

TRUMP’S WAR ON THE PALESTINIANS

by Alex Awad

A version of this article originally appeared in the Washington Report on Middle East Affairs on October 15, 2018. Please visit wrmea.org for reliable news and opinion about Israel and Palestine.

It is an accepted fact that US policy in Israel/Palestine has been pro-Israel from the days of Truman’s presidency all the way to Obama’s. Even so, from time to time the United States would be critical of Israeli policies, and several US presidents have threatened to punish Israel for violating international law.

However, with Trump occupying the White House, a shift has taken place in US policy on the Israel/Palestine dispute. Now, US policy in the conflict is no longer pro-Israel but rather fully right-wing Israeli. Whatever Netanyahu and his far-right government ask the United States to do for them, Trump complies and hands it to them on a silver platter.

Here is a list of what the Trump administration has granted to the Israelis that other US administrations refused to give them:

1. Trump recognized Jerusalem as the capital of Israel.
2. Moved the US embassy from Tel-Aviv to Jerusalem.
3. Declared that the future of Jerusalem is

- off the negotiating table.
4. Called for the dismantlement of UNRWA [the United Nations Relief and Works Agency—the UN agency created 70 years ago to provide aid to Palestinian refugees]. Trump cut over \$200 million of the US contribution to this UN agency.
5. Trump called for removal of the refugee issue (the right of return of Palestinian refugees) from future negotiations.
6. Supported the redefinition of the term “Palestinian refugee” so that children



The separation barrier within Bethlehem. Photo credit: Adam Khayat.

- of Palestinian refugees do not retain refugee status (which is contrary to UN guidelines that refugee dependents “are normally granted refugee status according to the principle of family unity”).
7. Reduced significantly US annual support to the Palestinian Authority.
8. Cut \$25 million from US aid to Palestinian hospitals.
9. Consistently withheld criticism of Israel’s human rights violations and

- brutality against Palestinians, especially in international forums.
10. Decided to close the office of the Palestine Liberation Organization in Washington, DC.

What is behind this shift in US policy?

1. The Evangelical voting bloc. Trump—who is anything but an Evangelical—was able to court Evangelicals. They voted for him in masses; without their vote, he wouldn’t be in the White House. Their leaders wanted a pro-Israeli policy, recognition of Jerusalem as the capital of the State of Israel, a move of the US embassy to Jerusalem, and a halt to the critique of the settlement movement in the West Bank. Their demands have now become current US policy.
2. Sheldon Adelson’s billions. Adelson is an American Jewish billionaire who is a close ally and supporter of right-wing Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and is a staunch advocate of far-right Israeli policies. Adelson was a strong supporter of Trump during his 2016 race to the White House. The desire to keep Adelson’s checks flowing into their campaign coffers is what keeps many US elected officials from protesting Trump’s support of Israel’s right-wing agenda.

(see TRUMP’S WAR, page 5)

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SWEAT4SYRIA A RETROSPECTIVE ANALYSIS

by Zeeshan Bhatti

Seven months of planning, preparation, strategizing, and labor culminated into a four-and-half hour event. While the event itself was successful, beatific, and invigorating, I was overcome with a feeling of solemnness. The funny thing is, I already had a hunch that I would feel this way after the race was completed. Sweat4Syria taught me a valuable lesson: the journey is far more exciting than the destination.

It was fall of last year, and I was driving home from work thinking to myself, “I am not doing my human duty and I am adding no value to the lives of others in a meaningful way.” I had been thinking like this for a

while, and I had hit my tipping point. The civil war in Syria was (and still is) deeply rooted in my mind, as I had just read a book titled, “Syria: A Recent History.” The book systematically illustrated the events that lead to the chaos of today, going all the way back to the French occupation of the Levant. The plight of the Syrians was embedded in my subconscious and the harrowing media that revealed the death and destruction of innocent lives was weighing heavy on my heart. I went into a trance-like state, as I was thinking about my lack of activity towards the cause of service and my absence of altruism. Then, in an instant, a spark ignited in my mind.

