

FORsooth

FOR’s co-founder is among 15 honored

by Peggy Kidwell

Louisville FOR co-founder Jean Edwards was one of 15 area women over 70 who were honored for being persons whose lives had made a significant difference to their community.

Edwards’ work has focused primarily in leading others who share her vision of a peaceful world order.

A book including writings on the 15 honorees called *Portraits of Grace: Women Who Have Made a Difference* by Joan Zehnder and Marian Call was published this year.

The Courier-Journal recently wrote of Jean Edwards: “She joined many vigils for peace during the Vietnam War, and she continues to speak out against the war in Iraq. She also stands in solidarity with women in Israel every Friday at noon, when she joins a group at Sixth and Broadway to promote peace between Israel and the Palestinians.”

Edwards’ family moved to Louisville in 1958 when the Presbyterian Seminary offered her husband, Rev. George Edwards, a teaching position.

Jean went to work as a preschool teacher at the Jewish Community Center. “Teaching is what I really like to do,” she said in the book.

George Edwards later accepted a sabbatical to study German in Germany, and took his family. The two older children



— photo courtesy Peggy Kidwell

Jean Edwards poses by a portrait of her made in connection with her being among 15 women over 70 honored for contributions to the area. She has been an educator and peace activist since moving to Louisville in 1958.

eventually married native Germans and moved there permanently. Six of Jean and George Edwards’ eight grandchildren live in Germany.

Jean decided to take jobs that would

permit her to travel with George, who would be taking a Sabbatical every seven years. One of her positions was at Bellarmine College, a Catholic university.

(continued on page 5)

Three who wrote on peace win contest

Three young voices for peaceful alternatives to the Iraq situation can be heard on page four, as FORsooth publishes the top three winners of the 2007 Fellowship of Reconciliation first yearly Peace Essay Contest.

Students in grades nine through 12 were eligible and entrants chose one of two questions to answer about the Iraq situation. They revolved around the themes of “What could have been done differently?” and “What should we do now?”

The first place winner received \$250. The writer of the essay judged second best won \$150 and the third place finisher received \$100.

The winning writers reached far back into history, explaining how peace negotiations and nonviolence were used in conflicts from the days of Akbar to the 20th century nonviolent crusader Mahatma Gandhi.

For the text of the questions and background on the issues underlying the essay’s subject, as well as the winning entries, see page four.

‘Hyperindividualism’ cited as source of societal woes

by Ike M. Thacker IV
and Eustace Durrett

Students of modernization have long known that industrialization, for all its material benefits, does not necessarily make us feel better. The demands of the machine make many of us maudlin for simpler, “old fashioned,” country ways and means.

But what Henry County, Ky. author and farmer Wendell Berry has been saying for decades, and author Bill McKibben for a long time himself, goes much deeper than this, and factors in a new complication called (by now tritely) “global warming.”

It seems that, if our planet is to survive and remain habitable for humans, we must deeply learn that bigger is not necessarily better, that there is more to human nature than consumerism, and that therefore (to use McKibben’s words from a February 28 interview conducted by Berry at the Kentucky Center for the Arts) “much of the future can’t look like the past 50 years.”

McKibben has been talking about the proper scope of laissez-faire — leaving the environment and especially the atmosphere alone — ever since the publication of his book (the first one to deal with global

warming for the layperson), *The End of Nature*, more than a decade ago.

Berry began his interview with McKibben by asking him to summarize his course from the aforementioned, groundbreaking work to his newly-released and more “hopegiving” (a term Berry used during the interview) work called *Deep Economy: The Wealth of Communities and the Durable Future*.

McKibben replied, agreeing implicitly with Berry that many of our problems stem from “selfishness,” “regardlessness,” or (here McKibben introduces his own terminology) “hyperindividualism.” The crisis that has been thus created, says *The End of Nature* author, is the biggest that humankind has ever faced; and we may not even, ever prevail.

Explaining, however, that “despair is the refuge of cowards,” McKibben said we must make the attempt.

And there are people who are doing so, says McKibben. First, he uses the example of the city nearest his own residence (Burlington, Vermont), which he said grows about 10 percent of its own food and does other “green” things, and makes the obvious but usually-ignored

point that it just doesn’t make any sense to send a head of lettuce 3,000 miles across the country to be consumed: our agricultural economy should be based on “local food, locally produced.” But this is not as easy to achieve as one might think: we must, McKibben maintained, fix both the climate and (therefore) the culture, which makes for a very challenging task indeed.

Still, it turns out that if we do manage to save our climate and thus ourselves, we will make ourselves much more content as a result, the speakers said. “Farmers’ markets make people happier than Wal-Marts,” avers Berry; and McKibben agrees, giving the example of a study which found that there were 10 times more conversations at farmers markets than at supermarkets. And one of the many “hopegiving” facts is that farmers markets are the fastest-growing sector of the U.S. agricultural economy.

All of this is a good thing, say Berry and McKibben, because all of our industrialization has simply not made us

any happier. A key annual poll, taken for then first time just after World War II, found that what McKibben calls “happiness” peaked in 1956 at 75 percent and has steadily fallen since then to about a quarter of those surveyed today — even as material well-being has tripled.

McKibben and Berry also agree that this movement toward the local cannot be categorized as “liberal” or “conservative;” each of these two so-called political philosophies likes some aspects of the localization movement but not others. To achieve its political goals, the movement toward localization must become “cultural rather than counter-cultural,” and must teach people to (as one bumper sticker has it) “think globally, act neighborly,” McKibben said.

If we do learn to do this, we will just feel better; industrialization and computers have made us no longer really in need of each other like we used to be: with a television, a computer screen or a phone, (continued on page 5)

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Speech is reduced from a civil right to a property right

by Tom Louderback

Do we still have the right of free speech when no one can hear us? Or more precisely, do we still have the right of free speech when we do not have access to the means of speech or when the means of speech are privately owned?

I believe the answer to all three questions is “No” and I am worried that free speech has been reduced from a civil right to a property right. It has apparently become exclusive to those who own and control property.

This decline has happened because too many times the property rights of broadcast system owners, Internet service owners, and shopping mall owners have been given precedence over our civil right of free speech in legislation and court decisions.

As a result, those who can afford to purchase the means of speech are getting

permitted to eat its fruits (Deut. 23:25-25). Some of the wheat harvest every year was left for poor and strangers (Lev. 19:9). And, a portion of the olive yield every year was left on the trees for the orphans and widows (Deut. 24:20).

Obligations of Wealth — Jesus and the prophets before him remind us repeatedly of our obligations to each other and to stewardship of the land, and warn against possessive attitudes towards wealth. (Amos 2:7, Is. 10:1-2, Mat. 6:25-34, 19:21-23, Luke 12:13-21). It is pretty clear that accumulation of wealth is not our highest purpose in life.

Civic Responsibility — We know that the command to love our neighbor is one of the most important in all of Biblical scripture (Mat. 22:37-40). The Bible calls on us to live so that others may thrive (Lev. 19:13, Prov. 3:29, 27:10, Psa. 15:3, Zech. 8:17, Luke 10:25-37, Rom. 13:9-10, 15:2,

rule, providers give the same level of service to all customers from blogger web page to international corporations’ web sites.

