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FORsooth



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September 2015

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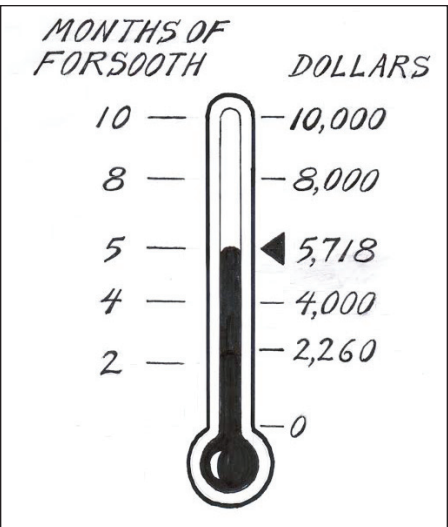
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More about this fundraising appeal

The FORsooth newspaper has been published and distributed free of charge by the Louisville Chapter of the Fellowship of Reconciliation (LFOR) for 25 years. Over the past few years, LFOR's income from donations has decreased to the point that the cost of printing this newspaper will be more than our projected income for 2016.



It costs about \$1000 to publish each issue of FORsooth. We publish ten issues every year. Each issue is mailed to 1500 readers. Another 1500 copies are distributed in the community at libraries, coffee shops, and other public places. This is our outreach to the community.

We believe readers value this paper enough to donate a small amount to keep it going.

This fundraising appeal began June 1, 2015, with a goal of raising \$10,000. As of August 9, 2015, we have raised \$5,718. Donations have ranged from \$10 to \$600. A typical donation has been between \$30 and \$60.

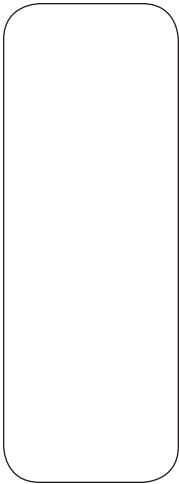
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Going solar in Schnitzelburg: more homeowners opt for clean power

By Amy Elyse Waters

I live in the working class neighborhood of Schnitzelburg in Louisville. In 2008, there was only one home in my neighborhood powered by solar panels, owned by Don Feeney, Jr., a dentist with a huge heart and a grave concern for the externalized costs of our collective fossil fuel addiction. Solar was expensive then.

For five long years his solar powered-house was the envy of the neighborhood, until 2013 when the price of solar dropped so rapidly and so low that neighbors began to see solar as affordable. In 2013 even my family, a one-income family on a municipal librarian's salary, was able to invest in our own clean energy for the price most people would pay for a room renovation.

Our 14 solar panels generate 105% of our electricity, take up less than a quarter of our roof space on our 1500 square foot house. They took three hours to install and three hours to hook up to LG&E's grid. After the federal tax credit they cost us \$9220. That means no monthly electric bill for as long as they last and they came with a warranty of 25 years - with an expected lifespan of over 40 years.

You don't have to blow up mountains, poison drinking water, drill below the aquifer, cause earthquakes - and cancer and still births - and step on the backs of low-income or indigenous people to turn on the lights or drive around town anymore. My solar panels were manufactured in the United States; they are silent and they have no moving parts to fail; they stand up to hail, and they are covered by our homeowners



Amy Elyse Waters

insurance, just in case. And to me, they are beautiful.

In another attempt to follow in the footsteps of solar pioneer neighbor, Don Feeney, Jr., a few weeks ago we bought a used electric car for \$11,400, a Nissan Leaf, a city car, a comfortable commuter's car powered exclusively by the solar panels on our house - powered by a star 93 million miles away. Our electric Nissan Leaf is so quiet my husband says you can hear the birds sing on the way to work.

Remember that in those five years from 2008 to 2013 we had one solar-powered house in my neighborhood. Since 2013 we now have 8 within a mile. My parents and their neighbors went solar; our friends and neighbors are doing the same.

But even though the prices have dropped, even with the help of the 30% tax credit (due to expire at the end of next

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Amy Waters had tears of joy in her eyes when climate-friendly solar panels were installed on their home in Schnitzelburg in 2013.

Sister Judy Morris says Kentucky lax at preventing gun deaths

By Isaac Marion Thacker IV

There’s a now-old bumper sticker that says, playing on an oft-quoted theme from the 1992 election (“It’s the economy, stupid!”) that says simply, “It’s the guns, stupid.” While agreeing with the basic idea there expressed emphatically, Sister Judy Morris in her May 21 Third-Thursday-Lunch (TTL) presentation in effect brilliantly proposed a change in wording: “It’s the Gun Culture, Stupid!”

Morris, who is Justice Promoter for the Dominican Sisters of Peace (the St. Catharine community near Springfield, Kentucky) and a member of Faiths United to Prevent Gun Violence, was emphatic and extremely effective in her late-spring talk at the Rudyard Kipling in proving that we in the U.S. live in a gun culture, and that we suffer mightily for it.

She began with a story about a German tourist who said we have a great country here, but there were two things that really bothered him: we are a country where not everyone has health insurance; and a country without responsible gun legislation. Morris then told of her own uncle who, even absent any break-ins in his area, keeps a gun in every room of his house, “because you never know what window they may come through.”

Powerful as these stories were, even more pertinent and decisive in proving Morris’s point that a gun culture is “where we are today” were the numbers she provided, especially the first one: there are 300 million guns in the U.S. today, she said (that’s almost one for every man, woman, and child!); they cause more than 30,000 gun deaths yearly, with half the victims being aged 18-35; homicide is the second-leading cause of death for those 15-24 years old, affecting African Americans quite disproportionately; and our gun-death rate

is 20 times greater than 22 other higher-income countries.

So, what can we do about this scourge? Morris reported three common-sense pieces of legislation that are desperately needed.

First, universal background checks for prospective gun buyers are needed. In 1993, Morris said, Congress passed universal background checks—but only for guns purchased at gun stores. This, she said, missed sixty percent (!) of the guns, though, which are purchased at gun shows, flea markets, online, or in private transactions. Still, because of this “Brady Bill” (so named for Reagan Press Secretary James Brady, who was disabled in the Reagan assassination attempt and with his wife Sarah fought tirelessly for the bill), some 2.4 million gun sales did not happen because the checks revealed that the would-be buyer was a convicted felon or had a long history of mental illness. Just think of all the good this has done, all the lives it has saved, said Morris!

What we need, she went on to say, is true universal background checks, including at gun shows and flea markets etc. Some 90 percent of the population favors this, she said, but still Congress fails to move on it due to huge campaign contributions and intense lobbying by the leaders of the NRA and gun-industry interests. Even most rank-and-file NRA members support background checks, said Morris: NRA leaders are the problem. This, she said, raises the question of what democracy really is: money apparently talks louder than 90 percent of the population!

The second piece of desperately-needed common-sense legislation, also once passed during the Clinton years (in 1994), is a ban on assault weapons, said Morris. The 1994 law banned such guns, but George W. Bush let the law die a too-quiet death in 2004 when he failed to renew it.

Finally, Morris convincingly argued that the U.S. needs a ban on high-capacity gun magazines. Again, we got such a law under Clinton but do not have it now—and



Judy Morris speaking on gun violence at the May 21 Third Thursday Luncheon at the Rudyard Kipling restaurant

photo by John Hartmann

such magazines were used in the Colorado movie-theater massacre, in the deadly Tucson shooting that nearly ended Rep. Gabby Giffords’ life, and in the Sandy Hook horror! What on Earth will it take?! asked Morris.

Morris noted some recent, hopeful successes such as the 2014 U.S. Supreme Court decision upholding a ban on “straw purchases” (a “legal” person buying a gun for someone who cannot get one themselves), and the Brady Campaign’s successful challenge of a Georgia town’s ordinance requiring (!) guns in all households. Still, she said, many more problems remain.

For example, Kentucky is one of the worst states when it comes to (not) preventing unintentional child gun deaths, said Morris. No Kentucky law even mandates locking up guns in households where children live. And in Kentucky, one can legally give children, however young, kid-sized-but-REAL guns!

Thankfully, there are good groups fighting for gun control. The most important one, said Morris, is the Brady Campaign to prevent Gun Violence, which is very effective at both the state and the national level. The Brady Campaign is truly saving lives, said Morris—such as some of the women’s lives that would otherwise be lost

to gun violence. Women in the U.S., Morris lamented, are twice as likely to be murdered if there is a gun in their home; and they are 11 times more likely to be murdered than women in other higher-income countries.

So, what can we as mere individuals do against the big and bad NRA?? Morris exhorted four main things:

- follow state/local/national legislation and contact your political representatives;
- donate money to groups fighting against gun violence;
- write letters to the editor; and
- watch the Courier-Journal and tell them when they do well or poorly.

In the very lively and informative Q & A session that followed Morris’s presentation, Morris pointed out that three-fourths of gun violence in U.S. homes is either suicide, domestic violence, or is accidental. Thus the NRA’s babble about protecting oneself against intruders and from vile, liberal society is just that. Unfortunately, in May 2016 that NRA is actually holding its annual convention here in Louisville. But, not to fear: it has already been announced, said one audience member, the Festival of Faiths will happen here as usual—concurrently, with the theme “Sacred Nonviolence.”

So, there are signs both of continued hardships and of hope. Having hope win out is largely up to us, the 99 percent. As with so many other things, selfish elites may win inherently

fleeting victories for the few; but ultimately we will win. There are just too many of us (at least 90 percent in this case) and too few of them.

Isaac Marion Thacker IV (Ike Thacker) is an advocate for political, social, and especially economic democracy. He believes simply that we are all absolutely equally human, regardless of absolutely everything, and that everyone deserves a place to call home. Ike may be contacted at ike.thacker@gmail.com

FOR’s Mission Statement

The Fellowship of Reconciliation seeks to replace violence, war, racism and economic injustice with nonviolence, peace and justice. We are an interfaith organization committed to active nonviolence as a transforming way of life and as a means of radical change. We educate, train, build coalitions, and engage in nonviolent and compassionate actions locally, nationally, and globally.



FORsooth is published by the Louisville chapter of the Fellowship of Reconciliation. Send submissions for news stories or commentaries to John Hartmann, 220 Masonic Home Drive, Apt. 206, Masonic Home, KY 40041, e-mail: johart.john@gmail.com.

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95 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.

Chair: Pat Geier.....609-7985

Third Thursday Lunches on Hiatus

Rudyard Kipling owners Amy and William Enix have hosted our Third Thursday Lunch series at the restaurant since 2013. We have enjoyed their soups and salads, and appreciated all of their hard work.

In June, the Enix’s decided to close the restaurant. As a result, we will not have lunches this fall, as we look at other possible venues with our partner, Interfaith Paths to Peace. Please watch FORsooth for more information.



Reflect. Unite. Act.

Recent events involving guns and the devastating effects of gun violence in our communities only heightens the awareness of the need for nonviolence to counter this alarming state of our culture. We believe that it is of vital importance to show that people of faith in our city can and do support changing the culture of gun violence.