(see SWEAT4SYRIA, page 7)



Runners gather outside Louisville’s Iroquois Amphitheater on May 19, 2018, prior to the Sweat4Syria 5K event, raising awareness of the plight of Syrians and raising money to sponsor high-needs Syrian refugee families who have been resettled in Louisville. Photo courtesy of the author.

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On September 8, 2018, concerned citizens gather in downtown Louisville in response to a call for action from Rise for Climate. *Photo courtesy of the author.*

RISE FOR CLIMATE ACTION IN LOUISVILLE

by Jean Christensen

On September 8, hundreds of thousands of people in almost 100 countries across the globe responded with more than 900 demonstrations to a call for action from Rise for Climate. What was the specific objective of these events? The answer is simple: to demand a real response from local leaders to the growing crisis of climate change.

Here in Louisville, Drew Foley received more than one hundred responses to his first e-mail in mid-June asking for volunteers to create a response to Rise for Climate’s challenge. At the first meeting, it was decided to have a rally with a resolution asking for 100% renewable energy in Louisville as the main item of business. Under Drew’s able leadership, between that first call and September 8, teams drafted the resolution, planned the program, created banners and signs, determined logistics, sent out publicity, and generated outreach. “Agreed: Rise for Climate Action Louisville” was to begin with a rally in front of Metro Hall, continue with a march that included Fourth Street Live, and end with a fair in Jefferson Park across the street from Metro Hall.

Following a warm welcome from Big Poppa Stampley’s guitar and song, the program took off with Mark Steiner emceeing, and Aimee from the Troubadours of Divine Bliss, leading brief invigorating chants. Climate Action Louisville presented David James, president of the Louisville Metro Council, with the final version of the resolution that calls for a community-wide goal of 100% renewable energy for Metro Government by 2030, and for Metro Louisville by 2035. President James strongly supports the resolution and recognizes that the climate challenge means more than setting a certain goal. The resolution details 17 irrefutable arguments to meet the challenge and prioritizes public participation in planning, decision-making, and implementation. It details economic opportunity and guarantees justice and dignity for vulnerable communities. At this point, environmental, labor, and social justice concerns are joined under one banner and in response to that, 1000 buttons with “Rise Up for Climate, Jobs, and Justice” intended for broad distribution were ordered. If you don’t have yours, just ask for one and wear it! Help grow the public will to support sustained action.

Concerns of participating organizations – 350 Louisville, Sierra Club, Solar over Louisville, Louisville Nature Center, Citizens’ Climate Lobby, and Kentuckians for the Commonwealth, to name just a few – were reflected in short speeches by Ben Evans, Grace Engelman, Tim Darst, John

Paul Wright, Sarah Lynn Cunningham, K.A. Owens, and Sam Avery. Then, in an exciting development, Sadie Lawrence and her co-activist members of the Kentucky Student Environmental Coalition concluded the rally with a street theater piece, and initiated the third phase of the program – the march – with their shouts and chants of “we will rise!” In spite of drizzling rain, the fair in the park followed the march where Louisville Climate Action Network, Ecos Solar, and Citizens’ Climate Lobby tabled, Big Poppa Stampley, the duo John Gage and John Paul Wright, and Barb Friedland entertained, and a cheerful volunteer generated huge soap bubbles that floated in the air.

In 2018 the world experienced unprecedented climate impacts. With hundreds of creative actions on September 8, Rise for Climate demonstrated that we will not wait for governments to act; we will lead. In the week after September 8, the Global Climate Action Summit was held in California. Every mayor, governor, and local leader in the world was invited to commit to the goals of the Paris Climate Agreement. What those commitments need is a fast, fair, and just transition to 100% renewable energy and an immediate end to new fossil fuel projects.