Proponents call this neutrality rule “the First Amendment of the Internet”. If the current effort to repeal neutrality succeeds, free speech in the Internet will begin taking on the characteristics of a property right as it already has on TV and radio (more about that later).

Censorship of the Internet — Many people do not realize that free speech on the Internet is subject to the censorship of the Internet providers. Consider what happened to the citizens’ advocacy group Common Cause in December it tried to post an ad in MySpace which urged bloggers to protest the Federal Communications Commission’s changes in media ownership rules.

The reply from MySpace was brief and to the point. “We won’t allow that to be shown.” This is apparently legal. You probably would not be surprised to know that the company which owns MySpace is lobbying for relaxed media ownership rules (Full disclosure: This writer is a long-time volunteer for Common Cause/Kentucky).

Access to the Public Airwaves — I believe that we no longer have the right to free speech on the TV and radio airwaves. Access to the airwaves goes to those who can afford exorbitant advertising; and the airwaves are totally under the control of the broadcast system executives. It has not always been this way, however.

Public access to the airwaves used to be guaranteed by the broadcasters’ “fairness doctrine.” For 50 years, this rule required the broadcasters to provide access to all sides of the public issues. This access was

frequently described on the air as “equal time for responsible points of view.”

The airwaves were called a public “public trust” back then. However, Congress repealed the fairness doctrine in 1987.

Ironically, Congress still considers the airwaves public property like our public highways and roads. You would not know this by the way broadcasters control access. Most people assume incorrectly that the airwaves are owned by the broadcasters.

Access to Common Spaces — Where precisely do we have the right of free speech? One place is the town square. However, you probably have not seen very many people there lately. We do not have this right at the shopping mall according to court decisions. The mall security officer can eject you for speaking there.

The courts have decided that the property rights of the mall owners take precedence at the mall.

Public policy responses to this decline in our right of free speech have included Internet neutrality, anti-trust limitations on media ownership, free air time on the public airwaves, calls for restoration of the broadcasters’ fairness doctrine, and campaign finance reform (a huge public policy area that covers a wide range of practical approaches).

It appears that we have the right of free speech in places where not very many people can hear what we have to say, but not in places where lots of people would hear us

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“...those who can afford to purchase the means of speech are getting all the access to speech that is heard by the public. Those who cannot afford the admission price are shut out. This also means that the public is not hearing a very wide range of opinion on many public issues.

It seems that a pattern of thinking which values property rights above all else is ascendant in our election campaigns and government decisions today. Property and money have become more important than people.

This is far cry from the teachings of many religious denominations. Consider what the following Biblical passages teach us about property, wealth, and our obligations to each other.

Private Property Rights in Context — We know that the Biblical teachings allow private property but clearly our ownership is always conditioned on God’s ultimate ownership. The Old Testament tells us that the land was put in the hands of human owners by the Creator with certain expectations.

For example, we see in the books of Moses that the Promised Land was subject to many restrictions on its use intended to protect the land and the community inhabiting it. Private owners were expected to preserve their land by refraining from planting crops every seventh year. They were expected to allow the poor and wild animals to have what grows that year. (Lev. 25:17).

Moreover, anyone passing through privately owned land during any year was

Eph. 4:25). The most famous of these is the parable of the Good Samaritan.

Catholic Social Teaching — Besides the Biblical teachings, the pronouncements and statements of Catholic Social Teaching warn against giving property rights undue precedence over civil rights (Pastoral Constitution of the Church in the Modern World, para. 69, Populorum Progressio, para. 23, and Economic Justice for All, paras. 114 to 115).

Are we losing touch with the values expressed by these teachings? Clearly, there are reasons for serious concern.

In more detail, here are the ways by which the property rights of broadcast system owners, Internet service owners, and shopping mall owners are taking precedence over our civil right of free speech.

Access to the Internet — You have probably heard that the largest cable and telephone companies are aggressively lobbying Congress to repeal “Internet neutrality”. Millions are being spent. What these companies want is license to act as the gatekeepers of the Internet.

This would allow them to decide who gets speedy delivery of data in the Internet and who waits in a stand-by queue. And of course, they want to charge higher rates for the higher level of service.

Presently, Internet providers are required by the Internet neutrality rule to maintain a level playing field. Under this



Founded 1915

FORsooth

is published by the Louisville chapter of the Fellowship of Reconciliation. Send submissions for news stories or commentaries to George Morrison, editor, c/o 2236 Kaelin Ave., Louisville, KY 40205, e-mail: <klm86@netzero.net>.

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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.

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Reshaping economics gives Venezuelans better break

by George Morrison
FORsooth editor

Ira Grupper said that while not all of Venezuela’s problems are disappearing under leftist president Hugo Chavez, life in the nation he visited in February on a Witness of Peace delegation has drastically improved since Chavez won election in 1998 and began using its vast oil wealth to benefit the masses.

Speaking as one of three from the delegation before the FOR’s Third Thursday Lunch May 17, Grupper used an old bittersweet joke to illustrate how much better off the South American nation is compared to when its leaders acquiesced for decades to U.S.-approved economic and trade policies.

“There used to be a saying in the 1950s that the Rockefeller family had a little farm. They called it Venezuela,” Grupper said. “It no longer belongs to the Rockefeller family. It no longer belongs just to Shell and to Exxon and Mobil.... It belongs mostly, not totally, mostly to the people of Venezuela, the people who do the work.”

Grupper and the other speakers - justice and environmental activist Gracie Lewis and WFP organizer Amy Shelton - said Chavez’s “Bolivarian Missions,” initiatives named for Venezuelan anti-imperialist leader S, have brought education to every village and neighborhood, much better nutrition for the 80 percent of Venezuelans who have been poor and free medical care and prescription medicine for all residents.

The medical missions have been made possible, Grupper noted, by Cuba trading 10,000 doctors for Venezuelan oil, which has help eased suffering in Cuba as well.

Grupper stressed that Chavez has accomplished all this while remaining democratic, winning re-election in 2000 and 2006 (in 2000, the national assembly gave him power to rule by decree for one year, but free speech, religion and press have been maintained).

“This is a democratically elected government that the United States is trying to overthrow,” Grupper said, noting the 2002 failed coup the U.S. supported.

Along with the freedoms of speech and the press guaranteed in the constitutions of most wealthy nations, Grupper asked the lunch crowd to consider freedom from hunger, disease and illiteracy as rights the U.S. does not guarantee, but which Chavez is bringing to Venezuelans.

Pointing to the tables of lunch goers, he said the food was more balanced than what 80 percent of Venezuelans ate for most of their lives before Chavez began subsidizing the price of food to make more of it affordable.

“Chavez has changed that. There is no hunger that I know of in Venezuela, certainly not like it was before. People are eating balanced meals. People don’t get sick without being treated, in Venezuela.”

Lewis praised Venezuela’s “Communal Laws,” which allow residents to tell local and national leaders what they want done, a program that she said has greatly boosted civic participation, particularly among youth.

“We saw so much of the people being actively engaged in the running of the government,” she said. “That is one of the things I have always wanted to see more of here.... I wanted to see our children participate in government.”