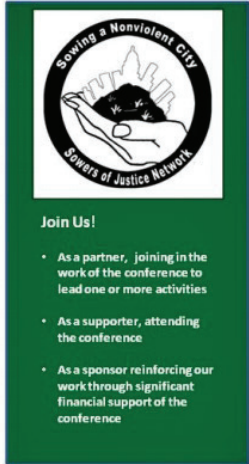
Registration and Sponsorship information on our webpage: sowersofjusticenetwork.org and our Eventbrite page: <http://sowinganonviolentcity.eventbrite.com>

To date, sponsors for the Conference include: Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense in America, One Love Louisville, Metro Louisville Million Mom (Brady Campaign to Prevent Gun Violence), Church of the Epiphany, St. William Church, Episcopal Diocese of Kentucky (Division of Peace and Justice), Presbyterian Peacemaking Program, Highland Baptist Church, Justice Ministry Group, Fellowship of Reconciliation (Louisville Chapter), Thomas Jefferson Unitarian, Immaculate Heart of Mary Sisters, Interfaith, Mt. St. Matthew Episcopal Church, Dominican Sisters of Peace, Drepung Gomang Center for Engaging Compassion, Stand Up Sunday, Louisville Showing Up for Racial Justice. More sponsors are invited!

What if people of faith and people of goodwill transform our city into a community of Nonviolence, Compassion, and Peace?



Sowing a Nonviolent City Conference
Saturday, September 26, 2015 - 8:30 to 4:30 PM
Christ Church Cathedral - 421 South Second Street
Friday, September 25, 2015 - 6:00-9:00 PM - Youth Focus Event
South Louisville Community Center - 2911 Taylor Blvd



Sowing a nonviolent city: major conference on gun violence Sept. 26

By David Horvath and Carolyn King

On July 24th The Washington Post reported “There have been 204 mass shootings — and 204 days — in 2015 so far” An FBI study has shown a staggering increase in active shooter events since 2000, with the four most violent years in the last five. And of course the common element is firearms.



David Horvath

President Obama has been frustrated by the lack of progress we have made on the issues of gun violence. “The United States of America is the one advanced nation on Earth in which we do not have sufficient common-sense gun-safety laws. Even in the face of repeated mass killings,” Obama said.

On September 26th there will be an impressive convening of groups and individuals in the Louisville community around the issue of gun violence. The conference will be held from 8:30 to 4:30 at Christ Church Cathedral, 421 S. Second St. For over a year, Sowers of Justice Network has brought together in conversation a number of community leaders, representing a variety of interests relating to how we can stop gun violence in the community. A core team has pulled together from that, a series of speakers and workshops for “Sowing A Nonviolent City”. A youth-led related event will take place the previous evening, September 25th, 6-9:00 pm at the South Louisville Community Center 2911 Taylor Blvd.

The National Rifle Association convention, coming to Louisville in 2016, only heightens the awareness of the need for alternative pathways to gun violence. It is critical to show that people of faith and compassion in Louisville care about this issue and to create alternatives to the culture of gun violence.

The Sowers of Justice Network invites the entire community to participate in the conversation and educate ourselves and others about what is possible as well as the impact scope and scale of the problem.

Join us for a dynamic conference to address this issue TOGETHER.

Join us as we mobilize people not just with information about the scale and scope

of gun violence but towards action steps of enduring value.

Join us as we explore and connect community and spiritual resources to engage the public on this topic.

Core pieces of the event include powerful testimony speaking to epidemic gun violence and ways to address it by voices from different sectors in our community. Breakout sessions will offer dialogue and direct action.

Partial list of speakers and topics:

Attica Scott will present up-to-date data on the costs of gun violence and how we can use data to persuade action.

Sharon Pearson will share practical ideas from her book: Reclaiming the Gospel of Peace-What Churches Can Do.



Carolyn King

Louisville Police Chief Conrad and Anthony Smith, Director of the Office for Safe and Healthy Neighborhoods, will discuss efforts local officials are making to create trust in our community.

James Atwood, Author of America and Its Guns: A Theological Expose will focus on America’s faith communities and their responsibilities to “stop the madness of gun violence.”

Mitra Jafarzadeh, A Unitarian Minister, will share from personal experience how congregations can grieve and heal together when violence strikes in their midst.

Kentucky Legislators will share the challenge of promoting reasonable gun legislation in our state and will learn how the gun lobby creates barriers to common sense regulations

We will learn practical ideas and evidence-based ideas from people like speaker, Jan Arnow from her book: In the Line of Fire-Raising Kids in a Violent World.

We will explore how to be allies with people most affected by gun violence through groups like Stand Up Sunday, Black Lives Matter and Louisville Showing up for Racial Justice. This will include ongoing struggles about police/community relations, and concerns for the over-militarization of police/citizen interactions.

We will learn creative ways for emotional healing and community actions used in Ferguson and Baltimore from “artist”, Elizabeth Vega.

People of faith will talk about changing hearts and minds through faith communities and the practice of non-violence

We’ll address topics such as How Faith Communities Address Root Causes, guns in the context of domestic violence, crime and suicide.

Representatives of Mom’s Demand Action and The Million Mom March will show how legal gun owners can keep children safe and how parents can protect their children from gun accidents.

On Friday September 25th from 6-9:00 pm, a Youth Event is planned at the South Louisville Community Center 2911 Taylor Blvd. A Sowers group is working with Anthony Smith’s Metro Youth Implementation Team and others to plan Friday night’s youth gathering on how to create a safe community. More information about that event will be forthcoming. There is no



Registration and Sponsorship information on our webpage: sowersofjusticenetwork.org and our Eventbrite page: <http://sowinganonviolentcity.eventbrite.com> Tickets for all day Saturday, including lunch are \$20. Scholarships are available for anyone needing them. Contact us here: sojky.events@gmail.com. Tickets for Friday evening event are free.

“There are political dimensions whenever guns are discussed, but what happens in society because of guns makes them a profound spiritual concern that must be dealt with by people of faith.”

Conference keynote speaker James E. Atwood, the author of “America and its Guns: A Theological Expose”.

charge for this event which promises to be an exciting evening!

To date, sponsors for the Conference include: Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense in America, One Love Louisville, Metro Louisville Million Mom (Brady Campaign to Prevent Gun Violence), Church of the Epiphany, St. William Church, Episcopal Diocese of Kentucky (Division of Peace and Justice), Presbyterian Peacemaking Program, Highland Baptist Church Justice Ministry Group, Fellowship of Reconciliation (Louisville Chapter), Thomas Jefferson Unitarian, Immaculate Heart of Mary Sisters, Monroe, MI, St. Matthews Episcopal Church, Dominican Sisters of Peace, Drepung Gomang Center for Engaging Compassion, Stand Up Sunday. Louisville Showing Up for Racial Justice. More sponsors are invited!

Also available on the Sowers website (sowersofjusticenetwork.org) is a growing list of resources, selected for their usefulness in our community and a list of other activities related to gun violence, scheduled before and after the conference. Sowers of Justice Network has a Gun Violence Working Group that will continue working with these issues after the conference and you are invited to join that work.

David Horvath is on the Board of the Sowers of Justice Network and works with a number of other social justice organizations. You can reach David at dhorvath@fastmail.fm

Carolyn King is Co-Chair, with Mary Abrams, of the Sowing A Non-violent City Conference Committee. She also chairs the Justice Ministry Group at Highland Baptist Church.

At 4th and Oak, personal security intersects with societal justice

By Mandy Olivam

How many times have I stood on that corner? Hundreds, perhaps thousands. Every day, real life happens at the intersection of 4th and Oak Streets. People come and go — on and off buses, in and out of stores — at this Louisville crossroads. Less than a mile east of CrossRoads Ministry, the little retreat center where I once worked, this intersection has been a regular stop along my journey of integrating different factions of my community and my life. This is where East meets West, Downtown meets South...the head meets the heart, compassion meets action. Every Louisville citizen could find their way to such a crossing.



Mandy Olivam

Saturday, a man was shot on that corner by a policeman. A man died from injuries inflicted by an officer. A policeman defended himself against the threat of a drunk man wielding a metal flagpole. An officer overreacted to a confrontation. A mentally ill Sudanese man responded to a cop by attacking him with a pole. A refugee was provoked by an officer and defended himself. There are countless ways to tell the story; each added perspective is another path along the topography of truth, making the map more accurate and more complex as we gather, watch, and listen. Outrage and

despair, grief and regret, questioning and challenging — these are the roads I traverse again and again as I revisit the news. These lanes draw me no closer to conclusion but carve deeper trails in my exploration of what it means to be a community.

Deng Manyon was a Lost Boy of Sudan. He was a victim of immeasurable trauma and pain, someone who came to the U.S. but struggled to find security. He suffered from chronic mental health troubles and homelessness. He drank. He assaulted a woman the day he died. He did not speak English. I wonder what his thoughts were as he walked away from the officer yelling at him, reached for a crude weapon, and charged. Did he meet the officer’s eyes? Was he confused, afraid?

So many times, I stood at that corner waiting for the #4 bus to take me and dozens of high school young people to Americana Community Center where we made friends with refugees. Even if we spoke different languages, we found ways to connect and communicate. Catching the #25 on Oak Street carried us to St. Vincent de Paul — an organization at which Deng found food and shelter — where we sat and ate and met people on the fringe of our city. Over a shared meal, we often discovered that the directions of our different lives led to disparate places but reflected similar journeys. Back at CrossRoads, we processed our day’s experiences and found what had changed for us was not where we stood, but who we stood with.

Nathan Blanford felt threatened. He



Wildflowers on a street corner near CrossRoads

photo by Mandy Olivam

had to make a split-second call. His hand followed an instinctive path toward an automatic weapon, a familiar and fatal mode of defense. As smoothly as a finger pulls a trigger and a bullet thrusts from a barrel — seemingly effortlessly, without thought, but in truth after years and years of training — he took Deng’s life. His service in the name of the public good led him to this moment. I wonder if he was able to look Deng in the eye. What would he have seen if he had? Was Nathan Blanford confused, afraid?

I am a middle-class, cisgender, straight, white woman who is native-born to this country and has no significant mental or

physical illnesses. I recall times I acted in self-defense; sometimes, I in fact acted on assumptions about what, or who, was coming toward me. Foreign and unfamiliar people or circumstances have confronted my security of identity. They have disturbed my knowledge of my place as “right.” I have been humbled to learn that justification is not justice. By receiving mercy for my ignorance, I have been better able to bestow it.

Each time I stand on corners like 4th & Oak, I discover again the unending work of deconstructing the internal highway that traps me in a one-way ride to isolation. Each time I cross the street and look at life from another perspective, the revelation chips away at the corrupt foundation of unjust systems that keep me separate from my fellow Louisvillians. The rubble of my individual highways and byways has become the material for restoring my life and community. Each connection is an opportunity to explore how, together, we might walk in a new direction. As relationships form, a neighborhood is built.