In case you missed the action, go to RiseforClimate.org and experience the varied and vast movement of hundreds of thousands of people demonstrating for change through videos, photos, and texts. You may also join one or more of four specific on-going actions: Fossil Free plans powerful local action in October; Reclaim Power plans action during October 1st to the 15th; Green Faith is focused on the commitment to live the change; and, Climate Action Network International demonstrates how we can each become 100% Renewable Energy Champions every day. These sources provide valuable information and specific directions; each of us can find one that fits our values and use it to guide our actions.



(Co-chair, Citizens’ Climate Lobby Louisville), created community gardens, and worked in textile art. She prepares program notes for the Louisville Chamber Music Society, plays the piano for St. George’s Episcopal Church, and lives with husband Jesper and Barrett the cat in Old Louisville.

Jean Christensen served as a professor of Music History in the UofL School of Music for 34 years. Since retiring, Jean has been engaged in climate activism



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WANT TO IMPROVE JCPS STUDENT LEARNING?

ATTACK CHILDHOOD POVERTY IN JEFFERSON COUNTY

by Tom Lambert

For those following the news on a possible takeover of Jefferson County Public Schools (JCPS) by Kentucky state government, and then the compromise achieved by the JCPS Board of Education and Frankfort on a plan of some type of state supervision of JCPS, it is perhaps important to reflect upon one big challenge facing JCPS and other large, urban school districts throughout the United States. A vast amount of scholarly literature from a variety of disciplines shows that school children from low income backgrounds face greater challenges in learning than those from higher income households, all else held constant. The table below shows the overall percentage of JCPS students, elementary through high school, who over the years have participated in the federal government’s free and reduced lunch (F/RL) program funded by the US Department of Agriculture and administered by local governments. F/RL is a means-based program and is used as an indicator of students living in poverty or near-poverty.

The fact that the portion of students participating in the free and reduced lunch program has generally increased over the last 13 years and is now around 62% should be a disturbing trend for local educators, and as mentioned earlier, this is a challenge to most large, urban, public school districts in many cities. Remarkably, despite the numbers shown in Table 1, and according to the author’s calculations, JCPS showed modest but steady and statistically significant gains most of the time in test scores among its students during the last several years until around two school years ago.

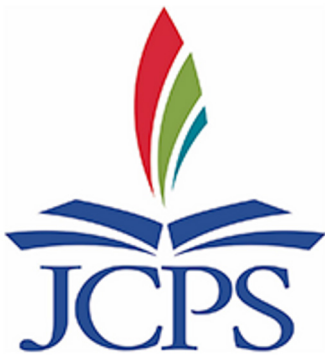
Nevertheless, despite improvements over the years in standardized test scores, it is a challenge to educate students who come from disadvantaged circumstances. Figure 1 shows a strong, negative correlation between the percentage of students in each school in JCPS (elementary, middle,

and high schools) who are participating in the free and reduced lunch program (horizontal axis) and the percentage of students scoring proficient/distinguished in state mandated assessment exams for mathematics (vertical axis). The same pattern exists for the reading assessment exams where the free and reduced lunch program participation rates are on the horizontal axis and reading assessment scores on the vertical axis. Yet, with so many students living in low income circumstances, these figures show that household and neighborhood economic circumstances matter when it comes to student learning.

Whatever one believes that the remedy to JCPS woes is, one thing that probably needs to be addressed is the degree of economic opportunity available to the families of JCPS students. History indicates that we have had one major “school reform” effort almost every 20 years in Jefferson County and/or the state of Kentucky, which is pretty much a national pattern. Yet, the school reforms either are never adequately funded or implemented or are later deemed to be inadequate.