Lewis said the democratic socialism being established by Chavez will result in young people being raised to be more caring.

“By the time they come up, they will know how to treat people, how to show love

with one another,” she said, adding that the kindness with which Venezuelans treated the WFP delegation indicates this is happening.

“You could witness it in the schools. You could witness it anywhere. And I think with love you can achieve almost anything.”

Grupper said problems persist from the pre-Chavez order of neo-liberal economics and oligarchy, particularly murders by members of the military. However, he said Chavez is aggressively acting to purge the military of abusive people.

Grupper said Venezuelans told him “disappearances” of people who criticize the government are unknown today, but they happened regularly before Chavez and are still widespread in many Latin American nations.

Shelton, who lived in Nicaragua for four years in the 1990s, while neo-liberalism was spreading sickness, hunger and illiteracy, said Venezuela sharply contrasts with Nicaragua then.

She said the Chavez government is addressing housing needs in shanty towns by replacing many substandard homes dangerously perched on hillsides.

“The government is trying to immediately replace a lot of that precarious housing with more substantial housing,” she said. “So houses that were once made out of wood and tin, they may be located in the same place and they may still be built one on top of the other, but now that housing has concrete walls, a little bit better plumbing.”

Shelton said the government is making low-interest loans to people who never before had access to credit, allowing them to start small enterprises or cooperatives.

Lewis asked why the U.S. doesn’t join Cuba in sending doctors to Venezuela, a move which could expand medical care and improve the U.S.’s badly tarnished image.

“Can you imagine if we began to exchange some of our knowledge with other countries, how far advanced we would be?” she asked.

Grupper agreed.

“Now (Venezuelans) have high quality medical care everywhere,” he said. “And the United States has the audacity, the utter gall, to say that that’s (Cuban) propaganda. Well let us use some of that propaganda, too, by providing doctors to treat people for free.”

The Third Thursday Lunch series will pause for the summer and resume in September.



photos courtesy Amy Shelton
Venezuelan women (above) pack shoes in the Endogenous Development Zone, where a Witness for Peace delegation visited a clinic and shoe and textile cooperatives. Delegation members (below) pose in front of the Bolivarian School in the rural community of La Magdalena.

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Try old Canadian model

First place Essay, by Mark Reeves, a Junior at Atheerton High School in Louisville – Question #2

The most powerful nation on earth occupies a troubled country. Ethnic and religious segments fight intermittently, creating regional and international stability. There is no end in sight, and a recent rebellion nearly drives the United States to war. Can any success be found in Canada?

Nineteenth century Canada, a small-scale version of the present Iraqi conflict, was embroiled in conflict between French Catholics and ruling English Protestants colonials, the rulers ever since the French and Indian War in the past century. U.S. support for Canadian rebels following its disastrous campaign of conquest in the War of 1812 raised tensions to the breaking point. Yet, the arrival of impartial Lord Durham helped transform this troubled nation into a thriving confederation of autonomous, economically interdependent states. Could there be a lesson here for how to deal with present-day Iraq?

Misjudgments and misunderstandings such as those as to the frictions and resentments between Iraqi Sunnis and Sh’ia have only been the current symptoms of the problems in Iraq: these are merely the mistakes and consequences made by the U.S.-led coalition. Rather, the problems of Iraq, like those of British-controlled Canada, date back to the British mandate, jumbled together out of vastly different provinces of the then-collapsing Ottoman Empire.

The unnatural division of Iraq by Britain was then allowed independence, ushering in monarchy and military dictatorships, all Sunni-controlled, increasing friction with the Kurdish and Sh’ia ethno-religious minorities. While the current problems of Iraq have been unleashed by overthrowing the latest regime in this trend, that of Saddam Hussein, a return to such an oppressive system is morally unacceptable. Thus, in order to deal with the current and foundational problems in Iraq to establish peace, the country’s separate nation-states must be separated into autonomous, economically interdependent zones which can

then agree on plans for mutual peace and self-determination.

The following outline offers an approach to reverse the negative effects of British partitioning of the Ottoman Empire into the problematic mandate now known as Iraq:

1. Divide Iraq into three key zones: the Sh’ia south (Basra), the Sunni center (Baghdad), and the Kurdish north (Mosul), to be temporarily occupied by parallel ethno-religious regional forces (i.e. Onianis, Jordanians, and Armenians, respectively), with non-interference agreements from the U.S., Syria, Iran, and Russia, in order to preserve legitimacy due to prior problems. U.S.-led coalition forces could then be withdrawn from Iraq when arriving forces lay out official boundaries of their zones to defend.

When the British Empire created its mandate in Iraq after the collapse of the Ottoman Empire in the aftermath of the First World War, three separate provinces were meshed into one nation: Iraq. These three provinces, centered at Mosul, Baghdad, and Basra’ respectively, represented the ethno-religious divides now contributing to instability in Iraq.

Also, since these ethno-religious lines are primarily regional, in the Sh’ia south, Sunni center (or “Triangle”) and the Kurdish north, separate geographic zones similar to the post-Second World War restoration partitioning of Germany would be easily established. Separating the different nationalities, by a mandate call similar to that in the British partition of the Indian Subcontinent, would help to bring stability as these groups clash disastrously. As John Stuart Mill says, “The government may then be interested in softening the antipathies of the races that peace may be preserved and the country more easily governed.”

2. Issue a joint U.N.-Arab League financial commission to oversee Iraqi oil revenues and their distribution, incorporating officials representing each party. Economic interdependence between any number of nations is critical to preserving peace; as Montesquieu states, “Peace is the natural effect of trade.”

Therefore, if Iraqis are forced to share

Fellowship of Reconciliation Peace Essay Contest

Student could write in response to either of these two questions:

B Interventions by the U.S. and Great Britain since World War I resulted in great economic and social injustices, e.g., redistributing resources and creating political boundaries that caused conflicts. This led to hostile attitudes toward the West. In the wake of the events of 911, President George W. Bush and most of the U.S. Congress decided to conduct a pre-emptive military attack on Iraq. To date the military attack on Iraq has caused the deaths of over 3,000 Americans, and possibly hundreds of thousands of Iraqi citizens.

Q: Given the historical setting in the region, write an essay that explains how an American President might have responded to the devastation of 911, without war and in a way that would both decrease violent extremism and increase sustainable international cooperation and stability in the area.

B On March 20, 2003, coalition forces led by the U.S. military began an invasion of Iraq. Now almost four years later, Iraq is a country bogged down by U.S. occupation and a civil war marked by daily violence.

Q Devise a strategy for rapidly ending the US participation in the violence in Iraq and bringing American troops out. The Hague and Geneva conventions on war mandate that the occupying power provide or arrange for maintenance of civil order and support for basic human needs.

their lucrative oil revenues, they will be incentivized to cooperate in establishing stability. Also, this would not only be advanced by the U.N., in which the U.S. and E.U. have considerable influence, but also the more ethnically relevant Arab League. However, strong oversight from all sides must be maintained so as to preserve economic equality and equilibrium.

3. Converge the three partitioned states to agree on a treaty, mediated by non- involved state(s), permitting for self-determination in each of the states.

“In cases where it may be doubtful on which side justice lies, what better umpires could be desired... than the representatives... not heated by the local flame?” proposes James Madison.