Saturday, each of us stood on that corner. As citizens of Louisville, we find ourselves at a complicated crossroads of compassion. Blame and excuse are ugly cement on divisive walls. Lack of opportunities to facilitate cultural sensitivity, practice peacemaking, and examine our language are unmapped territories of common ground. Dismissing people who challenge us dishonors all potential servants of the

(continued on page 5)

An exchange of ideas between city’s police chief and its people

In the aftermath of Fraternal Order of Police Lodge 614 President David Mutchler’s open letter to the public that was considered to be inflammatory and threatening to critics of police behavior, (see <http://www.whas11.com/story/news/local/community/2015/06/19/fop-letter-open-letter-dave-mutchler/28973947/>) there was a variety of community responses. There were demonstrations, meetings with public officials, and proposals presented in writing to public officials.

One letter sent to the Mayor, Police Chief, the Metro Council and the people of Louisville was created by a group process and endorsed by these organizations.

American Indian Movement in Indiana and Kentucky

Black Movement Law Project

Carl and Anne Braden Memorial Center

Cards United Against Sweatshops

Fellowship of Reconciliation Louisville Chapter

Greater Good Hope Baptist Church

Justice Resource Center

Kentucky Alliance Against Racist and Political Repression

Kentuckians for the Commonwealth

Jefferson County Chapter

Kentucky Health Justice Network

Louisville Juneteenth Festival

Louisvillians Showing Up For Racial Justice

Louisville Women’s Alliance

National Action Network (Louisville Metro, Kentucky State Chapter)

Parents for Social Justice

Sowers of Justice Network

Stand Up Sunday/Stand Up Louisville

Women In Transition

West Louisville Urban Coalition

REACT (Rubbertown Emergency Action)

Here is the text of the letter. Chief Conrad did respond to the proposals point by point

OPEN LETTER TO THE LMPD, THE FOP, THE MAYOR, THE METRO COUNCIL AND THE PEOPLE OF LOUISVILLE

June 29, 2015

These past two weeks in Louisville have been emotionally and physically stressful for our whole community. From the death of Deng Manyoun and the news of the white supremacist murders at a Charleston church, to the inflammatory and threatening open letter from FOP President David Mutchler, we have been traumatized. We are in need of healing, but the proper balm for healing is justice and for that to be realized significant change must occur.

We are a gentle, angry people who simply want Louisville to be the “compassionate city” that it claims to be. Individually and collectively these past two weeks we have found ways to speak out in forums, organizational meetings, peaceful street protests and vigils, in social media and around the dinner table about recent violent events in Louisville and beyond and how we should respond. If approached the right way this moment in time, propelled by the Black Lives Matter movement, presents us with the opportunity for creative and empowering change that addresses long-standing problems with policing and racial justice.

We, the people, have granted the LMPD the authority to protect and serve us. We not only have the constitutional right, but the responsibility to speak out and protest whenever that authority, and the trust it is based on, is violated. This is what democracy looks like.

We have taken time to thoughtfully gather opinions from around the community. We are engaging in a respectful process in which we recognize that there are differences in how to move forward but one in which we view those differences as a strength that allows us to craft solutions together that none of us could have arrived at alone.

Locally these recent events have occurred in the context of an overall crisis we face in Louisville on many fronts including a lack of affordable housing that has only been worsened by city development policies that promote gentrification. They occur in the context of ongoing problems of racial profiling and discrimination in downtown especially on 4th Street Live as the message given to Louisville’s Black community has been that “you are not wanted down here”. They occur in the context of a view of public safety by city leaders that ignores poverty and the root causes of unrest and crime; instead of investing in human needs our leaders promote policies that double down on a repressive LMPD presence in economically and socially marginalized areas of our community including the misnamed “Operation Trust” and the continuation of the Viper Squad. These events have occurred in the context of a history

of broken promises for economic development west of the 9th Street divide, a part of town that has talented, intelligent and creative people just needing resources to build a sustainable community that can flourish.

It should be evident that we do not see our concerns about the relationship between the police and residents in this community in isolation. Like solutions to these broader problems, key ingredients to the crisis of police/ community relations lie in transparency and accountability. We are no longer willing to accept city leaders, from the Mayor to corporate CEOs to police officials, telling us to “just trust us”. Through our proposals we insist on having a seat at the table and the acknowledgement that we cannot solve problems with the same mindset that created them.

With this framework in mind, the ideas below represent our current program for changing LMPD policies and procedures, and improving public safety in Louisville by increasing community participation and control over a basic public institution, the police:

Below is Police Chief Steve Conrad’s response to the open letter.

LOUISVILLE METRO POLICE DEPARTMENT

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY

GREG FISCHER
MAYOR

STEVE CONRAD
CHIEF OF POLICE

July 10, 2015

Kathleen Parks
3208W. Broadway
Louisville, KY 40211

Dear Ms. Parks,

Since becoming Chief of Police in 2012, serving the community where I first began as a young patrol officer in Western Louisville In 1980, I have strived to create a police force that is engaged and Involved in the city; one that reflects the very people we serve. The Louisville Metro Police Department — and the broader Louisville Metro Government — have made significant strides in creating a more connected community. We’ve made a strategic decision to patrol not just in cars, but on foot, on bikes, and on horseback. Officers have walked in partnership with Neighborhood Watch members in an effort to show a unified front against crime. We’ve reached out to the community, with officers being involved in charities and often returning to homes to help families in need. We’ve held community forums, Citizen Police Academies and met people where they are — in their homes, in their schools, in their houses of worship, In coffee shops, in their neighborhood parks, and on their basketball courts. And, with Mayor Fischer’s vision, we created the Safe and Healthy Neighborhoods Department to not only foster connections between people but to work proactively to break the cycle of violence and ensure that today’s young adults don’t engage in criminal activity tomorrow, We’ve made many strides, but have much more to achieve.

Over the past few weeks, our community has had a robust discussion and dialogue about policing tactics and use of force; beginning with the unfortunate incident in which a police officer was attacked and responded with fatal force — to the heated exchanges prompted by a letter from Fraternal Order of Police President Dave Mutchler while a cloud of sorrow hung over our nation from the Charleston racist massacre.

As Police Chief charged with serving and protecting all 750,000 citizens of Louisville, my goal is to always have open, honest dialogue with the citizens I serve and work to make Louisville one of the country’s safest large cities. On June 29v, I received your letter, which included twelve ideas. I have listed these ideas, in bold, as they were listed in your letter, with my responses below.

1. Restore the Civilian Police Review Board. Recent incidents highlight the need for a community-based independent police civilian review board that has subpoena power. We do not trust the police to be the sole investigators of their own misbehavior through the Public Integrity Unit. This community demonstrated broad public support for a review board previously created by the Board of Aldermen but it was stolen from us at the time of merger. There are successful review boards in cities across the country.

We already have a Civilian Review Board that is called the Police Merit Board. It does

have subpoena authority. The Police Merit Board has authority over police hiring, promotions, demotions, suspensions and other disciplinary actions. The authority for the Police Merit Board comes from Kentucky Revised Statutes.

Any other form of civilian review would require legislative changes in the state law in Frankfort.

2. Assign a special prosecutor for all deadly force cases.

We present completed Public Integrity Unit investigations involving the use of deadly force to Tom Wine, the Commonwealth’s Attorney for Jefferson County. The cases are presented to him because his office has the needed jurisdiction to prosecute such cases, if required by the facts. Mr. Wine does have the ability to call for a special prosecutor by making a request to the Kentucky Attorney General.

3. Initiate a complete overhaul of use of force policies. These policies should be more aligned with Amnesty International, the Department of Justice and United Nations guidelines.

Our current use of force policy reflects the laws of the state of Kentucky, clearly established case law on use of force and best practices from around the country. We will compare our policy with information from Amnesty International, the Department of Justice and the United Nations to see what, if any, changes may be needed. That review will be completed before the end of this month.

4. Initiate immediate screening of responding officers in deadly force cases. Officers should be immediately screened by a third-party and tested for the presence of drugs, alcohol and steroids then complete a “fit for duty” physical and psychological exam.

We agree with this recommendation for drug and alcohol testing, however, drug testing is covered in the Collective Bargaining Agreement, or union contract with the FOP. We are working with the FOP on this issue. All drug and alcohol testing is completed by a third party.

Officers involved in shootings resulting in someone being injured or killed do complete a psychological fitness for duty evaluation before returning to duty. This evaluation is completed by a contract physician.

5. Release the names of officers involved in deadly force cases within 24-48 hours.

The names of the officer(s) involved are currently released within 24 to 48 hours of the shooting.

6. Create a database for all officer-involved shootings that is accessible to the public. Advocate for the creation of a national database.

This is underway and should be completed in less than 90 days.

7. Develop a training program focused on techniques of de-escalation. Revise protocols to direct officers to retreat and use non-lethal means to detain persons who are aggressive.

Our objective in addressing any and all citizen encounters is that of life safety. This means we make every effort to resolve situations with the least amount of force. To meet this objective, our officers receive detailed training in the most current proven methods of both verbal and physical conflict de-escalation.

In 2014, we used scenario-based training with an emphasis on de-escalation and trained all officers during their annual training. All recruits receive training in de-escalation techniques during the police recruit academy. Officers and recruits are also trained in the use of less lethal options.

Improve training for intervention in cases involving mentally ill individuals. People with mental illnesses make up a disproportionate number of the cases of police brutality and fatalities.

In addressing encounters with members of the community suffering with mental illness, our department has served as a leader in the practice of developing and implementing department wide Crisis Intervention Training (CIT). In fact our model of training has been used by other law enforcement agencies throughout the region. This training has resulted in successfully resolving situations involving those with mental illness by getting them the help they need using the minimal amount of force necessary, which has reduced injuries to officers and those we encounter.

In 2014, our officers responded to approximately 2,308 incidents involving mentally ill citizens. In response to these incidents only 83 (3.5%) resulted in use of force by an officer, of these 83 use of force incidents, there were 9 (.3%) incidents which resulted in an injury to the citizen.

Implement a review for all LMPD officers of the Bill of Rights and the US Constitution.

Our officers receive annual training from our departmental Legal Advisors Office in cooperation with the Jefferson County Attorney’s Office. This training involves updates of current case law as it specifically pertains to Issues involving clearly established law, constitutional law and its application in law enforcement.

We are currently developing a class as part of the 2016 annual training for all officers, which will include instruction on policing in a democratic society. This training will include the Bill of Rights and the Constitution.

8. Dismantle the Viper Squad.

This unit is critical in our efforts to combat crime and VIPER is deployed to neighborhoods based on need. Dismantling it would lead to even more crime. We continue to experience an unacceptable level of violent crime in our community. The VIPER unit is part of the Operation Trust Task Force, which was formed to address the spike in homicides earlier this year. I am already considering making some organizational changes that would likely affect VIPER, but any change will continue to have a dedicated group of officers who work to supplement the efforts of the Patrol Divisions to address violent crime.

End the practice of racial profiling.

