January Labor Paeans, wherein your columnist wrote: “Nor must we forget that the Republican far-right (is this an oxymoron?) still rules the executive roost.” Brother Dixon comments: “In this case you mean ‘redundancy’ — not oxymoron... It’s like the term ‘corporate greed’ — which is a redundancy since ‘greed’ is the entire raison d’etre of corporations in the first place. In this case, the Republican party has now become synonymous with ‘reactionary’ — which was not always true.” Your contrite columnist stands corrected.

Jim Clifford of San Diego, Ca., a former Louisvillian, writes: “i assume u mean supported rather than opposed in ‘Nor have the Democrats opposed as a whole the U.S. troop withdrawal in Iraq.’ ”

He then repeats Dixon’s criticism, above, and ends with a hyphen-correction: “i assume u meant non filthy-rich rather than non-filthy rich in ‘For every 51 votes Yarmuth got, Northup got 48, which included many, many non-filthy rich folk.’ ”

Dennis and Jim: I appreciate your punctiliousness. Just don’t go to sleep with both eyes closed, you hear?

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



## 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](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)



PLASTICS RECYCLING TO EXPAND

When I read this headline in the Louisville Courier-Journal (12/2/06) I realized that the age of miracles is not over. How many years have I grieved each time I threw out a plastic margarine tub or a cottage cheese container because they were not recyclable. Until now, only those plastics marked No. 1 and No. 2 have been accepted.

The reason for the change is that Asian markets (mainly China) have opened up. They will accept plastics with Nos. 3-7 for reuse to make many things including binders, decking, toys and furniture. Mayor Jerry Abramson sounded very upbeat when he made the announcement on TV.

“If you’ve got a plastic container and it’s got a number on it, we’re going to take it. This makes recycling more convenient and takes the guesswork out of which plastics are recyclable and which are not.”

As for my enthusiasm, I have been a recycling fanatic ever since I saw a film about all of the garbage that goes to landfills. Now I understand so well that we must reduce the volume headed in that direction.

My mind goes back to the time when there was no recycling in Louisville. I remember so well when Sarah Lynn Cunningham and Scott Houchen (students then at U of L) obtained a container and placed it on the campus. At first they only requested that folks bring newspapers. But the campaign took off, the Paddlewheel Alliance was formed, the city finally gave permission for them to use the Hubbards Lane site, and there they were every Saturday accepting a number of items as the cars drove in one after the other. It was a real sacrifice for the Paddlewheelers to be on duty in all kinds of weather. They were faithful and very strict with instructions about what items could be brought in and how they should be separated. Who would have dreamed that the city would take over and send trucks to the



neighborhoods to pick up the recyclable materials? We have come a long way. The Louisville community is very much into this.

However we have not solved the styrofoam quagmire. At one point, concerned individuals organized a successful campaign with Kroger to package eggs in cardboard boxes instead of styrofoam. This continued for some time. After quite a number of years, the eggs began to come in styrofoam again. We have not been given a very good reason for this except “that’s the way they come.”

And what about all of the styrofoam cups used by churches and other institutions? Now we have a good alternative to change to plastic cups that can be recycled. Of course, since no pick-up service is provided for churches, members will have to be responsible for taking the cups to the recycling center. This is a worthy goal because styrofoam is very difficult to break down and it lasts forever in the landfill.

PEACE BEING SOWN AMONG OLIVE TREES

Jewish volunteers help Palestinians harvest crops

These headlines appeared in an article by John Murphy, Sun Foreign Reporter, October 17, 2006. He describes what is happening in Kafr Qalil, West Bank. Excerpts are given here.

Since the outbreak of the Palestinian uprising in 2000, conflict, destruction and fear have hurt the annual harvest of olives. Jewish settlers from hilltop communities in the West Bank have attacked and harassed pickers and cut down olive trees. Several Palestinian farmers have been killed.