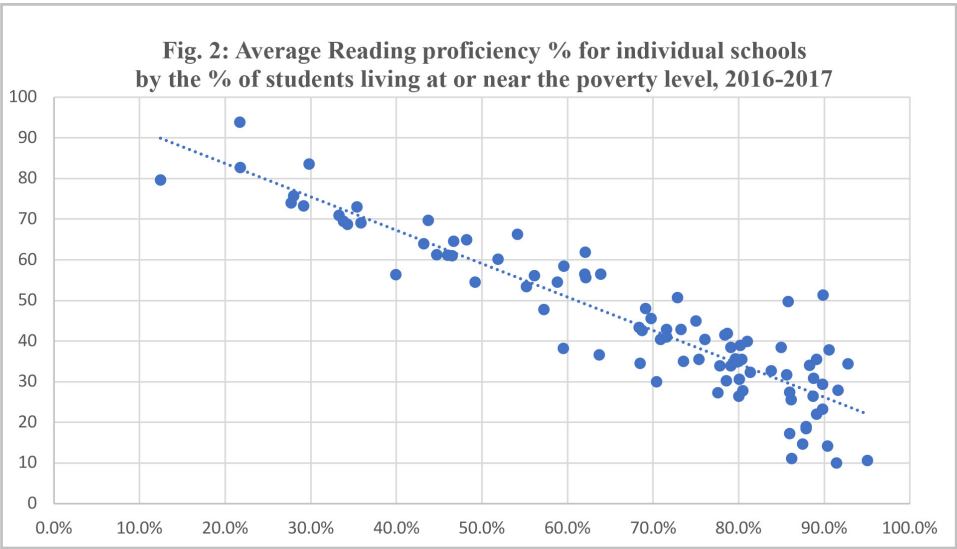
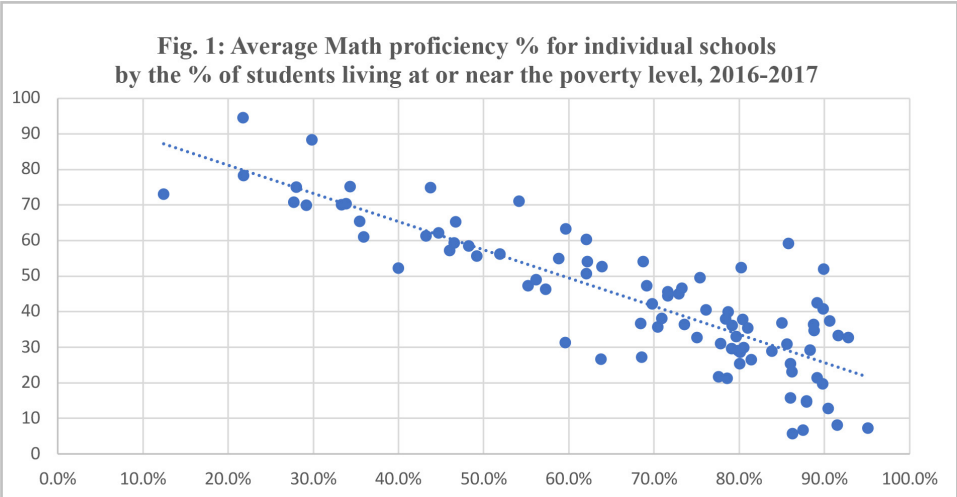
Although the current national unemployment rate is hovering around 4%, the labor force participation rate of US adults has not returned to the level of employment that existed before the 2008-2009 Great Recession. Net new business investment is at a slow pace, and US entrepreneurship via small business formation appears stagnant at best. In a society experiencing the underemployment of so many resources, perhaps we need to address first the living conditions of public school students outside of the hallways and classrooms of their schools by creating an economy that puts idle resources back to work. Just a thought.