Our policy on “Bias Law Enforcement Practices” codifies our committed to not engage in the practice of racial profiling. Ensuring that racial profiling is not practiced by the members of the LMPD is of paramount importance! We find this practice not only despicable but disrespectful to the citizens we serve. We also find it to be unproductive to our mission of preventing and controlling crime. Under our policy, supervisors are directed to observe, Identify, and prevent any biased law enforcement practices. If any problematic behaviors are observed, they have a duty to stop the activity and are required to report the situation to me immediately. As an additional safeguard, our department participates in an annual Traffic Stop Study completed by the University of Louisville to assess the degree to which race, ethnicity, gender or age may play a role in our officers’ enforcement decisions. In the interest of transparency, the results of the most recently completed study is posted on our website.

9. Speed up the implementation of body cameras in Divisions 1 and 2.

Body cameras are currently deployed in the 5 Division (Highlands/Crescent Hill/Clifton). Per the existing plan, they will be deployed in the 1st, 2nd and 4th Divisions (All of West Louisville, Central Business District, Old Louisville, Smoketown, Shelby Park) starting this month and should be completed by the end of August.

10. Require that all LMPD officers must reside In Louisville/Jefferson County. The fundamentals of community-oriented policing must be reinforced. Officers should be instructed to spend more time engaging the community outside of their patrol cars.

The vast majority of LMPC) officers do live in Jefferson County, however, there is no requirement to do so. As a matter of fact, state law (KRS 15.335) enacted in 1968, and upheld by the Kentucky Supreme Court in 1994, eliminated all residency requirements for peace officers.

With regards to community policing, we agree. This is simply good police work. Earlier this year, we asked officers to spend more time out of their vehicles to provide the opportunity to interact more with our citizens; and they have been doing that as part of our “Walk a Block” program, officers are spending time patrolling parts of their beat on foot to provide more opportunities to get to know community members. We are committed to this initiative and other outreach efforts, such as the Patrol Division Advisory Committees, Coffee with a Cop, Neighborhood Watch, Street Teams (involves officers walking neighborhoods with Neighborhood Watch members), Community Crime Prevention Forums, etc.

11. Military veterans who served in combat need special training to distinguish between military and police work. Officers who have served in war zones need to be properly counseled for items such as PTSD and related problems that can impact their ability to safely perform their duties. All officers should receive a mandatory mental health evaluation every two to three years by an outside practitioner.

Prior to being selected as a police recruit all candidates (including military veterans) receive thorough written and oral psychological evaluations to determine their mental, emotional, and psychological fitness to be a police officer.

(continued on page 7)

Tom Moffett on his long life of activism, schooling and Tartan hats

Brian Arbenz interviewed Tom Moffett in Tom’s home this August

Louisville anti-racist and peace activist Tom Moffett has frequently changed career and educational paths during his 91 years, but he has stayed on an unwavering course to help people here and worldwide overcome oppression and war.

Born in 1924 the youngest of five children of an American Presbyterian missionary in the Korean city of Pyongyang, where he lived until age 12, Tom has been an accountant, scholar and ordained Presbyterian minister in Louisville, Kansas City, Mo., in mining camps in West Virginia and in the nearby city of Wheeling.

Tom also serves as the unofficial fashion leader of Louisville’s left, known as the dapper red-sweater and Tartan hat-clad protestor.

A resident of West Louisville during most of his nearly 50 years in the city where he moved to pastor New Covenant Presbyterian Church at 37th Street and Broadway (later changed to Covenant Memorial Presbyterian), Tom’s schooling also has been an eclectic mix.



Brian Arbenz

After childhood education in the missionary community of Pyongyang (which today is North Korea’s capital), he studied at high schools in low, middle and upper income areas from California to New Jersey, then studied Christian theology at Princeton Theological Seminary in New Jersey and Wheaton College in the Chicago area, and accounting at Jefferson Community College and the University of Louisville.

Tom, the son of Madison, Ind. native Samuel A. Moffett and Lucia Hester Fish Moffett of Santa Barbara, Cal., talked in August about his life and activism with FORsooth editor emeritus Brian Arbenz.

Brian Arbenz: How did spending your first 12 years in Korea shape your teen and adult life in the United States, including your work against oppression here in Louisville?

Tom Moffett: I grew up in an occupied country, like the West Bank and Gaza.

Korea... had always been a small beleaguered country between China and Japan, the giants, and fought over.

There was a war where China and Japan were fighting. There was a war where Russia and Japan were fighting.

My father was there right in the center of it. Those wars tended to center in Pyongyang.

He moved there in 1890.... He had already achieved some degree of acceptance by the Koreans, and he solidified that because... he took sides very strongly with the people, supporting them when they were oppressed by whichever power.

And so they saw him and Americans as their friends.

It gave me a really different perspective on the world. I intuitively knew that the United States was not the center of the universe -- even though I thought it was the best country in the world and I was glad to be an American. And my folks were there for reasons of caring about everybody in the world.

BA: Did you learn Korean and do you currently speak any of the language?

TM: No. By the time I was born, there were a relatively large number of Americans and other missionaries in Korea, and particularly in the city where we lived.... We were pretty well a self-contained community.

But there was also a school that drew children from all over Korea and North China. It was a small school and it was right across the street from where we lived.

BA: You moved to your family’s native U.S. at age 12 in the mid-1930s. What was the transition like, and how did you develop social justice concerns in America?

TM: My first experience in America was four years in... Monrovia, Calif., which was just 18 miles outside of L.A. The first day I went to school in Monrovia, in the 7th grade, they asked me where I was from. I said, Korea. They said, ‘What state is that in?’

I was interested in sports so I started listening to UCLA football games. They had a star running back who was African-American, and that, at that time, was noteworthy, because most of the country didn’t have integrated sports.

Kenny Washington was kind of a lightning rod for the African-American community. Because of my natural interest in minorities, I just became fascinated with that. And we had one football and one basketball star of African-American descent in our high school.

We moved to Newark, N.J. [six years later]. Newark was a somewhat segregated city, not rigidly. I did have an experience in New Jersey which was kind of a blip on my path.

The school I was scheduled to go to was

mostly black, though the neighborhood I lived in was not noticeably black.

I was there for about maybe two weeks.... I was just beginning to find out what it was like to be a minority -- white in a black school.

Then all of a sudden, some of the people in my brother’s church.... decided I was getting a standard education at a public school.

They offered me a scholarship for me to go... to an elite academy. My family thought it was a good idea, so I went to that elite academy.

I did well. I graduated one of the top people in the class. But it was a difficult experience because I had nothing in common with most of the students. They were definitely from a different socioeconomic class.

After a couple of months, I did well on some test, and got some attention.

One of my classmates said, ‘Congratulations. I’m glad you got it. I’m glad a Christian got it.’ I thought to myself, how does he know I’m a Christian? Then, I realized all of a sudden, three quarters or more of the students were Jewish.

BA: Did that further energize you about the issue of discrimination?

TM: I wouldn’t say that it consciously did. None of this up to that point consciously did.

BA: What did energize you?

TM: I followed my older brother to Princeton Seminary.... In my senior year at Princeton I had an ethics course.

I was assigned to write a paper on the view of private property in the Old Testament. I didn’t know a thing about that.

And I discovered that the Bible, the Old Testament, has a number of chapters... built around the idea that there really is no such thing as private property. It doesn’t belong to us. It belongs to God, and we are the stewards of it.

The principle that was very clearly spelled out in The Bible was: no matter what happens... you don’t get permanent title to [land] just by buying it. It belongs to God, and it belongs to the people. I had grown up a Christian who took the Bible very seriously, but I had never come across that idea before.

BA: How did these Biblical principles play out in the West Virginia communities where you served early in your church ministry work?

TM: That started my real social consciousness, you might say, with help from what happened before. I served four different mine camps. There could be 500 people in the mine camp.

They were in a battle for respect and decent treatment by the mine owners.

The black miners were relegated to the less attractive houses on the top row. The others were sorted by authority and so forth among the other rows, with the managers getting the big houses on the bottom row. This was my first direct experience with racial and class segregation, and also of the industrial labor relations aspects of the working people of America.... In Wheeling, it was similar, but in a metropolitan sense.

And it was a very different experience.

I grew up a privileged white person in a Republican, relatively wealthy family, well educated. Both my mother and father were college educated, had advanced degrees.

BA: Later, you pastored churches in Kansas City, Mo. and Louisville seeking racial integration, moving here in 1966. How did that go?

TM: During that period, from ’66 to ’72, the whole dynamic of the civil rights movement was changing from, let’s see if we can integrate, to: let’s build our own, let’s be ourselves. The temporary existence of integrated congregations in white churches came to an abrupt closure.

BA: Was this a big part of why you decided to leave the ministry?

TM: No, that was only a small part of it. I was not especially successful as a pastor.

I hadn’t really been that good a counselor as a pastor. I’d been more of an organizer.

I said to myself, if you’re having trouble achieving what you set out to do, maybe you ought to see if maybe that’s not what you are the best at.... I not only resigned as pastor. I demitted as a minister. I preferred being a church member to being the ex-pastor.

I’d always been good at math. Even as a pastor, I’d always paid attention to the finances of the church.... So I took accounting classes.

I was at the zoo with my daughter and someone I knew came up to me and said: ‘The place where I work, the Park DuValle Health Center, is looking for an accountant.’

The Park DuValle Health Center was the ideal place for me because it was in the neighborhood that I lived in and cared about. I would feel right at home. And it was one of the first neighborhood health centers established under the war on poverty. And its purpose was not just to provide health care, but job training for underemployed African-Americans, or anybody. That just appealed to everything I was involved in.

I was immediately hired as a junior accountant.... I quickly moved from junior accountant to manager of accounting.



Tom Moffett rides a TARC bus in 2014 to a protest against U.S. wars in the Middle East

photo by Brian Arbenz

That was my day job. I felt much more on top of it than I had been as a pastor.... But I still had plenty of time to be active in the church and active in the community. I quickly became active in the Kentucky Alliance Against Racism and Political Repression.

And I was active in the West End Community Council.... Then in ’75 busing came to Louisville and I hooked up with Progress in Education, which was the local response to the anti-busing protests which erupted very big. And it was thanks to PIE and the Black Protective Parents and the other forward thinking people in the African-American and white communities that we were able to, rather quickly, put down that violent negativity and move ahead with busing.

Black Protective Parents was a black organization that formed to protect their children in this situation. And PIE and Black Protective Parents worked very closely together. Progress in Education was black and white.

Busing has not been without its problems, but it has been more successful in Louisville than in most of the country.

Although we won the battle against the violent protests... we didn’t win the battle in the schools. Resistance continues to this day. African-American children in integrated schools still get the shaft and have not benefited in the same way as white children have.

The main benefit of busing in this community has been for whites and the greater community, not the black children. White children have discovered the world, the way it is. They didn’t have any clue.

Black children already knew.... And they have had to bear the brunt of it, because to keep (busing) going, every compromise has been in favor of the whites.

BA: Ending wars and excessive military spending is a cause that has brought you to the streets as much as racial justice. How much is militarism tied in with domestic social justice?

TM: It is totally tied in.

The use of military force for ‘America’ to dominate the world is not really for ‘America’ to

dominate the world, it’s for multi-national global corporate interests to dominate the world.... It hinders every effort at social justice.

BA: Why is it so hard to get global peace activism included with activism on domestic issues?

TM: The repression against that has been greater than anything else.