The Israeli army and police have done little to stop the violence. In 2004, after Jewish settlers prevented many Palestinians from picking their olives, several Palestinian villaqges and two Israeli rights groups (The Association for Civil Rights in Israel and Rabbis for Human Rights) filed a court petition to enable farmers to harvest their crop.

In June, Israels high court ruled unanimously that the army must grant Palestinian farmers access to their olive groves at all times and protect them from settlers. **“Our policy is to allow Palestinians to get every last olive from every last tree, even if that tree is in the middle of a settlement,”** said Captain Adam Avidan, a spokesman for the Israeli military’s civil administration in the West Bank.

And so during this season, hundreds of Israeli soldiers and police are patrolling stony hillside groves near Jewish settlements in the West Bank. Palestinians, usually fearful of Israeli authorities, are welcoming their presence.

Still, there have been some problems. Settlers set fire to two olive groves, and Israeli police arrested 10 settler youths, carrying knives, saws and brass knuckles. They were suspected of attacking and beating Palestinians harvesting olives.

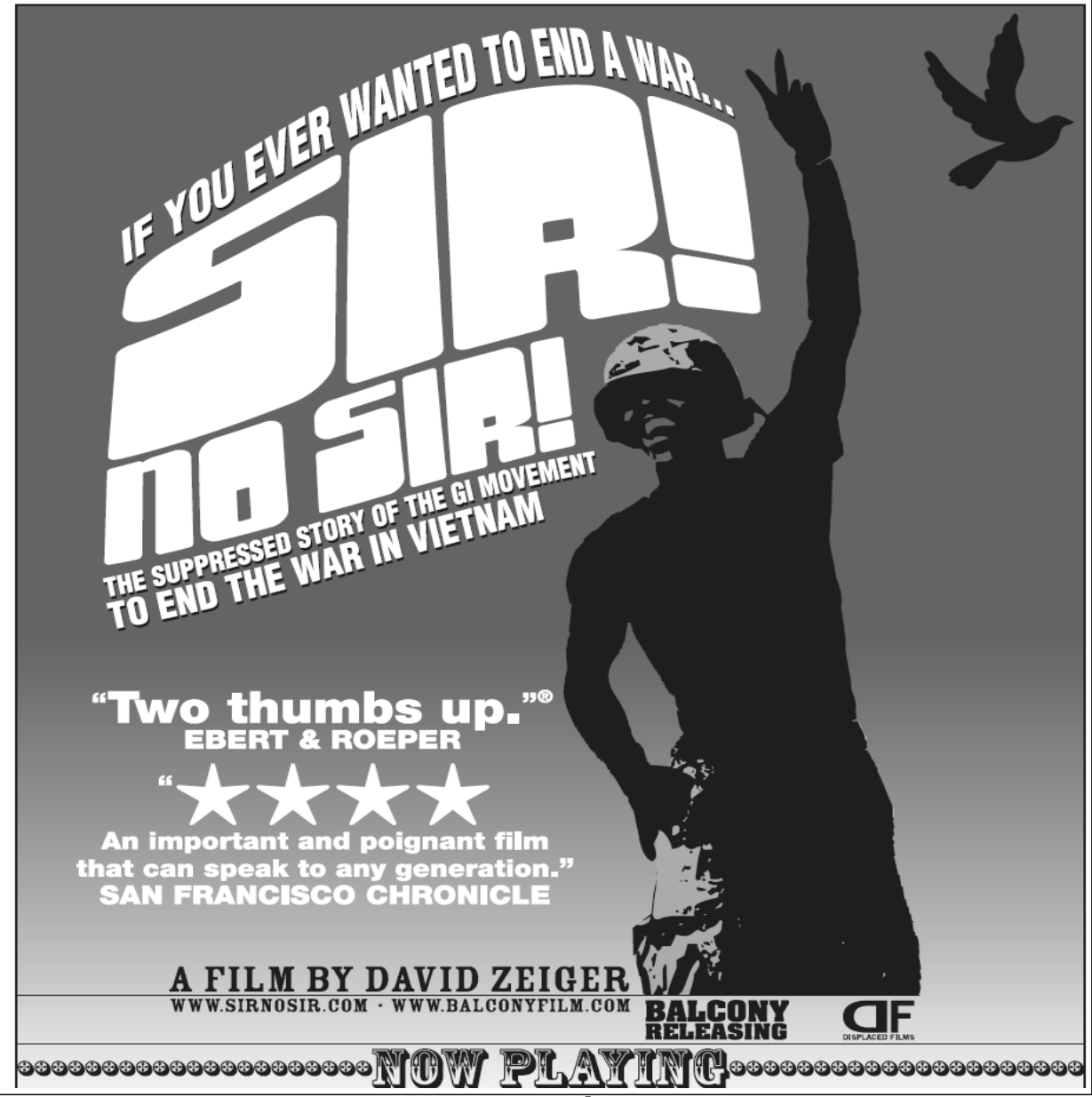
Some Palestinian farmers have turned to Israeli groups such as Rabbis for Human Rights for help. This group organizes Jewish volunteers who harvest the olives and serve as intermediaries between Jewish settlers and Palestinian farmers.