Tom Lambert is an instructor of business statistics in the Economics Department of the College of Business at the University of Louisville. The opinions expressed in this article are solely his. He can be contacted at lambertthomas@hotmail.com



Data Source: JCPS Data Books

TABLE 1	
JCPS Students living at or near the poverty level (%F/RL)	
School Year	
2005-2006	54.90%
2006-2007	55.40%
2007-2008	57.40%
2008-2009	57.00%
2009-2010	61.00%
2010-2011	61.80%
2011-2012	61.80%
2012-2013	62.80%
2013-2014	64.00%
2014-2015	63.60%
2015-2016	66.30%
2016-2017	62.30%
2017-2018	61.50%



THE LEGACY OF THE SOUTHERN CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT

by Ira Grupper

This is Part 1 of a 2-part article that will continue in the December/January issue.

Author’s Note: I am grateful to several Civil Rights Movement colleagues for reading a draft of this paper and suggesting changes. Jodey Bateman’s input has been incorporated into text—without proper attribution. Any errors or lack of clarity are mine alone.)

The dictionary defines “legacy” as something transmitted by or received from an ancestor or predecessor or from the past: the legacy of the ancient philosophers; the war left a legacy of pain and suffering.

To understand the legacy of the Civil Rights Movement, one must look at the material conditions that gave rise to it. Chattel slavery was a crime against humanity, but this paper has no way to cover it.

We will start with its offspring: racial segregation. Racial segregation was an abomination. There were few possibilities for legal redress.

But there were some. When the US Supreme Court ruled against segregated

schools (“separate-but-equal”) in Brown v. Board of Education in 1954—racist resistance became a tidal wave.

In the late 1950’s President Eisenhower, a Republican, would not send in troops to Little Rock, Arkansas to protect students integrating a white high school—until the possibility of racists murdering these students wholesale was on the horizon. Only then did he send in troops and federalize the Arkansas National Guard.

President Kennedy, a Democrat, would not send in troops to protect James Meredith while he was becoming the first African American to integrate the University of Mississippi. It was only after two people were murdered that he ordered in troops.

Gov. Ross Barnett of MS had stated: “No school in MS will be integrated while I am your governor”.

The U.S. House of Representatives and the U.S. Senate were racist-infested. Most standing committees of the U.S. Senate were chaired by hardened segregationists. James O. Eastland, Democrat of Mississippi, chaired the Senate Judiciary Committee,

perhaps the most important committee in the senate.

A majority on the U.S. Supreme Court, in the 1950’s and 1960’s, was progressive, but the court could only handle a limited number of cases.

The FBI back then was headed by J. Edgar Hoover, a racist who was fired up by black migration from the South and, later, the Civil Rights Movement, among other things. He had targeted Rev. Martin Luther King, Jack Odell, and the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee.

What can one do when your ability to petition the government for a redress of grievances is systematically thwarted?

This was the legacy of the birth and development of the land of the free and the home of the brave. Or, as someone wrote, the land of the tree and the home of the grave.

Now let’s turn to the resistance to this system of degradation, to the legacy of the Civil Rights Movement. There have been movements for civil rights ever since there have been commissions of civil wrongs, whether at the Battle of Thermopylae in



Vernon Dahmer, leader of the NAACP in Hattiesburg, Mississippi, in the 1960’s, urged his people to register and vote. Photo credit: Southern Poverty Law Center.

480 B.C. or throughout history.

In 1960 four African American college students sat down at a whites-only lunch counter in Greensboro NC to simply get something to eat. They were refused service.

The students returned, in larger numbers, day after day. After five months the students were victorious. Meanwhile news of their courageous act spread like wildfire.

(see CIVIL RIGHTS, page 6)

MARCHING AGAINST THE REDLINE

by Beth Olker

The first weekend of August, I had the privilege of participating in the Presbyterian Women Gathering here in Louisville. Presbyterian Women, Inc., is the women’s organization in the Presbyterian Church (USA). We are a community of more than 200,000 women who participate in Presbyterian Women (PW) and align our ministry and hearts around a shared purpose: forgiven and freed by God in Jesus Christ, and empowered by the Holy Spirit, we commit ourselves to nurture our faith through prayer and Bible study, to support the mission of the church worldwide, to work for justice and peace, and to build an inclusive, caring community of women that strengthens the Presbyterian Church (USA) and witnesses to the promise of God’s kingdom.¹ During this conference, the theme was “Arise, Shine, Your Light Has Come” and, learning from the wisdom of Isaiah 60:1, “Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you.” (NRSV) Words spoken by the prophet to encourage hope in an exiled people was used in this retreat to empower the women gathered to use their gifts, powers, and privileges to make a positive difference in the world.