Anne Braden suffered so much not because she was for racial equality, but because she was a global person who understood the... nature of our militarism. That’s what made Martin Luther King so courageous. We have to keep working for that. We can’t give up.

BA: Through all your public commitment to intense issues, your dress and manner also are well known. One person in a letter to the editor upon your 90th birthday referred to Tom Moffett as ‘the man in the red sweater.’

TM: I like red and I got a sweater like this a long time ago and I wore it occasionally, and then within the last 10 years or so I had gotten another one like it.

I discovered it has pockets, which some of my sweaters don’t have.... I’ve gotten the problem of not knowing where I put things. For instance, I’ll take out my hearing aid and I’d just get frantic because I could not find what I had done with it. I’ve acquired the system of always putting it into this pocket.

After I discovered that, the red sweater became not just a trademark that people recognize me with, but it became a necessity in my life.

BA: Have you always worn the Scottish Tartan hats?

TM: I just happened to pick up a similar one about 15 or 20 years ago.... It wore out. It was kind of floppy.

I had gotten so that I liked it and my daughter had noticed that, so she said ‘would you like to have another one like it?’ It took her almost a year to find one!

Brian Arbenz, formerly named George Morrison, is an assistant editor and editor emeritus of FORsooth. Reach Brian at george.morrison14@twc.com.

4th and Oak (continued from page 3)

public good. Posing dissimilarity as a threat puts a gun to all of our hearts. For the privileged, ignoring the imperative to name our advantage and lend it to amending broken systems is a death sentence...to us all. Refusing to mourn our lost brothers, both of them, is to forget that we can find unity in common suffering.

Every day, real life happens at the intersection of our lives with others’. We can choose our route. Louisville’s citizens can look their neighbors in the eye, put down defenses, and extend hands. We can take a trip to the other side of town. We can listen deeply, dialogue, ask difficult questions, and be patient with one another. We can restructure our hearts to create a nonviolent neighborhood where all are protected. We can imagine support networks for our most vulnerable citizens so they are not a threat to

wellbeing. We can revolutionize our training of public servants to facilitate nonviolence. We can create a truly compassionate city by standing together.

Let’s start by coming to the crossing and meeting one another.

Mandy Olivam is a native Louisvillian. She holds a BA in Philosophy from the University of Louisville. She previously worked at CrossRoads Ministry, a retreat center in West Louisville that fosters relationships between privileged and marginalized people. Mandy continues to facilitate retreats for youth and adults. She lives with her husband, Robby, and her son, Oak. Mandy can be reached at mandy.olivam@gmail.com - it would be a delight to hear from FORsooth’s readers.

Melt the ICE of oil dependency during Louisville Drive Electric Week

By Stuart Ungar

If the members of EVOlve KY, the Louisville, Kentucky electric car group have their way, the ICE age will soon be over. For those in the know, ICE stands for Internal Combustion Engine -- those cars that we consider “normal.”

But, there are other options... the electric car is coming of age. It's no more something just for hobbyists or early adopters. It's a viable transportation option for those who want to save money on fuel and vehicle maintenance and have a high-tech fun form of transportation. EVOlve KY's big event is coming up -- Louisville Drive Electric Week (LOU DEW) will bring a bunch of different experiences to the Louisville community, all designed to increase awareness of the features and benefits of electric cars.

Our LOU DEW Preview event will take place on September 5th and 6th at the Flea off Market, and will showcase many of the most exciting electric and plug-in electric cars on the market today. Folks can ask questions, take a test drive or ride along and see first-hand what makes electric cars cleaner, more cost-effective and more fun to drive than their gasoline counterparts. The event will run from 11 a.m. - 5 p.m. both days. The rain

date will be the following weekend.

As part of Louisville Drive Electric Week, we will also be showing an electric car-themed movie on the weekend of September 12th and having a booth at the Gaslight Festival on the weekend of September 18th.

Complete information on LOU DEW events are available by visiting our group's website --www.evolveky.org.

The group EVOlve KY was formed to increase awareness locally of the features and benefits of driving an electric vehicle.

The group has an eclectic electric mix of vehicles and their drivers. Many auto makes are represented. We have Teslas, Nissan Leafs as well as pure electric vehicles from Mitsubishi and Ford. We also have members who drive plug in hybrids such as the Chevy Volt and Ford Fusion. Additionally, we also embrace the DIY spirit and have one member who converted a 1973 Porsche 914 to be fully electric and one member who built a fully electric motorcycle.



Stuart Ungar

The group holds its monthly meetings at Eclipse Bank and often has interesting speakers showcased. We discuss current trends in the EV world and also are working on things such as getting more “destination” charging areas set up in and around the Louisville area.

Louisville already has a small and growing fleet of fully electric busses downtown. It also has a large number of hybrid electric school busses and a hybrid taxi service. We see expanding the number of EV drivers and boosting the associated infrastructure as moving towards making Louisville a city of green transportation.

There are a host of benefits to driving electric, such as saving money on fuel and maintenance. Electric cars are quiet and fun to drive and connected to modern technology (there are phone apps that can pre-heat and pre-cool the vehicle as well as show the state of charge). Their fuel comes from domestic sources, and if you've got solar panels, renewable ones. There's the convenience of charging your vehicle at home at night, the satisfaction of zero tailpipe emissions, and the list goes on.

Louisville Drive Electric Week is part of the National Drive Electric Week (started as National Plug in Day in 2011). The big idea

was to have simultaneous events across the country the same day. With the increased popularity of electric vehicles, the event was expanded to a full week and the name changed to reflect what we all love to do -- drive electric!

The Louisville event's major sponsor is LG&E KU. Bob Hook Chevrolet, Tafel Motor Company, Collin's Nissan and Sam Swope BMW are supporting car dealers (who will also have cars for test drives at our Flea off Market event). Several individuals have also offered generous support. The Sierra Club, Electric Auto Association, Plug-in America and Nissan Leaf are the national event sponsors.

This is the first year Louisville is participating in Drive Electric Week. With all the local support and buzz around town about this “new” form of transportation, it is certain it will be memorable.

Stuart Ungar lives in Louisville with his wife Laura and kids Aaron, 16, and Eden, 13. He is a freelance writer and writes a weekly column for the The Courier-Journal. Stuart has had a lifelong interest in environmental conservation and feels good about setting a good example for his kids. You can reach Stuart at stuartungar@me.com

As burnout becomes an epidemic, many strategies can help curb stress

By Camille Britt

The statistics of Americans experiencing symptoms related to stress or burnout in any given month are both physical (77%) and psychological symptoms (73%). To understand the burnout issue it is important to know that, burnout is defined as an emotional and/or physical exhaustion resulting from exposure to environmental and internal stressors or inadequate coping and adaptive skills. The opposite of burnout is engagement characterized by energy, involvement and efficacy. Overall, workplace stress costs more than \$300 billion each year in health care costs and missed time at work. According to the Association of Psychological Science, burnout changes our brains neural circuits which changes the way a human is able to cope in stressful situations.

The ACE is a simple acronym for personal awareness of stress triggers, Awareness, Choice and Experience. To manage stressors, avoid burnout mode and learn to manage triggers before stress sets in and creates a bigger problem. Choose one stressor at a time and alleviate that trigger then experience self-care. Self-care is whatever YOU need to feel great about yourself and will vary from person to person.

Burnout is not just in the traditional workforce, but within the family home, and can be just as devastating to the family structure as within a company. There is no difference where and when stress and the ultimate personal burnout takes hold from

male to female. Men seem to intuitively know how to cope in a way that is much healthier than their female counterparts. Women can learn from the male side of life. Captivate.com reports that men are:

- 25% more likely to take breaks for personal activities
- 7% more likely to take a walk
- 5% more likely to go out to lunch
- 35% more likely to take a break to just relax

This is a good thing for the men who make this a part of their healthy living. It works, and with the right support from co-workers, friends and family, creates a very healthy and engaged human.

There is more to this healthier life without burnout, which includes healthy nutrition, physical activities, spiritual practice and social engagement. There is a lot to be said about all of the above, but for now, let's focus on the social aspect of burnout as it relates to humans and our work environment. Whether at home or in the traditional work environment, studies have shown that high social support increases a human lifespan by 2.4 percent, so, make friends in your work environment. Ladies, find friends who are grounded, team players, supportive and will be there for you in a crunch.

A woman in the midst of burnout can be recognized in a couple of different ways. She may become a hyper active individual, or conversely become lethargic. The best way to know what is happening with someone is to listen. They will tell you. A person that is in burnout has an increasingly negative

attitude toward their job, be it at home or in traditional work. They may exhibit low self-esteem and personal devaluation. They should be encouraged to find time for themselves, and become a passionate person again, and participate both in and outside of the work environment.

Organizations can do a fabulous job in creating an atmosphere of support and cohesiveness for their employees. Some proven methods include:

Encourage personal interactions (at work; instead of the email, text or messaging).

Open work environments which encourage face to face communication.

Plan office outings, usually after work, to break free from the company business and allow for bonding outside of work related stressors. A natural bond forms, creating a healthier work environment.

Create a small but meaningful space inside the office for bonding. Big Ass Fans, headquartered in Lexington, KY has a ping pong table that is popular with employees. This gives workers an opportunity to bond and let off steam, naturally becoming more creative.

There is much in the media about the millennial young women burning out in their 30's. Women of all ages, working in the home or out in the world, feel overwhelmed and end up in burnout. How to fix this epidemic of the new age women:

Take the breaks you need, including your vacations.

Get pampered. Pampered in the way that makes you feel beautiful and loved.

Seek out natural healing practices that

will heal the parts of you that need healing. Ex. Acupuncture, Reflexology, Cranial Sacral, EFT

Surround yourself with people who love you and will tell you what you need to hear, not what they think you want to hear.

Have something to be passionate about every day.

Get creative -- really! Creativity opens your world to new and wonderful thoughts and ideas.

Women from all careers are learning how to interact in the world, staying centered and at peace while being in the world. Our bond with each other, and most importantly with ourselves, becomes stronger and freer, finding the sweet spot; beyond burnout!

Camille Britt is a transformational mentor in the Louisville area and has studied personal development for the last ten years. She has developed a unique approach to life, loving herself to freedom and peace. Camille works with individuals to transform their thoughts and create a life of love for themselves. She feels that when a person truly loves them self, in a healthy and honoring way, they become more peaceful. Being the former publisher for Natural Awakenings, a healthy living magazine, helped her to find her inner strength that she could not have found any other way and started her down the road to the ultimate self-discovery. Camille can be reached at Camille@camillebyyou.com for more information and commits.

A point-by-point decoding of the ‘right to work’ drive’s dishonesty

By Tom Louderback

It seems like the lobbyists for the so called right-to-work laws and the politicians they support can never give us direct answers. Why do we need these laws, we ask? Because these laws create jobs, they say. How do these laws create jobs, we ask? Because companies considering relocation consider only right-to-work states, they say. How do you know that, we ask? That's confidential, they say. We cannot divulge any names. And, so it goes.

This spin game got me thinking about the various logic fallacies these lobbyists and their allied politicians are spreading around Kentucky this year. Here are the fallacies I have identified so far.