On one occasion, a half-dozen volunteers were picking olives alongside a Palestinian farmer just down the hill from the Jewish settlement of Kedumim. When an armed guard arrived and ordered everyone to leave, the volunteers stepped in, refusing to budge. They said the farmer had permission from Israeli authorities to harvest. The guard fumed and went to get the Israeli army to remove them. But the Israeli army confirmed that the farmer and the volunteers were allowed to harvest.

Said Rabbi Arik Ascherman, executive director of Rabbis for Human Rights, “Scenes of Jews and Arabs working together are the beginning — not only of a more peaceful harvest, but perhaps a greater understanding between two peoples.” “I call it the dialogue of the olive groves,” he said.

IN MEMORIAM EARL WILSON (1939 - 2006)

The impact of Earl’s untimely death at age 67 was felt by all of those in Louisville who had been touched by his insight and printing expertise. Having worked in the office with Anne and Carl Braden for many years, Earl had valuable information at his fingertips. He shared his skills quite willingly. FOR records show that his name was added to the FOR mailing list in March 1980 when he participated in the “Three Mile Island” weekend. The nuclear threat became very real to him since he grew up in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania where this nuclear reactor was located. From that time on Earl was present at many FOR demonstrations for peace, civil rights and environmental justice. He also understood the importance of fundraising in keeping organizations solvent. Thus whenever the FOR fundraising letter went out, he was quick to respond. We knew that he valued our work. Earl was a man of great compassion whose loving and encouraging expression of concern is sorely missed.



Sunday, Feb. 11<sup>th</sup> 2:00 pm  
Central Presbyterian Church -- Fourth & Kentucky Streets

Local Sponsors include: Louisville Peace Action Community, Louisville Committee for Peace in the Middle East, Louisville Chapter of Vietnam Veterans Against War, Aim Higher, Feminist Peace Network, Fellowship of Reconciliation, Kentucky Interfaith Taskforce on Latin America and the Caribbean

FINANCIAL REPORT December 2006

BEGINNING BALANCE .....	\$6,704.62
Money Market interest 2006 .....	42.28
Contributions .....	<u>3,185.00</u>
TOTAL .....	\$9,931.90

EXPENDITURES:		
FORsooth Editing .....	\$150.00	
FORsooth Layout .....	100.00	
FORsooth Printing .....	264.00	
FOR National Dues .....	75.00	
Kentucky Alliance .....	90.00	
EJ Printing .....	184.21	
FOR Ad repayment .....	200.00	
Office Expenses .....	<u>141.31</u>	
	\$1,204.52	<u>\$1,204.52</u>
ENDING BALANCE .....		\$8,727.38

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

OUT OF TOWN EVENTS

Feb 17 (Sat) **COMMUNITY FARM ALLIANCE, 22ND ANNUAL MEETING.** Lexington, Ky at Four Points Sheraton (Newtown Pike at I-64). \$40. Children under 13 free. Scholarship help available. Call 502/223-3655. *cfarmabellsouth.net*