This conversation about positive change and making a difference for good in the community culminated in a march from the Galt House Hotel, where the conference was located, down Main Street to the 9th Street divide. The march was in protest of redlining as one of many systematically racist practices enforced in Louisville and other cities across the United States. Redlining was officially practiced in this form beginning in the 1930s as an “institutionalized system of discriminatory lending in government-backed mortgages, reflecting local race-based criteria in their underwriting practices and reinforcing residential segregation in American cities. The discriminatory practices captured by the HOLC maps continued until 1968, when the Fair Housing Act banned racial discrimination in housing.”² Even though this practice has technically illegal for almost 50 years at this point, its effects are in every part of the United States.

In Louisville, this redlining is distinctively apparent at the 9th Street divide.



Beth Olker (center) and other young women lead the march for justice; standing up against redlining and racism in urban planning. Photo courtesy of the author.

This road is a physical barrier within a city and its purpose was from the beginning and continues to serve today as a blockade between white communities and business and communities of color. According to University of Louisville researchers (<http://stateofblacklouisville.org/>) “the life expectancy on the West side of 9th Street is 67 years, compared to 82 years for their neighbors to the east. That’s a 15-year difference in life expectancy between people breathing the same air and paying taxes to the same city and state.”³ This divide is a sin. The systems of racism that are within the history of city planning and the current economic injustices facing those living west of 9th Street are sin.

It was against these sins of systemic racism and in consideration of the sins of racism with in city planning around this nation that we, Presbyterian Women from across the nation, marched. As we marched, we sang the songs and chanted the chants that can be heard at most rallies for justice. As we marched, one of the chants we repeated was, “What do we want? Justice! When do we want it? Now! If we don’t get it? Shut it Down!” It is a chant that I have heard at every protest and march that I have ever attended, so I was surprised when one of the marchers came up to my friend and I (the ones holding the megaphones yelling these chants) and persistently asked, “What does ‘it’ mean? What is the ‘it’ that we are shutting down?” We answered her as well as we could, telling her that ‘it’ could mean different things based on what you are protesting. In the case of our march, ‘it’ meant the systemic racism threaded into the fabric of city planning in Louisville and across our nation and our desire to shut the injustices in access to quality housing, job and educational opportunities, healthcare, and countless other services.

Once I began listing in my mind the ‘its’ that I personally believe need to be shut down, I was almost immediately overwhelmed by the volume. In my life (read as ‘in my privilege’), I am quick to make a list of the giant issues in our world that I would love to shut down, but what I am not good at is looking at my actions and choices that add more into the injustices

of our world. So, if I were to make a list of what I need to shut down in my own life, it would include all the times I have said nothing as other white people around me have been observably racist with their words or actions. It would also include the times that I think to myself how much I have earned the privileges I have or that I have gotten where I am with my vocation, education, and economic means in a way that didn’t advantage me over people of color. These are just a couple of examples, but instead of attempting to list all the aspects of my life that I need to reshape to be a better citizen of our world and a better advocate for equity in our local, state, and national policies, I want to leave this article with a challenge for you, the reader: What are the thoughts, actions, inactions, or seemingly random choices that you make that are playing into the systems of oppression in this country and this world? Try to find an ‘it’ to take down in your life that is something you can practice changing. Making small changes in our world is our most powerful tool to create bigger changes.