CONTRADICTION OF TERMS -- Under law there is a right to collective bargaining. There is also the privilege to apply for work. That's a privilege under law; not a right.

ARGUMENT FROM IGNORANCE -- Unsubstantiated assertions that Kentucky is passed over for the so called right-to-work states princi-

pally because we are a free bargaining state. No examples and no research relating to Kentucky or any other state are provided. No mention of the economic development incentives and environmental factors that attract new employers.

CORRELATION CONFUSED WITH CAUSE - Increases in union membership in Indiana during the past two years are falsely attributed to the so called right-to-work laws. The national economic recovery and recalls of laid-off workers are ignored.

FALLACY OF FALSE EQUIVALENCE -- Labor unions are mischaracterized as political parties even though they are about 90% service organizations. Fair Share fees are mischaracterized as political donations. It's falsely asserted that Fair Share fees violate our Freedom of Association.

FALLACY OF SUPPRESSED EVIDENCE -- Their false assertions that so called right-to-work laws abolish mandatory union dues ignore US Supreme Court Decisions going back to 1944 which already expressly prohibit mandatory

union dues. The difference between union dues and Fair Share fees is never even mentioned. In 1956, the US Supreme Court ruled “We only hold that the requirement for financial support of the collective bargaining agency by all who receive the benefits of its work does not violate either the First or Fifth Amendments.”

ANOTHER FALLACY OF FALSE EQUIVALENCE -- They falsely assert that workers as individuals have rights and power in the job market similar to voters in an election. This false assertion denies the fact that employers govern the process in the absence of a collective bargaining agreement. It also denies the disadvantages and weakness of unorganized individuals in that situation. Refer to the At Will Employment Doctrine in state law.

ANOTHER FALLACY OF SUPPRESSED EVIDENCE -- They ignore a racist history which indicates the actual purpose of the so called right-to-work laws. Consider this call to action recited by civil rights workers --> They tried to block our way with all kinds of strategies. We

have heard them all -- Property Rights, States Rights, and “Right-to-Work.” Another indication of actual purpose is the exception for police and fire fighter unions in Michigan's so called right-to-work law.

FALLACY OF COMPOSITION -- They falsely assert that workers want freedom from labor unions because of sporadic corruption in the past. No evidence of current corruption is ever offered. The overall historic record and historic purpose of collective bargaining is ignored. The selfish motive for “free-riding” is ignored too.

ANOTHER ARGUMENT FROM IGNORANCE -- Unsubstantiated assertions that our citizens want so called right-to laws based on a Bluegrass Poll last year that did not ask the respondents any questions about the function of such laws. Moreover, there were no indications of grassroots support for these laws during the Fiscal Court meetings where motions were considered this year.

(continued on page 7)

Going solar (continued from page 1)

year unless Congress acts), even though solar is cheaper than fossil fuels in the long run, not every Kentucky family is able to get a loan for the upfront cost of solar panels.

Kentucky needs feed-in tariffs for easier loan access, and virtual net-metering so communities have a way to go solar together. We need to do away with the stifling size limits on net-metered solar installations. Our utility companies, the Public Service Commission, our local and state officials need to work together to provide clean, renewable energy to ALL Kentuckians.

Why is Kentucky falling so behind in this solar revolution that is happening all over the U.S. and the world? Why are other states fostering the growth of renewable energy jobs, while Kentucky maintains its death grip on fossil fuels - filthy, finite, and wasteful?

Other states have Renewable Portfolio Standards requiring utilities to provide a minimum amount of renewable energy to customers. Programs in Kentucky that encourage the adoption of renewables are dwarfed by what is available in other states, because Kentucky has put virtually all of our eggs in the fossil fuel basket.

All Kentuckians should be able to turn on their lights and know the ability to do so didn't cost someone else their life, or their lungs; or the waste of which didn't give someone else flammable drinking water, didn't cost a farmer their property rights; or come from companies with industry histories of spills and explosions. We need the energy that doesn't significantly contribute through greenhouse gases like carbon or methane to the greatest challenge humans will ever face: climate change.

Solar is the most abundant energy

available to us on our planet, and it works in Kentucky. We need programs to train our hard workers to be prepared for the solar revolution and let families benefit from the tens of thousands of new jobs that would be created if Kentucky would embrace the future of clean energy. Our politicians and candidates who are stuck in the dirty old power groove need to adapt and reform to allow Kentucky to invest in what makes the most sense for the long-term health of our people, economy and state: solar.

To find out more about solar in your neighborhood and talk to the owners and installers, take the Louisville Solar Tour Saturday, October, 10, 2015. There will be an Intro to Solar at the Green Building form 10-11am, bus, bike and self-guided tours, and an after-party solar celebration fair at Apocalypse Brew Works in the afternoon. For more information please visit *LouisvilleSolarTour.Blogspot.com*.

With hopes for a restored relationship with our one and only home planet, Earth, Amy Waters is an ardent full-time volunteer with 350 Louisville, the Kentucky Solar Energy Society, Citizens' Climate Lobby, the Cumberland Chapter of the Sierra Club, and the Louisville Climate Action Network. Amy Waters and her husband, Dustin Strong, have lived in Schnitzelburg for 12 years in a 1925 house that's been in his family since the 1940s. You may email her at amyelyse@yahoo.com

Editor's note: This article has been updated by Amy Waters after it was originally published in the Courier-Journal on Saturday, August 15.

Police chief (continued from page 3)

After being hired, our officers are observed by supervisors, who have been trained to observe for indicators of PTSD, along with any evidence of behavior that could negatively impact the officer's service to the community. If a supervisor observes problematic behavior, they follow up as needed to have the officer's fitness for duty assessed.

The Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act of 1994 (USERRA) is a federal law that establishes rights and responsibilities for uniformed service members and their civilian employers. Current case law is clear. USERRA limits the ability to rescreen returning veterans. Petty v. Metro Government of Nashville-Davidson County #07-5649. 538 F. 3d 431 (6th Cir. 2008). The requirement of a mandatory mental health evaluation requires reasonable evidence there is an issue with the officer's behavior, performance, and/or conduct.

12. Members of River City FOP Lodge 614 should review their support for President David Mutchler's leadership.

River City FOP Lodge 614 is a stand-

alone organization, separate from the LMPD. The FOP is the representative for all non-probationary officers, sergeants and lieutenants for the purposes of collective bargaining. The responsibility of reviewing and selecting its leadership falls solely and squarely on the members of the River City FOP Lodge 614. The FOP holds elections every two years and the membership may review their support for FOP leadership at the ballot box. The next election is in November of this year.

I want to thank you for your letter and for your ideas! Please know that I truly share your desire for a safer and more compassionate Louisville!

Sincerely,



Steve Conrad
Police Chief

'Right to work' (continued from page 6)

INCONSISTENT APPLICATION – The so called right-to-work laws are by function government interventions into the collective bargaining process. Ironically, advocates of these laws also assert that their goal is reduce government interventions into our lives.

APPEALS TO EMOTION – Unsubstantiated assertions of job losses frighten people in uncertain economic times.

YET ANOTHER ARGUMENT FROM IGNORANCE – Unsubstantiated assertions that companies which offer good jobs prefer the so called right-to-work environment. It is reasonable to ask whether these companies are looking for cheap labor. It is reasonable to ask whether they are good corporate citizens. It is unreasonable, not to ask those questions.

CIRCULAR REASONING – Falsely asserting that we need so called right-to-work laws because the lobbyists say this is what employers want. The conclusion and reason are one in the same.

MORE CIRCULAR REASONING – Disingenuous assertions that workers should withdraw from unions because they have not negotiated higher pay in tough economic conditions. That would further weaken collective

bargaining which is one of the few rights afforded to workers under law. Remember that workers in non-union workplaces have no rights under the At Will Employment Doctrine.

BAD MATHEMATICS -- Regression analysis is the standard statistical process for determining the effects of key variables. The studies cited by lobbyists for the so called right-to-work laws do not apply that process, however. This is like conducting medical research without a control group.

DOUBLE-BARRELED QUESTIONS - The following comes from a recent survey distributed by Americans for Prosperity – Kentucky. “While workers should have the right to unionize, they should not be forced to join a union or pay dues to one they don't support.” That is obviously two questions rammed together. The standard advice on writing survey questions is this: Don't use double-barreled questions.

ARGUMENTS FROM REPETITION -- Repeating false assertions over and over for the purpose of exhausting everyone else.

Tom Louderback is the Calendar editor for FORsooth Newspaper. Please contact Tom at TcLouderback@aol.com