Mar 23-25, **AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (AGM)** in Milwaukee, Wisconsin at the Hilton. Registration now open. Contact AIUSA-AGM, 600 Pennsylvania Ave SE, 5th Floor, Washington, DC 20003. Tel: 202/544,0200. E-mail: *aiusa-agm@aiusa.Org*

# Calendar for peacemakers

Jan 28 (Sun) **WELCOME HOME FOR THE HENRY WALLACE BRIGADE TO CUBA.** Come to the **POTLUCK. Central Presbyterian Church, 4th & Kentucky, 6:00pm. Bring a dish to share.**

Jan 29 (Mon) **F.O.R. STEERING COMMITTEE** (every 4th Monday). (Note change in date due to the holidays). Presbyterian Seminary, 1044 Alta Vista Road, Nelson Hall, #10, 7:30pm. Visitors welcome. Call Phil Schervish, 451-6638, or Dennis Bricking, 895-8516.

Jan 29-March 19 (Seven Mondays) **JUST EATING.** Explore ways to go beyond just eating and shape our local and global food systems into forces that create health, justice and community. Presented by **JANA McNALLY**, farmer, mother, eater, and **ANDREW KANG BARTLETT**, anti-hunger activist, front-yard farmer and eater. Crescent Hill Presbyterian Church, 142 Crescent Ave, 6:30-8:30pm. \$70 includes food. Contact Center for Faith and Action, 896-0172. [www.faith-action.org](http://www.faith-action.org)

Jan 30 (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)

## FEBRUARY IS BLACK HISTORY MONTH

**PAUL ROBESON FILM FESTIVAL**, jointly sponsored by the University of Louisville and a left-wing cultural group called The Left Alternative to help celebrate **BLACK HISTORY MONTH** during all four February 2007 weekends: **“SONG OF FREEDOM”**: Feb 3 (Sat) 11:00 am, Highlands/Shelby Park Library, Mid-City Mall, (1250 Bardstown Rd) and Feb 4 (Sun) 4:00 and 7:00 pm, Elaine Chao Auditorium, Ekstrom (main) Library, UL. **“JERICHO Dark Sands”**: Feb 10 (Sat) 11:00 am, Highlands/Shelby Park Library, Mid-City Mall, (1250 Bardstown Rd) and Feb 11 (Sun) 4:00 and 7:00 pm, Elaine Chao Auditorium, Ekstrom (main) Library. **“BIG FELLA”**: Feb 17 (Sat) 11:00 am (with places as above) Feb 18 (Sun) 4:00 and 7:00 pm. **“THE EMPEROR JONES”**: Feb 24 (Sat) 11:00 am; Feb 25 (Sun) 4:00 and 7:00 pm. **FREE admission. \$5 donation will benefit the Kentucky Alliance. Contact Ike Thacker or Eustace Durrett at 502/409-8706 or ike5775@yahoo.com, or David Horvath, 502/852-7589.**

Feb 1-28 - **SECOND ANNUAL BLACK HISTORY MONTH PHOTO EXHIBITION**, daily 10:00-7:00. The Braden Center, 3208 W Broadway, sponsored by The Kentucky Alliance. Weekends by appointment. Call 778-8130. Free and open to the public.

Feb 1-March 8 (Six Thursdays) - **MINDFULNESS MEDITATION for BEGINNERS.** Explore the background of vipassana, a Pali word meaning “to see clearly.” Learn more about this Buddhist sitting meditation practice. Everyone welcome with or without any particular religious tradition. Presented by **GLENDA HODGES-COOK** at Crescent Hill Presbyterian Church, 142 Crescent Ave, 7-8:30 pm. \$60. **Contact Center for Faith & Action, 896-0172. [www.faith-action.org](http://www.faith-action.org)**

Feb 2 (Fri) **NOON VIGIL FOR PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST**, including a news update. ***EVERY FRIDAY AT SIXTH AND BROADWAY***, in front of the Federal Court House (where Senator McConnell’s office is located). We vigil in solidarity with the **“Women in Black”** who vigil every Friday at noon in Israel. Sponsored by the Louisville Committee for Israeli/Palestinian States, the American Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee, and the Fellowship of Reconciliation. Call Beverley Marmion, 451-5658.