While the ideas of partitioning Iraq and sharing its oil revenues may seem implausible due to the heated passions of those currently involved, it seems that an impartial negotiator could help each state reach to mutually beneficial agreements for their respective and/or collective fu-

tures, especially if an economically interdependent dynamic may be achieved, requiring cooperation if only in the name of economic interest. Facilitating self-determination in the remnants of Iraq would also coincide with the Bush administration’s rhetoric of “spreading democracy” through the world.

While this plan requires some concessions to non-democratic states, against U.S. idealism, the realities of world politics may require compromise. For, just as Britain compromised with similarly “terrorist” French Canadians to establish peace, and even endured injured national pride by withdrawing from a colony, the U.S.-led coalition can withdraw from Iraq. This may require undesirable compromise and temporarily damaged pride, but to truly build sustainable and democratic states, those states must be allowed to choose their own destinies, as Canada did with the “Durham Report.”

In this case, anyway, the U.S. cannot, “blame Canada,” but follow it.

Unity worked in 1500s

Second place essay, by Steven Hollon, a senior at Atherton High School – Question #1

Today each of us live in the promise and peril of where human history has led, the actions of previous generations have influenced our current circumstances, and the actions of you and I will influence the conditions of the future.

On September 11, 2001, Islamic Extremists attacked the United States of America on its own soil. After such tragedy, we the American citizens suffered from disbelief and remorse. Living with such vicarious pain for those who lost their lives on 9/11, the American President, among millions of others, felt the need for decisive consequence for those involved in planning the devastation.

Opposed to responding with immediate and unjust military action, the American President, while considering the sensitivity of the circumstance, should look to alternative responses.

In 1542, a prominent figure in Indian history was born. Jalaluddin Muhammad Akbar, inherent leader of the Mogul Empire, brought unprecedented compassion to his people, and his time. Akbar, born a Muslim, lived his life in the pursuit of bringing together those of all backgrounds, and religions.

An American president, in responding

to the events of September the 11th, should utilize the ambitions of Akbar in order to bring together the people of the world, not matter their color, sex, or religion. Akbar, throughout his rule, constantly invited men of other faith to discuss with him their needs despite their indifferences. Because of Akbar’s willingness to coincide with men and women containing different gods, aggregated an empire for thousands of miles.

Living in the product of the actions of past generations, we have the opportunity to benefit from retrospect. Throughout the timeline of civilization one peril that has remained a constant, is war. In such a circumstance an American president opposed to provoking more acts of insurgency, should invite the leaders of all nations and groups no matter timeliness and discuss. Simply discuss the indifferences of whatever they may be representing.

I was once told, that in order to change something, you must first love it. While considering what is best for the not only American people but for all of mankind, the American president, occupant of such power, should build a bridge opposed to building a wall. Events of the past should remain in the consciousness of the present in order to eradicate potential flaws of the future. When we fail to remember and apply the values of the past, we seriously endanger our world’s future.

Gandhi showed the way

Third place essay, by Rachel Edwards, a sophomore at DuPont Manual High School in Louisville – Question #2

The War in Iraq - WWGD

What would Gandhi do? Gandhi is best known for leading India to independence from Great Britain and creating the world’s largest democracy without blood shed. Since that time he has become the world’s role model for non-violent political work. He was the inspiration for the other great non-violent leaders of our time like Martin Luther King Jr. and Nelson Mandela.

So the question is how could we use Gandhi’s methods in today’s world? There’s an old saying that goes: “When the people lead, the leaders will follow,” but what we have today are the most stubborn leaders imaginable. Don’t expect George Bush to be going on a hunger strike any time soon. In order to stop this war the people are going to have to show him the way to get it done.

Gandhi succeeded in preventing a war, but his ideas of civil disobedience can also be applied to ending one. Imagine if people filled the streets of Washington by the hundreds and thousands and imagine if they did this over and over, week after week.

That’s what they’re doing right now in Iraq, marching by the thousands against the American occupation. Those people want us out! So why won’t our government listen and why won’t the Iraqi government listen? To answer this question you have to follow the money. Our government will say we can’t leave until Iraq is “safe and secure,” but what they really mean is “safe

and secure for American corporations.”

We should send a clear message to Iraq that we are not there to control their oil. We need to dismantle our military bases and withdraw our military in an orderly way. We need to talk to everyone including our enemies about what to do to get the government stable again. We need to buy the weapons back from the people who are hoarding them and send a message that violence is not the way.

Everyone’s hoping for a quick and easy way to end this war, but that doesn’t mean that there is one. The war in Iraq is like cancer and cancer isn’t quick or easy to cure. But if there’s one thing a cancer patient cannot afford to lose it is hope. Iraqis need hope that Americans are not going to be there forever.

People say that if America pulls out, Iraq will descend into chaos, but these are the same people who said that the war was going to be a cake walk, that we would be greeted as liberators and that the war would be paid for with Iraqi oil revenue.

Okay then, why not look at our withdrawal the same way? Here’s the rosy scenario: we bring together all the warring parties and work out a political settlement.

We withdrawal all of our military and turn Iraq back over to people who live there. We buy back all the weapons circulating in Iraq and jump start the economy. Iraqis reject Al Qaeda and endorse a more reasonable form of Islam taught by Ali Al Sistani. Iraq becomes a model for a peaceful Middle Eastern state and George Bush can take total credit, move back to Texas and hopefully we will never hear from him again.



When a union blesses a formerly feared auto takeover

Technology exists to feed every man, woman and child on the face of this earth. Then why, in the midst of plenty, do hundreds of millions of people go to bed hungry and diseased? There is ease, the condition of being comfortable or relieved. And there is disease (dis-ease), a pathological condition of the body, or an abnormal or harmful condition of society.

Unequal distribution is the disease. It is spread by a system, a body-politic, whose overseers profit from this skewed distribution.

An old labor song says it all:
*I've seen the weary miner
Scrubbing coal dust from his back.
I heard his children crying:
"Aint got no coal to heat this shack."*

So much coal, in the 1930s, was mined here in Kentucky. Yet the miners back then couldn't afford to pay for the coal to keep their children warm in the winter.

And so it is today. Forty seven million Americans have no health insurance, while most of the rest of us worry about whether we can afford illness, accident or injury. And where a teeny minority, relatively speaking, get superior medical coverage — and to hell with the rest of us.

Yet in Venezuela, where your humble scribe recently visited, health care is free and of high quality. Residents in the little mountain hamlet of La Magdalena, where our delegation spent two days and nights, pay nothing for their prescriptions. They are the advanced country, and the U.S. is the backward one.

Certainly, health care in the U.S. is not the reason that union membership in the private sector has now slipped below eight percent, with three million manufacturing jobs lost since Bush took office. Who are the culprits?

The culprits are unfair trade agreements that contain no workers' rights provisions, and current labor laws in the U.S. that allow employers to pressure, intimidate and harass workers prior to an NLRB election. The Employee Free Choice Act would enable workers to organize through card-check recognition and would take the fear out of union organizing — but is it sufficient?