Regular Meeting Times for Area Organizations

- 15 THOUSAND FARMERS – 15th day each month, www.15thousandfarmers.com
- ADDICTION RECOVERY ADVOCATES OF KENTUCKIANA – (485-1248)
- AIDS INTERFAITH MINISTRIES (AIM) OF KENTUCKIANA, INC. – (635-4510)
- AMERICA 2000 DEMOCRATIC CLUB –4th Tuesday. Contact Enid Redman at 459-0616 or John Mine at pappajohn15@gmail.com. Also see www.America2000plus.net.
- AMERICANS UNITED FOR SEPARATION OF CHURCH AND STATE – Every month at noon (contact Paul Simmons: 608-7517)
- AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL – 1st Saturday (Sharon: 637-8951) at Heine Bros. on Douglass Loop
- APPAF [American Palestine Public Affairs Forum] – 2nd Thursday (773-1836)
- AUDUBON SOCIETY OF KENTUCKY – Walks every other Saturday morning. Visit <http://audubonsocietyofky.org>
- BECKHAM BIRD CLUB – 2nd Saturday, 7PM , www.beckhambirds.org
- BREAD FOR THE WORLD – Last Monday every other month (239-4317 for details)
- CAPA [Citizens Against Police Abuse] –2nd Thursday (778-8130) Meet at Braden Center, 3208 W. Broadway
- CART [Coalition for the Advancement of Regional Transportation] – 3rd Wednesday, Union Station, TARC Board Room
- CLOUT [CITIZENS OF LOUISVILLE ORGANIZED AND WORKING TOGETHER] – (583-1267)
- COMMITTEE FOR PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST – 2nd Monday (456-6586)
- COMMON CAUSE – Ad hoc discussions. Continuous engagement. www.commoncause.org/ky
- COMMUNITY COALITION ON THE HEALTHY HOMETOWN – Every Monday, 5:30PM (502-574-6209)
- COMMUNITY FARM ALLIANCE OF JEFFERSON COUNTY – 2nd Tuesday (223-3655)
- COUNTER RECRUITMENT, “Aim Higher” – 1st Sunday, 7pm (899-4119)
- EARTHSAVE POTLUCK – 2nd Saturday, 10AM (502-299-2520) www.LouisvilleEarthSave.org
- ELECTRIC VEHICLE OWNERS OF LOUISVILLE (EVOLVE) – Monthly meetings. Join us on Facebook. Contact stuartungar@icloud.com
- FAIRNESS CAMPAIGN – Quarterly community dialogues and volunteer opportunities (893-0788)
- FDR/LINCOLN LEGACY CLUB – 1st Thursday, papajohn15@bellsouth.net
- FELLOWSHIP OF RECONCILIATION – 2nd Thursday (609-7985 or 291-2506)
- FOOD IN NEIGHBORHOODS COMMUNITY COALITION – 2nd Tuesday, 6:30PM (502-819-2957)
- FORWARD RADIO PROJECT – 1st Thursday, 6:30 p.m. (502-296-1793) FORward-Radio.net
- FRIENDS FOR HOPE (Support Group for Adult Cancer Survivors) – 4th Wednesday at 6:30 PM (451-9600).
- FRIENDSHIP FORCE OF LOUISVILLE – 2nd Tuesday (893-8436)
- GREATER LOUISVILLE SIERRA CLUB – 3rd Tuesday, 7pm. (502-644-0659)
- GREEN CONVENE – 2nd Tuesday, 6:30PM, www.greenconvene.org
- HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION ADVOCACY BOARD – 1st Monday, 9AM (502-574-3631)
- HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION ENFORCEMENT BOARD – 1st Monday, 9:30AM (502-574-3631)
- HUMANISTS OF METRO LOUISVILLE – 2nd Monday, 7:00pm (896-4853)
- INTERFAITH PATHS TO PEACE – 3rd Wednesday, every other month. (214-7322)
- IRFI [ISLAMIC RESEARCH FOUNDATION INTERNATIONAL, INC.] – Sundays at 6:00 PM (502-423-1988)
- JEWISH VOICE FOR PEACE (jvp.org) – 1st Friday and 4th Thursday. Contact 256-525-5290 or sonrevolution@aol.com
- JOBS WITH JUSTICE KENTUCKY (582-5454)
- JURISDICTIONARY CLUB OF LOUISVILLE – Know the law and how to use it (500-8161)
- JUSTICE RESOURCE CENTER – (345-5386)
- KENTUCKIANS FOR SINGLE PAYER HEALTH CARE – 1st and 3rd Thursdays of each month, 5:30 PM. Board Room on the Mezzanine of the Louisville Free Public Library. www.kyhealthcare.org 636-1551
- KFTC [KENTUCKIANS FOR THE COMMONWEALTH] – 2nd Monday (589-3188)
- KITOD [KENTUCKIANA INTERFAITH TASKFORCE ON DARFUR] – (553-6172)
- KY ALLIANCE AGAINST RACIST & POLITICAL REPRESSION – 1st Tuesday, 6:30 p.m. (778-8130)
- KY COALITION TO ABOLISH THE DEATH PENALTY – (541-9998)
- KITLAC [KY INTERFAITH TASKFORCE ON LATIN AMERICA & THE CARIBBEAN] – 2nd Wednesday (479-9262)
- KY WATERSHED WATCH. Volunteer water quality monitoring and training around the state every month. Call 800-928-0045
- LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS (502-895-5218), www.louisville-orglwv
- LOUISVILLE COMMITTEE FOR ISRAELI/PALESTINIAN STATES – 3rd Sunday (451-5658)
- LOUISVILLE FORUM – 2nd Wednesday, Noon (502-329-0111)
- LOUISVILLE GREEN DRINKS – 4th Tuesday, 6:30PM www.greendrinks.org
- LOUISVILLE PEAK OIL GROUP – 2nd Saturday (425-6645)
- LPAC [LOUISVILLE PEACE ACTION COMMUNITY] – (456-6914)
- LOUISVILLE SHOWING UP FOR RACIAL JUSTICE (LSURJ) – Monthly meetings for learning and action (502-558-7556)
- LOUISVILLE WOMEN CHURCH – Meditation every Sunday (473-8435)
- LOUISVILLE YOUTH GROUP – Friday nights (502-587-7755), louisvilleyouthgroup.com
- LOUISVILLIANS IN FAVOR OF EQUALITY (LIFE) – 4th Sunday (384-3875)
- METRO SWEEP FOR ACCESS – 3rd Tuesday (895-0866 or 899-9261)
- METROPOLITAN HOUSING COALITION – 4th Wednesday (584-6858)
- MIGHTY KINDNESS – mightykindness@gmail.com (235-0711)
- 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)
- NATIONAL ACTION NETWORK, LOUISVILLE METRO CHAPTER – 4th Sunday of each month, 5 p.m. (778-8624 or 470-362-0317)
- PARENTS, FAMILIES & FRIENDS OF LESBIANS AND GAYS (P-FLAG) – 3rd Sunday (329-0229)
- PEACE & COMPASSION BUDDHA CIRCLE/CML – (451-2193, brozier@bellsouth.net)
- RCRC [RELIGIOUS COALITION FOR REPRODUCTIVE CHOICE] – (866-606-0988)
- RESULTS (a hunger lobby) – 2nd Saturday (451-4907)
- SICKLE CELL ASSOCIATION – 3rd Saturday (502-569-2070)
- SIERRA CLUB INNER CITY OUTINGS – 2nd Thursday, 7:30 PM (558-0073)
- LOUISVILLE SHOWING UP FOR RACIAL JUSTICE. Learning, support and action (558-7556).
- SOCIAL CHANGE BOOK CLUB – 3rd Monday, www.greenlistlouisville.com
- SOWERS OF JUSTICE NETWORK – sowersofjusticenetwork.org, sowersofjusticenetwork@gmail.com
- URBAN LEAGUE YOUNG PROFESSIONALS – 2nd Monday, 6PM (502-561-6830)
- VETERANS FOR PEACE, Louisville Chapter 168 – (502) 500-6915, CRawerTrainer@twc.com
- WOMEN IN TRANSITION (WIT) – every Wednesday, 6-8 PM (636-0160)

Note: If your group would like to be added to this list or if information needs to be updated, please let us know by emailing calendar.peace@gmail.org

Calendar for peacemakers

Please e-mail us information about your peace and justice events to calendar.peace@gmail.com

Sep 1 to Sep 20 **LOVE & FORGIVENESS**. The Muhammad Ali Center. Share, listen, connect, ask, and learn about feeling and emotions. Visit www.alicenter.org

Sep 1 to Oct 16 **ANCIENT SPLENDORS: IMAGES OF ASIA**. The Crane House. See Monica Glitz's photos of World Heritage sites like Angkor Wat and Mount Huangshan. Images that balance raw beauty with the fragility. Visit www.cranehouse.org

Sep 2 (Wed) **NATURE PRESERVE VOLUNTEERS**. Blackacre State Nature Preserve. Every Wednesday, 9AM to Noon. Help care for gardens, trails, and farmland. Visit www.blackacreconservancy.org

Sep 2 (Wed) **NOONTIME INTERFAITH MEDITATIONS**. Every Wednesday from 12:10 to 12:30 at Christ Church Cathedral, Downtown. Weekly rotation includes Zen Buddhist silence, Lecto Divina, Vipassana Buddhist practices, and Creative Visualization. Visit <http://paths2peace.org>

Sep 2 (Wed) **CITIZENSHIP TUTORS**. Kentucky Refugee Ministries, 6:30 to 8:30PM. Every Wednesday & Thursday, 11AM to 1PM. Help students study for the citizenship exam. Ask about our other volunteer opportunities. Call 479-9180 Ext 57 for more information.

Sep 2 (Wed) **THE LOUISVILLE SUSTAINABILITY FORUM**. Every first Wednesday. Sustainability and relationships that create a community for change. Bring your lunch. Noon to 1:45 PM, Passionist Earth & Spirit Center, the Barn at 1924 Newburg Road.

Sep 2 (Wed) **DEADLINE FOR THE NEXT ISSUE OF FORsooth**. Every first Wednesday. Contact John Hartmann, editor, at 296-1793 or johart.john@gmail.com. Please email new or updated calendar listings to calendar.peace@gmail.com.

Sep 3 (Thurs) **KENTUCKY SINGLE PAYER HEALTH CARE**. Every first & third Thursday, 5:30PM at Main Public Library. Call Kay Tillow 636-1551.

Sep 4 (Fri) **FRIDAY NIGHT ON THE STREET**. Wayside Christian Mission. Every Friday. Learn first-hand about homeless. Hear testimonies. Ask questions. Serve a meal. Bring a sleeping bag. Visit www.waysidechristianmission.org

Sept 4 to 7 **WORLD FEST**, The Belvedere. Four days of world music, dance, culture, education, and food. With at least 90 languages spoken in our public schools, Louisville is more culturally diverse than ever before. Visit <http://louisvilleky.gov>

Sep 5 (Sat) **OLMSTEAD PARK VOLUNTEERS**. Olmstead Park Conservancy, 10AM. Also, Sept 12th, & 19th. Bingham, Cherokee and Seneca Parks. Help maintain and restore our urban forests. Visit www.olmsteadparks.org

Sep 5 (Sat) **JEFFERSON MEMORIAL FOREST VOLUNTEERS**. Land Stewart Project. Every first Saturday, 9AM to Noon. Also, Wednesdays. Help improve landscape and protect native flora. Visit www.louisvilleky.gov/metroparks/jeffersonmemorialforest

Sep 5 (Sat) **HOME REPAIR VOLUNTEERS**. Fuller Center for Housing of Louisville. Every Saturday. All skill levels. Ask about our other volunteer opportunities. For more information, call 272-1377.

Sep 5 (Sat) **SACK LUNCHES FOR THE HOMELESS**. Every Saturday, 12pm to 2PM, Bates Community Development Corporation, 1228 S. Jackson Street. Call 636-0573 for more information.

Sep 5 (Sat) **CANVASS NEIGHBORHOODS FOR FRESH FOOD**. Saturdays and Sundays. Join us any time. Fresh Stop Project volunteers take orders door to door for locally grown fruits and vegetables. Visit <http://newrootsproduce.org>

Sep 5 (Sat) **SUPPLIES OVER SEAS RECYCLING**. SOS office in Clifton. Saturdays, 9AM. Help sort through surplus medical supplies for distribution to overseas agencies. Other volunteer opportunities too. Visit www.suppliesoverseas.org

Sep 5 (Sat) **LOUISVILLE COMMUNITY AGRICULTURE**. Every Saturday morning. Also, other days and times. 26 farmers' markets from California neighborhood to Norton Commons. Visit www.louisvilleky.gov/HealthyHometown

Sep 6 (Sun) **“AIM HIGHER”** focusing on military counter-recruitment. Every first Sunday at 7 PM, 2236 Kaelin Avenue at the FOR office. Discuss conscientious objection, military recruitment, and the possibility for high school students to “opt out” of having their names given to recruiters. Call Jim Johnson, 262-0148.

Sep 6 (Sun) **OUR EARTH NOW YOUTH ENVIRONMENTAL GROUP**. Kentucky Power & Light at Bardstown Road Presbyterian Church, 6PM to 8pm. Every Sunday. Learn more about the issues and what you can do. Call 509-9636 for more information.

Sep 7 (Mon) **CATHOLIC CHARITES LUNCH & LEARN**. St. Anthony Campus, 11:30AM to 1PM. Learn more about our emergency assistance program and refugee & immigration settlement program. Visit <http://cclou.org>

Sep 7 (Mon) **BICYCLES FOR HEALTH AND CLEANER AIR**. Louisville Bicycle Club, Every Monday, weather permitting. Fat Forty at 8:45AM. Recovery Ride at 6:45PM. Visit www.louisvilleky.gov/bikelouisville.