Feb 4 (Sun) **VIGIL FOR PEACE** every first Sunday evening remembering all those suffering from conflicts in the Middle East. Bring a candle. Bardstown Road at Douglass Blvd. 7:00-8:00pm, sponsored by **LPAC** (Louisville Peace Action Community). Call Judy Munro-Leighton, 456-6914.

Feb 7-28 (Four Wednesdays) **ICONS AS INTERCESSORS FOR OUR WOUNDED WORLD**, led by Sister Glynis Mary McManamon, RGS. Learn about icons, their History, how they are made, and ways of praying with them, with a special focus on healing our world. Center for Faith & Action, 1741 Frankfort Ave, 7-9pm. \$40. 896-0172. [www.faith-action.org](http://www.faith-action.org)

Feb 8 (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. The video this month will feature **Amy Goodman’s** interview with **Jimmy Carter** shown on “Democracy Now.” Call Bashar Masri, 895-8155.

Feb 8 & Mar 8 - (Two Thursdays) **LABYRINTH: INNER CONNECTION - A Tool for Inner Transformation.** Opportunity to walk a 36-foot Medieval or Chartres labyrinth. Presented by **JEAN PANTHER** and **JANET WILL**, trained Labrynth Facilitators. Church of the Epiphany, 914 Old Harrods Creek Rd, 7-8pm. \$20. Contact Center for Faith & Action, 896-0172. [www.faith-action.org](http://www.faith-action.org)

Feb 10 & 17 (Sat) **DOMESTIC VIOLENCE: IT IS YOUR BUSINESS. Why and How Men Should Care.** Four-part series of workshops led by **Rus Ervin Funk**. Topics: “Overview of Domestic Violence,” “The Construction of Masculinity,” “Men As Allies,” “What Men Can Do, Are Doing, and Could Do More of ... Louisville Presbyterian Seminary, Women’s Center, 1044 Alta Vista Road. 10:00 to 3:30 with lunch in the Women’s Center. \$30 per day. Students free. Register through Professor Johanna Bos, Director of the Women’s Center, [jbos@lpts.edu](mailto:jbos@lpts.edu) or Sarah Bishop, Student Coordinator for the Women’s Center, [sbishop@lpts.edu](mailto:sbishop@lpts.edu)

Feb 11 (Sun) **DOCUMENTARY, “Sir! No Sir!”** Film by Dave Zeiger, tells the story of the Vietnam era, GI anti-war movement including the creation of the GI coffeehouse and counseling network. 2:00pm. Central Presbyterian Church, Community Room, 4th and Kentucky Streets. Call 634-0468. Multi-group sponsored including Louisville Peace Action Community.

Feb 11 (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)

Feb 13-May 1 (Twelve Tuesdays) **THE ARTIST’S WAY**, 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. Presented by **GLENN RAYMOND**, artist, teacher, counselor. Contact Center for Faith & Action, 896-0172. [www.faith-action.org](http://www.faith-action.org)

Feb 14 (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.

Feb 15 (Thu) **THIRD THURSDAY LUNCH sponsored by the Fellowship of Reconciliation, featuring David Coyte, President of the Coalition for the Advancement of Regional Transportation (CART). Addressing the topic “Transportation Policy and Peacemaking: Seeing the Connections. David will discuss the socially unjust, environmentally destructive and economically unsustainable nature of our current policies. He will present alternatives to address these issues.** 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.

Feb 15 (Thu) **SINGLE PAYER HEALTH CARE**, every third Thursday, 5:30pm. Main library, 4th & York Sts, Board Room, Mezzanine. Call Kay Tillow, 636-1551.