‘Hyperindividualism’ *(continued from page 1)*

and a credit card, we could almost exist in total isolation from our fellow human beings, McKibben said. But this is not necessarily a good thing: we have evolved as highly social beings, he added. A study cited by McKibben found that when people who were members of no clubs or activity groups joined at least one of such organizations, their mortality rate for the next year went down by 50 percent. It is an estranging condition, for human beings not to need each other, McKibben added.

One apparently obvious partial solution to the problem of global warming, though, turns out on closer examination not to be a good idea at all, McKibben said. This is the use of biofuels such as ethanol-from-corn to fuel automobiles.

As McKibben put it, the problem is that, “the energy balances don't work:” you use more energy producing the corn than you save by replacing gasoline with it. Besides, one tank of ethanol-from-corn for an Explorer uses enough corn to feed someone for a year, not to mention that corn prices are driven up by the increase in demand, leaving many poor folks unable to afford what used to be cheap food, he said.

What is necessary to combat global warming, above all else, is to reduce the emission of carbon into the atmosphere, McKibben said. To try and make Congress see this and enact legislation that would require emissions of carbon by the U.S. to be cut by 80 percent before 2050, McKibben has organized a campaign called “Step It Up,” which he said at the February interview was to hold in April the largest grass-roots environmentalist rally since Earth Day 1970.

Much of what the rest of the world is learning it has to do now, the island nation of Cuba had to do more than a decade ago, when its patron the Soviet Union collapsed, McKibben noted. Small-scale, organic



Your correspondent thought about all this when the news broke that giant automaker Chrysler, which had been gobbled up by the German conglomerate Daimler nine years ago, was being surgically separated from its adoptive parent and sold to Cerberus Capital Management.

Cerberus, a private equity investor (read: big-time gambler with not even the limited oversight check of publicly-traded companies) was founded in 1992. It owns auto parts facilities, but has zero experience manufacturing cars and trucks.

The United Auto Workers (UAW) has been representing U.S. autoworkers for about 70 years. Its website recently published an online discussion with its president, Ron Gettelfinger, and vice president, General Holiefield.

“Cerberus will honor the UAW contract, and as we enter contract negotiations this summer, the sale of Chrysler will not affect our bargaining goals as discussed at the UAW's Special Convention on Collective Bargaining.

“We will continue to protect our retirees in the future, just as we have in the past. The pension fund for Chrysler workers is, in fact, \$2 billion over funded for financial accounting purposes, and pension benefits are secure. Additionally, Cerberus has committed to contributing an additional \$200 million to the pension fund and Daimler is providing a conditional guarantee of \$1 billion for up to five years.”

Yet, there is great unease, as one can see from questions asked the union leaders

agriculture for internal consumption rather than export (of coffee or bananas or sugar cane or whatever) has become the rule, with Havana for example growing about 70 percent of its own food, he said. An unfortunate side effect of cheap Venezuelan oil from Castro's friend Venezuelan president Hugo Chavez, has been that this hopeful trend toward small-scale agriculture has been reversed, because cheaper oil makes big agriculture easier, he said.

And even entertainment can be localized, says McKibben. For example, there were 1,300 local opera houses in Iowa about 1900, he said. Not too many people were building Gracelands after singing in them, but there were, McKibben suggests, quite a few tenors making a living.

More generally, both McKibben and Berry say that we can and should learn how to enjoy the places where we are, rather than jetting around the world polluting the atmosphere with airplane-fuel residue.

The general question that these two seminal thinkers are posing is whether we can make ourselves a little smaller again: humans are not the center of everything; and unless we quickly learn this, Bangladesh (for example) will be under water in 30 to 40 years, even though the typical form of transportation there is the bicycle rickshaw, McKibben said.

There is, as Berry and McKibben suggest, just something fundamentally flawed about a society like ours, in which, they said, there are three times as many prisoners as farmers.

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

by an Akron, Ohio worker: “Throughout the long wait for a buyer, Mr. Gettelfinger and the UAW have expressed disdain for a private equity group buying the company. Now, within minutes of the sale, both are coming out with statements expressing great joy and confidence that this transaction will be the best for all parties. What has changed? What protections and/or guarantees have been made for the workers? Is the federal government going to be asked to guard against the ‘stripping’ and selling off of this company? Why has the UAW been so silent on the facts of how the Germans intentionally drove this American institution into the ground?”

The UAW, of course, is not the problem. The problem is big capital moving around its deck-chair assets while the Titanic of capital accumulation is listing in a perilous position. But maybe there are problems with the union being part, for example, of the Supervisory Board of DaimlerChrysler. This allowed access to top management, but, of course, absolutely no control or even meaningful say so.

Cerberus paid over \$7 billion for Chrysler, and has inherited an \$18 billion health care and pension obligation. It is in business to get a return on investment, no matter what. This worried another UAW member who questioned President Gettelfinger: “Is Cerberus still going to cut the 13,000 jobs or will that number go up?”

And still another: “On a radio talk show back on April 20... you stated that being purchased by an investment firm wasn't the best option for workers under DaimlerChrysler. Now that we have been sold to Cerberus, what will the future of retirees be eight years from now, and if I have 20 years and transfer to another DCX (Chrysler facility).”

And one more worried UAW member: “It's been estimated that the U.S. division has nearly \$17 billion in health care liabilities.... But DaimlerChrysler said the pension plans are significantly overfunded at present. Could you please explain these two different... pictures so we can make sense of it?”

Ron and General respond to the last questioner: “Both statements are in fact correct. While the pension fund is overfunded by \$2 billion, there is tremendous liability in projected health care costs for retirees. America's health care crisis is out of control and that's why the UAW supports a national, single-payer, comprehensive national health care plan for every man, woman and child. We cannot solve the health care crisis in any one set of negotiations with any one company.”

FOR's co-founder *(continued from page 1)*

Drawn to the job by a newspaper ad, Edwards found it particularly attractive because she could walk to work. She discovered that she would be working with Roman Catholic nuns.

“At first I was nervous because I had never been around nuns before in my life,” Jean Edwards said in the book, but added: “They were unbelievable.”

She said a Quaker history professor inspired her when he said: “Wars will continue until young men refuse to go.”

Jean was 50 years old when she participated in her first demonstration, a protest against the Vietnam War at the Federal Building in downtown Louisville.

Jean and George's work has been synonymous with the peace movement. Jean's message, she said in the book, is to “work for peace and justice, speak the language of peace, and incorporate it into all you do.”

Jean is very proud that her children have taken up the cause of peace education. Her daughter heads up an office in her hometown in Germany that works for peace. Jean has a

And so we return to the issue of healthcare in the U.S. It is no longer just a worry for the uninsured, but rather a concern for all U.S. workers.

In the last few years, auto giants GM and Ford forced buyouts and early retirements on the union. When the UAW and Cerberus sit down at the table this summer a lot of autoworkers will be watching intently.

Speaking of watching intently, did you hear the one about how the Republican Party is for the rich, and the Democratic Party is for the rest of us? In a May 15 article by Mark Schmitt, London's *Guardian* newspaper headlines: “Hillary's Union Problem... Hillary Clinton's top adviser is also the CEO of a company that advises corporations on how to bust unions. Organised labour, anyone home?”