Sep 7 & 12 (Sat) **SAFE DRINKING WATER TRAINING**. Water Step. Learn to treat drinking water, disinfect water wells, measure well depth, and trouble shoot broken wells. Water Step works globally to improve access to safe drinking water. Visit <http://waterstep.org>

Sep 8 (Tues) **AMERICANA COMMUNITY CENTER**. Orientation at 7PM every second Tuesday. Learn how you can help immigrant families learn practical skills, join social networks, and improve language skills. Call 366-7813 to RSVP.

Sep 8 (Tues) **MOVIMENIENTO DE MUJERES LATINA –LATINA WOMEN’S MOVEMENT**, La Casita Center, Every second Tuesday, 5:30PM. Network, mentor, find friends and share. Call 322-4036 for more information.

Sep 8 (Tues) **FREE HOME ENERGY EFFICIENCY SEMINAR**. Energy Pros Sustainable Home Education Group, 6:30PM to 8:30PM. Learn the basics. Visit www.theenergypros.net

Sep 9 (Wed) **KENTUCKY INTERFAITH TASKFORCE ON LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN (KITLAC)**. Every second Wednesday at the 1741 Building on Frankfort Avenue. 7:30 PM. For more information, call David Horvath at 479-9262 or Pat Geier at 456-6586.

Sep 9 (Wed) **REAL PEOPLE, REAL CHALLENGES, REAL SOLUTIONS**. Volunteers of America Family Emergency Shelter, 5:30PM. One hour interactive tour of VOA's work and programs for self-determination. For more information, call 636-4660

Sep 9 (Wed) **Y-NOW CHILDREN OF PRISONERS MENTORING**. Luncheon at YMCA Safe Place. 2nd Wednesday each month. Learn how you can help break the cycle through mentoring and encouragement. RSVP to 635-5233.

Sep 10 (Thurs) **AMERICAN PALESTINE PUBLIC AFFAIRS FORUM (APPAF)**. Every second Thursday. A documentary film exploring the situation in Middle East will be presented. 7 PM, Louisville Presbyterian Seminary, Nelson Hall, Room 119. For more information, call Bashar Masri, 773-1836.

Sep 11 (Fri) **A GLIMPSE OF ETERNITY**. The Louisville Astronomical Society at dusk in Tom Sawyer Park. Every 2nd Friday. Look through telescopes at planets, our moon, stars, double stars, the Orion nebula and other wonders. Visit www.louisville-astro.org

Sep 11 & 12 **AFRICAN AMERICAN HERITAGE FESTIVAL**. Kentucky Center for African American Heritage. Join us as the Louisville community celebrates people of African descent. <http://www.kcaah.org/>

Sep 12 (Sat) **PEAK OIL**. Every 2nd Saturday, St. Matthews Public Library, 10 AM to Noon. Call George Perkins, 425-6645.

Sep 12 (sat) **DRAGON BOAT FESTIVAL**. Waterfront Park. See 22-member dragon boat teams compete on the Ohio River. Ethnic Chinese food and cultural demonstrations. Visit www.louisvilledragonboat.com

Sep 13 (Sun) **VIGIL FOR PEACE**. Every second Sunday. A remembrance of all those suffering from conflicts in the Middle East. Bring a sign. 4PM to 5PM, Bardstown Road at Douglass Blvd. Sponsored by LPAC (Louisville Peace Action Community) and Veterans for Peace Chapter 168. For more information, call Carol Rawert Trainer at 500-6915.

Sep 15 (Tues) **DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES WORKSHOP**. Every third Tuesday, 11AM to 1PM. Expressions Café at The Council on Developmental Disabilities. Learn how an Individualized Education Program (IEP) is prepared for a child with a disability. Address barriers to inclusion. Call 584-1239.

Sep 17 (Thurs) **OPEN-DIALOGUE WITH POLICE**. Louisville Metro Police Department at local community centers, 6PM. Learn about things police officers do. Talk with law enforcement officials and help build relationships and mutual understanding. Visit <http://louisvilleky.gov/government/police>

Sep 17 (Thurs) **MENTAL ILLNESS SUPPORT & ADVOCACY**. NAMI Louisville every third Thursday at 3PM. Also Saturdays and Sundays. Support group for families. Draw on years of experience. Visit www.namilouisville.org

Sep 17 (Thurs) **COURT APPOINTED SPECIAL ADVOCATES FOR CHILDREN (CASA)**. Orientation, Noon to 1PM. Learn how you can help defend the rights of abused and neglected children in our community. Call 595-4911 to RSVP.

Sep 17 (Thurs) **FORsooth LABELING**. Presbyterian Seminary, Nelson Hall, Room 10. 6:30 PM. Every 3rd Thursday. We need volunteers! Many hands make light work, and the opposite is also true! So please join us if you can. Call 451-5658 for more information.

Sep 18 (Fri) **SMOKETOWN GET DOWN FOR DEMOCRACY**. Kentuckians For The Commonwealth. Learn more about community organizing. Hone your skills. Make friends. Visit <http://kftc.org>

Sep 21 (Mon) **COMPASSIONATE LOUISVILLE**. Noon, meeting locations rotate. Help monitor the progress of Louisville's ten-year campaign for compassion. Call 214-7322 or visit <http://compassionatelouisville.org> for more information.

Sep 22 (Tues) **FREE NONPROFIT STARTUP CLINC**. Center for Nonprofit Excellence, 3:30PM. Learn the fundamentals and how to avoid the pitfalls. Visit www.cnpe.org

Sep 23 (Wed) **GREATER LOUISVILLE REENTRY COALITION**. St. Stephen Church, 1:30PM. Every 4th Wednesday. Join our network of people and organizations working together to improve the reentry process. New topic each month. <http://www.louisvillereentry.org>

Sep 24 to 27 **HAND IN HAND MINISTRIES**. Immerse yourself in another community and experience first-hand the hardships associated with extreme poverty. Perform essential volunteer work. Make friends and connections. Visit <http://myhandinhand.org>

Sep 25 (Fri) **METRO YOUTH IMPLEMENTATION TEAM ON NONVIOLENCE**. South Louisville Community Center, 6PM to 9PM. Participate in a youth conversation on how to create a safe community. Visit <http://sowersofjusticenetwork.org>

Sep 26 (Sat) **NONVIOLENT CITY GUN VIOLENCE CONFERENCE**. Sowers of Justice Network at Christ Church Cathedral. Participate in a conversation with community leaders on how we can positively and proactively stop gun violence in our community. Explore, connect, and engage. Visit <http://sowersofjusticenetwork.org>

Sep 27 (Sun) **THE HUNGER WALK**, Tom Sawyer State Park. Show your support for The Dare to Care Food Bank and The World Food Program. Visit <http://paths2peace.org>

OUT OF TOWN

Sep 2 to 23 **KENTUCKY ACLU / FAIRNESS ORGANIZING MEETINGS**. Help us build Fairness committees in Bowling Green, Elizabethtown, Frankfort, Northern KY, Owensboro, and Shelbyville. Visit www.aclu-ky.org

Sep 3 (Thurs) **INTERFAITH PRAYER VIGIL FOR PEACE**. Lexington, KY at West Main and Broadway, 5:30PM to 6:30PM. Every Thursday for eleven years. For more information, Call 859-327-6277.

Sep 5 to 6 **TRAIL OF TEARS NATIVE AMERICAN POW WOW**. Hopkinsville, KY, 9AM. Join us as we celebrate our heritage. Learn more about customs and traditions. Visit <http://calendar.powpows.com>

Sep 7 (Mon) **KENTUCKY MIGRANT NETWORK COALITION**. Lexington KY at the Cardinal Valley Center, 12PM. Every first Monday. Get better acquainted with Kentucky's immigrant and refugee families. For more information, call 859-258-3824.

Sep 17 (Thurs) **ORGANIC AGRICULTURE WORKING GROUP**. KSU Research Farm, Frankfort, KY. Every third Thursday. Participate in efforts to develop local food economies with the Community Farm Alliance and others. Visit www.communityfarmalliance.org

Sep 28 (Mon) **BOST HEALTH POLICY FORUM**. Sloan Convention Center, Bowling Green, KY. Hear Local, regional, and national speakers on how to build healthy communities, with a focus on transportation and housing, education, food systems and policy, and employers and workplaces. Visit <http://healthy-ky.org>

PEACEMAKING EVENTS AT THE LOUISVILLE FREE PUBLIC LIBRARIES.

Visit www.lfpl.org for more information.

Sep 1 (Tues) **HOOR OF POWER BOOK DISCUSSIONS**. Newburg Public Library, every first Tuesday, 6:30 PM. Discuss books on personal efforts to overcome the challenges of abuse, oppression, deprivation, discrimination or disabilities.

Sep 3 (Thurs) **ENGLISH CONVERSATION CLUB**. Every Saturday at the Iroquois & Newburg Public Library Branches, 3PM. Also Main Library & Bon Air Library on Thursdays at 7PM.

Sep 8 & 29 **SYRIAN MOVIES**. Iroquois Public Library, 8PM. Experience the life and culture of Syria through these movies.

Sep 10 (Thurs) **ANIME AND JAPANESE CULTURE CLUB**. Main Library, 5:30pm. Re-discover Japanese culture through Anime animation.

Sep 11 (Fri) **AFRICAN AMERICAN ARCHIVES TOUR**. Western Public Library, 10:30AM. Peruse the great books in our collection. Watch a short documentary.

Sep 12 (Sat) **URBAN CHICKEN KEEPING**. Highlands/Shelby Park Public Library, 2PM. Hear the pros and cons and learn how to get started.

Sep 12 (Sat) **BLACKS IN TELEVISION**. Bon Air Public Library, 2PM. A roundtable discussion about the impact of Black culture on network and cable TV.

Sep 13 to 30 **KOREAN CULTURE**. Bon Air Public Library. See artifacts and art of Korean culture in our Entrance Gallery this month.

Sep 15 (Tues) **GRANTSEEKING BASICS**. Main Public Library, 6PM to 8PM. Identify sources and practice writing better grant proposals.

Sep 17 (Thurs) **BILINGUAL STORYTIME IN ENGLISH AND ARABIC**. Iroquois Public Library, 6:30PM. Hear traditional and contemporary stories.

Sep 19 & 22 **A TASTE OF THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC**. Crescent Hill Public Library. Learn more about the culture and enjoy this nation's foods. Enjoy Read and discuss contemporary literature in the Spanish language.

Sep 22 (Tues) **CUENTACUENTOS BILINQUE PARA LA FAMILIA**. Main Public Library, 6:30PM. Enjoy stories, songs, and crafts in Spanish and English.

Sep 28 to 31 **BANNED BOOKS WEEK**. Newburg Public Library. Read some of books you can see today but other could not years ago.

*Please recycle **FORsooth** to a friend, and please ask her or him to do the same.*