Feb 15 (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)

Feb 16 (Fri) **Kentucky Witness for Peace Delegation leaves for Venezuela.** Stay tuned to hear their report when they return. Call Amy Shelton, 502/424-3444. [amyshelton@gmail.com](mailto:amyshelton@gmail.com)

Feb 19 (Mon) **DEADLINE FOR THE MARCH ISSUE OF FORsooth.** Contact **George Morrison, editor**, 944-6460, E-mail: [klm86@netzero.com](mailto:klm86@netzero.com) **Note: For calendar listings**, contact Jean Edwards, 458-8056. E-mail: [edwardsfor@bellsouth.net](mailto:edwardsfor@bellsouth.net)

Feb 22 (Thu) **VINCENT HARDING: “Thomas Merton and the Tragedy and the Hope of America,”** speaking at Bellarmine University in Frazier Hall, sponsored by the Thomas Merton Center. 7:00pm. Vincent Harding, a friend and associate of Martin Luther King, met and corresponded with Merton during the sixties. He will examine Merton’s insights and apply his prophetic vision to our country and our world today. Dr. Harding will also be the guest of **State of Affairs** (WFPL Radio (89.3) on the same day at 11:00am. Contact Paul Pearson, 502/452-8177. [pmpearsonbellarmine.edu](mailto:pmpearsonbellarmine.edu)

Feb 22-29 (Six Thursdays) **READING YOUR LIFE LIKE SCRIPTURE**, tools for learning to read your own life with the same care and attention that you devote to reading Scriptures. Based on the four-step Medieval Christian spiritual practice of Lectio Divina. Presented by Terry Taylor, Executive Director of Interfaith Paths to Peace. Come to Christ Church Cathedral, 425 S Second St. 6:30-8:30 pm. \$60. Contact Center for Faith & Action, 896-0172. [www.faith-action.org](http://www.faith-action.org)

Feb 23 (Fri) **PIZZA & A MOVIE** (Every second Friday): **“Bell, Book and Candle.”** Sponsored by Interfaith Paths to Peace. 6:00pm. Free. Donation suggested for pizza. Call Terry Taylor, 214-7322. [taiduende2@yahoo.com](mailto:taiduende2@yahoo.com)

Feb 26 (Mon) **F.O.R. STEERING COMMITTEE** (every 4th Monday). Presbyterian Seminary, 1044 Alta Vista Road, Nelson Hall #10, 7:30pm. Call Phil Schervish, 451-6638, or Dennis Bricking, 895-8516.

Feb 27 (Tue) **LOBBY DAY IN FRANKFORT.** Support the amendment to eliminate the Kentucky Constitution’s denial of voting rights for ex-felons. Call 778-8130.

March 1 (Thu) **FORsooth LABELING, at Beverley Marmion’s. 6:30pm.** All hands are needed for this important work. It’s fun too! Call Beverley, 451-5658.

March 8 (Thu) **INTERNATIONAL WOMEN’S DAY, recognizing the pressing needs of women around the world. A 30 minute service of silence and intercessory prayer is planned at James Lees Presbyterian Church, 1741 Frankfort Avenue. The First Baptist Church Eastwood, 16122 Eastwood Cut-off Road, will have a liturgical worship at 7:00 pm.**

**March 17-19 (SSM) MASSIVE RALLY IN WASHINGTON, DC, anniversary of the beginning of the Iraq War, CALLING FOR AN END TO THE WAR. Plans are underway to get the buses rolling. Watch for details. Call Walter Tillow, 636-1551.**

May 25-29,2007 (TFSSM) **BEATLES TRIBUTE FESTIVAL “Abbey Road on the River.”** with bands and merchandise. Memorial Day Weekend. Riverfront Plaza/Belvedere/Galt House, \$220. One-day tickets also available. Call 216-378-1980. [www.abbeyroadontheriver.com](http://www.abbeyroadontheriver.com)

(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 (409-8706)

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 – (774-4000)

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](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 (502-609-6022)

*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.*