The adviser is one Mark Penn. *The Guardian* wrote: “Penn's immersion in the corporate world is so complete that after selling his polling firm to public relations giant Burson-Marsteller, he became ‘worldwide president and CEO’ of the parent firm, the fifth-largest PR firm in the universe, in 2005.

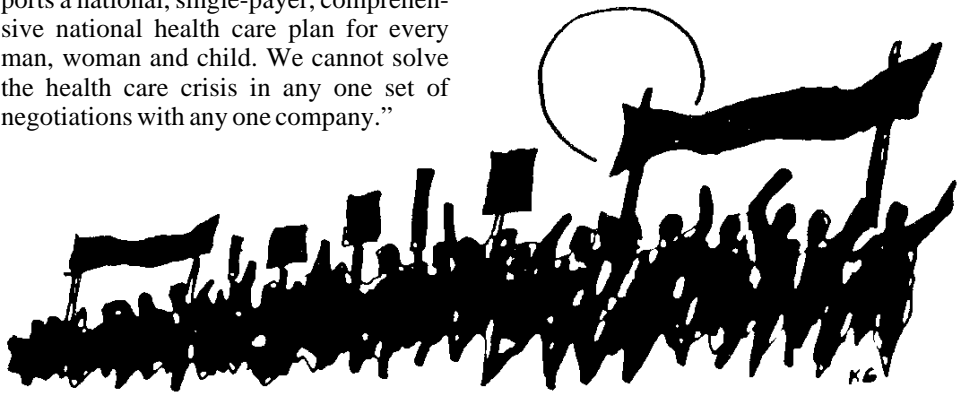
“In this capacity Penn runs numerous corporate lobbying subsidiaries that ought to give key Democratic constituencies pause: among his underlings are a former chair of the Republican National Committee, a former House Republican leader, and several other top Republican lobbyists. Burson-Marsteller also has advertised its expertise in ‘Labour Relations,’ making clear on its web site that labour relations means keeping unions out.

“ ‘Companies cannot be caught unprepared by Organized Labour's coordinated campaigns,’ the company said, advertising its close relationship with a right-wing academic who has written about the nefarious leftwing campaign against American companies.”

The article concludes: “As more details about Penn and his firm's role (began) to emerge last week, *The Nation's* Ari Berman revealed Burson-Marsteller's role in blocking a major union organizing drive at the industrial laundry and uniform firm Cintas — union leaders have said nothing publicly.”

And I know why. Do you?

Contact Ira Grupper at irag@iglou.com



picture of her son, a pastor in Germany, holding up a sign protesting the war in Iraq during a peace demonstration there. Her other son, with his family, participates in a monthly peace vigil to end the war in Iraq.

Jean's granddaughter, Rachel Edwards, a gymnast, replied in a Courier-Journal profile of her when asked what was her greatest source of pride: “I am most proud of my grandparents because of their 30 years of hard work at peacemaking.”

Her granddaughter's words moved Jean deeply, and she said: “Look out, my grandchildren will be out there marching and demonstrating for peace soon.

What greater tribute to Jean's life could there be than to know another generation of her family is prepared to continue her work?

The writer is a member of the Louisville FOR steering committee and a criminologist. The book Portraits of Grace: Women Who Have Made a Difference by Joan Zehnder and Marian Call is published by Chicago Spectrum Press in 2007.

REPORT FROM TAX DAY: THE DILEMMA OF CONSCIENCE

The National Campaign for a Peace Tax Fund Celebrates 35 years. It is approximately the same age as the Louisville FOR chapter which dates back to 1975.

I remember a program that FOR sponsored in Louisville to acquaint our constituency with this new legislative effort whereby tax payers could *legally* have their tax liability paid to a special fund to work for peace rather than support our government’s war making activities.

From that time forth many of us in Louisville have supported this legislation which is now being called the **Religious Freedom Peace Tax Fund** bill. Year by year we have watched it winding through the halls of Congress as more supporters slowly sign on. With the new democratic surge the future looks brighter. On the first day of Spring, the bill was re-introduced by **Representative John Lewis**.

There has also been a large increase in endorsers who support the Campaign and the Bill. Some are quite famous. We just mention a few that are well known dedicated and influential peacemakers — Daniel Berrigan, Sister Joan Chittister, Noam Chomsky, Dick Gregory, Pete Seeger, Walter and June Wink, Howard Zinn.

It was in 1982 when **MARIAN FRANZ** became the Executive Director that the effort really gained ground. She brought her years of experience working with leaders in Washington, D.C. on public policy issues. Marian died last November and we mourn her absence at this time of increased legislative activity.

In our family we continue to withhold the part of our income tax liability which goes to the military budget, estimated at approximately 50%. In the last few years with the war in Iraq and the Israeli assaults on Palestine, we are consumed daily with war news. We cannot bear to give one more penny to this effort. Even though the IRS invades our bank account and seizes the money, we cannot willingly hand it over.

We urge our readers to get in touch with the **National Campaign for a Peace Tax Fund**. Order the 15 minute video “Compelled by Conscience.” It is a good introduction to



the issue of conscience and participation in war. The address for the NCPTF is: 2121 Decatur Place NW, Washington, DC 20008 www.peacetax.com. (888) PEACE-TAX (toll free). e-mail: *info@peacetax.com*

MARIA SCHARFENBERGER NAMED “ALUMNA OF THE YEAR”

Maria Lynette Scharfenberger, cofounder of Louisville’s Hispanic/Latino Coalition and of the Catholic Worker/Casa Latina, was named Alumna of the Year at Presentation Academy from which she graduated in 1982. She was honored at a reception there on April 24. The annual award is given to a Presentation graduate who has made her life an example of commitment.

After graduating from the University of Dayton, Maria spent four years as a full-time volunteer in Latin America. She also holds a master’s degree in social work from the University of Louisville’s Kent School of Social Work. (“The Record,” 4/26/07)

Maria is also among Kentuckians who have made a great contribution to Latin American solidarity through **Witness for Peace** over the last 24 years. They will be observing a reunion on June 10, and in characteristic fashion, Maria will host an Open House for those attending.

CINDY SHEEHAN AT GUANTANAMO

Cindy Sheehan and other peace activists marched with the mothers of a Guantanamo prisoner, a New York firefighter killed on 9/11, demanding that the US detention camp at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba be closed. The potest marked five years since the first terror suspects arrived. At the same time demonstrators in Washington, DC and London, as well as UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon, called for the prison’s closure. (Louisville Courier-Journal 1/12/07)

On another occasion last December, Cindy Sheehan and three other women were found guilty and convicted of trespassing for trying to deliver an anti-Iraq war petition to the US Mission to the United Nations. A Manhattan Criminal Court judge sentenced them immediately to conditional discharge, which means they could be penalized if arrested again in the next six months; and they were ordered to pay \$95 in court surcharges. After the sentencing, the women returned to the Mission; this time their petition was accepted.

WANTED: A volunteer who likes to keep up with what’s going on. FORsooth is looking for someone to take over the Calendar for Peacemakers at the end of the year. It is guaranteed you will never have a dull moment, and you will render a great service to our community. Please contact George Morrison, FORsooth editor, at 944-6460. e-mail: *klm86@netzero.com*



Louisville, KY premiere of the new documentary by renowned Venezuelan filmmaker Angel Palacios



People from all over the world are protesting the protection that the U.S. government has given to the terrorist Luis Posada Carriles. He was recently freed by a U.S. court for violating immigration laws, instead of being prosecuted for the numerous terrorist acts for which he is responsible. Twenty years ago, he escaped from a Venezuelan prison where he was being tried for his involvement in the bombing of a Cuban airplane that killed all 73 passengers on board. The Venezuelan government has filed a petition before U.S. authorities asking for his extradition. However, the Bush administration has failed to respond to this demand for justice.

The Venezuelan documentary film “Posada Carriles: Made in USA”, a Telesur and PanaFilms co-production, reveals the terrorist path of Posada Carriles and his longstanding relation with the CIA, dating back to the 1960’s. It is the result of two years of meticulous research of an investigative team that examined declassified documents and criminal files, and interviewed witnesses and survivors from several Latin American countries.

The network of terror that the CIA established in Latin America—in which Posada Carriles (alias “Bambi”, alias “Basilio”) acted as one of the key figure—is exposed step by step through the courageous testimonies of victims whose family members were killed by him or under his orders. It also includes the findings of anti-terrorist specialists and investigative journalists, and the experience of counter-intelligence agents.

The demand for justice for the survivors and those who lost family members because of Posada Carriles’ actions comes to life on the screen to remind us all that terrorism cannot be justified under any circumstances, and that as said by George W. Bush himself, “Those that harbor terrorists, are also terrorists.”

90 minutes, Spanish with English subtitles, 2007



Posada being detained by Venezuelan authorities in 1976 for the Cubana air line bombing

Thursday, June 21st
7:00 PM

Chao Auditorium, lower level, Ekstrom Library, University of Louisville,
2301 S. Third Street (Just south of the Speed Museum)



Anne Braden Institute for Social Justice Research, Louisville Free The Five Committee, Henry Wallace Brigade, National Lawyers Guild

The Henry Wallace Brigade,
Kentucky Interfaith Taskforce on Latin America and the Caribbean and
IFCO/Pastors for Peace

invite you to a potluck meal to welcome the

18th US/Cuba FRIENDSHIPMENT CARAVAN TO CUBA

and to
Meet the Cuban Five

**Monday, July 9, 2007
6:30 pm
Americana Community Center
4801 Southside Drive**

Caravanistas will discuss their journey of solidarity with the people of Cuba and ways we can challenge the immoral blockade and US foreign policies against Cuba!



Hear the words and meet the spirits of the Cuban 5, Gerardo Hernández, Ramón Labañino, Antonio Guerrero, Fernando González and René González, political prisoners who were unjustly tried and are now serving life sentences in U.S. prisons for trying to prevent terrorist attacks on Cuba.

For more information or how to make a donation call 939-6612

Your donations to Pastors for Peace will support the delivery tons of humanitarian aid to Cuba where trade is restricted by the US.

Directions to Americana: From Downtown: Travel South on Third Street. Pass University of Louisville and Watterson Expressway. Continue on Third Street to its intersection with Woodlawn Avenue. At this stoplight, turn left onto Woodlawn. At the four way intersection, turn right onto Second Street. The street will "Y"; stay to the left and this will turn into Southside Drive. The Americana Community Center will be immediately on your left - former Holy Rosary Academy building.

Meet the Caravanistas ~ Meet the Cuban Five ~ Potluck Meal ~ Photos of Cuba for Sale

Scholarships available for Louisville participants! Jubilee USA Network 2007 Grassroots Training & Organizing Conference

Jubilee USA will hold its Second Annual Grassroots Conference and skills training on June 15 to 17 in Chicago, Illinois on the beautiful Loyola University Watertown Campus.

Democracy Now!'s Amy Goodman will be among our featured guests. The conference will include speakers from the Global South, skill-building sessions for grassroots economic justice activists (advocacy, media work, engaging congregations, etc.), and workshops that will deepen participants' understanding of debt and economic justice issues. And of course there will also be down time for networking and having fun with global economic justice activists from around the United States.

Join the 2007 Sabbath Year Call for Debt Cancellation and Economic Justice. Apply to Janette McCabe at kitlac@yahoo.com For more information and complete schedule <http://www.jubileeusa.org/>



Calendar for peacemakers

June 3 (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.

June 4 (Mon) **THE TIBETAN BOOK OF THE DEAD**, study group every Monday, using Robert Thurman’s translation. Friends Meeting House, 3050 Bon Air Ave. 6:00 pm. Call 345-3411.

June 5 (Tue) **COOPERATIVE GAMES DAYS, Part One**, sponsored by the Peace Education Program at 318 W Kentucky St. **PART TWO** will be on June 12. Attend one or both. \$100 fee for both or \$55 for one. 10:00am—2:00pm. Fee includes written material, boxed lunch & **Fun, Fun, Fun!** To register call 502/589-6583, or e-mail: *peaceeducation@iglou.com*

June 7 and 21 (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.

June 7 (Thu) **AMBASSADOR DENNIS ROSS** of the Washington Institute for Near East Policy, **“Restoring America’s Prestige.”** Sponsored by the World Affairs Council of Ky and Southern Indiana. Galt House West, Archibald Room, 3rd Floor, 140 N Main St. Tickets \$15. (\$12 for members with member code.) Tickets are sold in advance at *www.wacaky-in.org* or call the World Affairs Council office, 502/561-5422.

June 8 (Fri) **SPECIAL! PLEASE JOIN THE NOON VIGIL OBSERVING THE 40th ANNIVERSARY OF THE MILITARY OCCUPATION OF PALESTINE (June 1967 - June 2007). We will call upon the U.S. government to act with courage and determination to end the Occupation and secure a state of Palestine beside the state of Israel.** Come to the corner of 6th and Broadway. 12:00 noon to 1:00 pm. 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.

June 8 (Fri) **MARGARET WHEATLEY** — Half-Day workshop entitled **“From Hero to Host: Leadership that Fosters Capacity for Positive Change”** focusing on the role of leaders in the relationship-driven society of the 21st century. 9:30 am to 12:30 pm, prior to **EarthSpirit Rising Conference** at Bellarmine University. Registration required. Buy tickets \$30 online at *www.brownpaperticket.com/event/14409*. Or call 1/800/838-3006. Tickets available at Carmichael’s Bookstore. For details, call Howard Mason at Metro United Way, 502/292-6126.

June 8-10 (FSS) **EarthSpirit Rising 2007 Conference: RETURN TO EARTH WISDOM. Join the Green Revolution.** For full conference details, go to *www.earthspiritrising.org/index.html* Conference designed for spiritual leaders, educators, business leaders, social workers, artists, environmentalists, social entrepreneurs and other concerned citizens of Earth. Bellarmine University. Register now at *http://www.earthspiritrising.org/eregister.html*

June 9 (Sat) **PEAK OIL, solar energy presentation.** Peak Oil meets every 2nd Saturday, main library 4th & York, Mezzanine, board room. 9:00am. Call George Perkins, 589-5511.

June 9 (Sat) **NEW! GARDENERS MARKET! Every Saturday, 8-11 am.** Sponsored by Crescent Hill/Clifton neighborhoods. Frankfort Ave at Peterson, in the parking lot of Crescent Hill United Methodist Church. Featuring fresh produce, bedding plants, perennials, herbs, bamboo, house plants and **BREAD!** A community event. All gardeners welcome to bring fresh produce. Spaces available. Call 376-6829.

June 10 (Sun) **“AIM HIGHER”** focusing on military counter recruitment. Every 2nd Sunday at 7:00 pm, 2236 Kaelin Avenue at the FOR office. This group would welcome invitations to speak about conscientious objection, military recruitment, and the possibility for highschool students to “opt out” of having their names given to recruiters. Call Chris Harmer, 893-2334. *charmer@ch2m.com*

June 13 (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.

June 14 (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 Kirk Owens, 896-0684.

June 14 (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. Film: “SUCH A NORMAL THING,” A Simple Journey into the Israeli-Occupied West Bank, by Rebecca Glotfelty Call Bashar Masri, 773-1836.

June 15 (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.

June 17 (Sun) **LOUISVILLE COMMITTEE FOR ISRAELI/PALESTINIAN STATES.** (Every third Sunday) First Unitarian Church, 4th & York Streets, 3:00 pm. Call Beverley Mamion, 451-5658.

June 21 (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* E-mail: *pcunity@yahoo.com*

June 22 (Fri) **PIZZA and A MOVIE:** “The Day After Tomorrow” part of the Family Classics series sponsored by the Center for Faith & Action and Interfaith Paths to Peace. 6:00pm. Film at 6:30pm. James Lees Presbyterian Church, 1741 Frankfort Ave. at William St. Free. Donations welcome for pizza. Call 896-0172.

June 22 (Fri) **GIVE PEACE A DANCE!** A fun filled evening sponsored by the Peace Education Program. Glassworks, 815 W Market. 8:00-12:00pm. Can’t dance? Don’t worry, dance lessons on the half hour. Tickets \$15 in advance. \$20 at the door. Call 589-6583.

June 23 (Sat) **YOUTH FOR PEACE REUNION COOKOUT**, hosted by Judy Schroeder. For details, call Judy at 502/296-5056.

June 25 (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.

July 2 (Mon) **DEADLINE FOR THE JULY/AUGUST ISSUES OF FORsooth. Please note that these issues will be combined.** Contact **George Morrison, editor**, 944-6460, E-mail: *klm86@netzero.com* **Note: For calendar listings**, contact Jean Edwards, 458-8056. E-mail: *edwardsfor@bellsouth.net*

July 8 (Sun) **POTLUCK DINNER TO WELCOME THE 18th PASTORS FOR PEACE FRIENDSHIPMENT CARAVAN ON ITS WAY TO CUBA.** Traveling in school buses, trucks and cars, collecting medical and educational supplies along the way through some 120 U.S. and Canadian cities, the Caravanistas will enter Cuba via Mexico as a collective challenge to the blockade and travel ban. People are needed to go to Cuba with the caravan. Information can be found at *pastorsforpeace.org* Call David Horvath, 502/479-9262 or Mary Ann Lambert, 425-3844.

July 12 (Thu) **FORsooth LABELING**, at Beverley Marmion’s, 6:30 pm. HELP NEEDED! Call 451-5658.

July 21-31 **FOUR VISITORS FROM RWANDA**, sponsored by the Peace Education Program, to attend the **Training of Educators Workshop**. Upon returning to Rwanda, they will develop a mediation program using the skills learned at the Workshop. Funds are needed to cover their travel costs. If you can contribute, call Eileen Blanton, 502/589-6583.


July 24-26 (TWT) **TRAINING OF EDUCATORS WORKSHOP**, for school personnel and youth workers interested in creating a youth mediation program in school or community center settings. \$350 or \$650 for two-person team. Call Peace Education Program, 502/589-6583. e-mail: *peaceeducation@iglou.com*

Aug 10-12 (FSS) **“WHAT SAVES WOMEN?”** Weekend retreat on the scenic and quiet grounds of Loretto Motherhouse. Wrestle with the heart of your life in the company of strong, comforting and fun women guided by a team of female pastors, thinkers, writers and activists. Sponsored by The Women’s Center of the Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary. For details, email Mary Sue Barnett, *marysue@gmail.com*

OUT OF TOWN EVENTS

June 15-17 (FSS) **JUBILEE USA, 2nd ANNUAL GRASSROOTS CONFERENCE.** Loyola Univ Water Tower Campus, 820 N. Michigan Ave, Chicago, IL 60611. Workshops and networking. Join the 2007 Sabbath Year Call for Debt Cancellation and Economic Justice. Contact Nathan Fishman at Jubilee USA, 202/546.4470, *nathan@jubileeusa.org* **Scholarships available for Louisville participants.** Contact Janette McCabe at *kitlac@yahoo.com* or call 327-8297.

Aug 31- Sept 2 (FSS) **HIGHLANDER CENTER CELEBRATES 75 YEARS working for social justice and human rights in Appalachia and the South!** For information contact Anasa Troutman, 865/933-3443, ext 226. *anasa@highlandercenter.org*

FINANCIAL REPORT			
May 2007			
BEGINNING BALANCE	.....	\$7,034.56	
Peace Essay Contest funds	.....	650.00	
FORsooth ads	.....	90.00	
Donations & Honorariums	.....	<u>575.00</u>	
TOTAL	.....	\$8,349.56	
EXPENDITURES:			
FORsooth Editing	.....	\$150.00	
FORsooth Layout	.....	100.00	
FORsooth Printing	.....	264.00	
FORsooth Mailing	.....	250.00	
FOR National Dues	.....	75.00	
TTL April	.....	14.00	
TTL May	.....	21.00	
Peace Essay Contest awards	....	450.00	
2007 Bus to DC refund	.....	20.00	
Interfaith Paths to Peace	.....	100.00	
Office Expenses	.....	<u>21.27</u>	
		\$1,465.27	<u>\$1,465.27</u>
ENDING BALANCE	.....	\$6,884.29	
<div><div>Please make your check payable to the Fellowship of Reconciliation. Your gift is tax deductible.</div><div></div></div>			
PLEASE SEND CONTRIBUTIONS TO:			
Tim Scheldorf, Treasurer Fellowship of Reconciliation 2917 Beaumont Road Louisville, KY 40205			

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 – (774-4305)

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

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

LPAC (LOUISVILLE PEACE ACTION COMMUNITY) – 3rd Thursday (558-9124)

LOUISVILLE WOMEN CHURCH – Meditation 1st & 3rd Sundays (473-8435)

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

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

METROPOLITAN HOUSING COALITION – 4th Wednesday (584-6858)

MUHAMMAD ALI INSTITUTE FOR PEACE AND JUSTICE, at UL (852-6372)

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

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

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

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

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

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

RESULTS (a hunger lobby) – 2nd Saturday (451-4907)

SHADHULIYYAH SUFI SPIRITUALITY GROUP – (637-5010)

SINGLE WOMEN’S GROUP – 3rd Sunday (812-866-1667)

911 TRUTH LOUISVILLE (502-609-6020)

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.