Beth Olker is the Associate for Gender and Racial Justice in the office of Racial Ethnic and Women’s Ministries of the Presbyterian Church (USA). She holds a Master of Divinity from Union Presbyterian Seminary in Richmond, VA and a Master of Arts in Marriage and Family Therapy from Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary in Louisville, KY.

¹ Information found on the Presbyterian Women website: <https://www.presbyterianwomen.org/who-we-are/>
² “Redlining was Banned 50 Years Ago and it is Still Hurting Minorities Today”, Washington Post. March 28, 2018 (<https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/work/wp/2018/03/28/redlining-was-banned-50-years-ago-its-still-hurting-minorities-today/>)
³ <https://undividednation.us/louisvilles-9th-street-divide/>

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Fellowship of Reconciliation & Sowers of Justice Network present Third Thursday Lunches

NOVEMBER 15
“Food Apartheid in Louisville Exposes Hunger Capitalism”

Andrew Kang Bartlett

Is food a God-given right or simply another commodity from which to profit? Louisville has a tiered food structure that reveals the racist and exploitative nature of our local food system. We will look at this injustice and explore ways of addressing Louisville’s food apartheid using home-grown models and experiences from around the country. Andrew Kang Bartlett works with the Presbyterian Church (USA) Hunger Program and volunteers locally with the Food in Neighborhoods (FIN) Community Coalition and nationally with the US Food Sovereignty Alliance.

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ARMISTICE DAY ONE HUNDRED YEARS AGO

A BRIEF VISION OF A UNITED HUMANITY

by Sam Avery

There was no reason for the war. Nobody meant to start it. Sixteen million died: Swedes, Danes, Greeks, Austrians, Indians, British, French, Germans, Russians, Americans, Italians, Africans, Canadians, Japanese, Portuguese, Bulgarians, and Serbs. Nobody wanted the war, but everybody wanted to win it. “If only the enemy were defeated,” they were told. If only they tried a little harder for a little longer, they would win and there would be no more war. This was “The War to End All Wars.” Its conclusion was celebrated as “Armistice Day,” one hundred years ago this November 11.

How did World War One start? A Serb shot an Austrian, so Russia mobilized. Then, Germany attacked France through Belgium, so Britain declared war. Nobody intended it. But the logic of the times kept the war

going: the political paradigm then was the nation-state. The unit of socio-biological evolution was racial ethnicity embodied in the nation. Altruism was a measure of willingness to kill people beyond the homeland. Being a type of human was more than being human. The armistice spirit toward the end of the war was a moment of hope – a naïve notion that a really big war would defeat war itself. But, the spirit soured when the peace agreement failed and the League of Nations failed to prevent World War Two. The paradigm of a permanently divided world quickly reemerged with the assumption that humanity was, and could only be, organized into sovereign nations. But, for a moment, on November 11, 1918, humanity caught a brief glimpse of the last day of war on Earth. The armistice spirit of permanent peace shone briefly, flickered, and died.

Could something like the start of World War One happen again? It is already

happening: Korea, India, Pakistan, Iran, Israel, the United States, Russia, Ukraine, Syria, Mogadishu, Yemen, Boko Haram, and ISIS. The difference now is that total warfare is no longer compatible with human survival. There was enough world left over after World War One to pick up the pieces, but there will not be any world left over after World War Three. The weapons now are too powerful, too long-range, and too deadly. The Earth is too small. Territorial “defense” is not a practical possibility. National defense is a categorical absurdity. Yet, we still think and act as if it were possible, as if we could have a nation without a world to have it in. Potential nuclear holocaust is the underlying reality of our time.

But, there are other, more everyday realities to think about: poverty, racism, class, gender, white privilege, healthcare, immigration, climate, etc. Aren’t these enough, without prioritizing yet another existential concern? Why add the burden of yet another disaster scenario?

The spirit of Armistice Day is not separate from everyday realities. It came to the world as a brief vision of a united humanity over and above the power balance of divided nationality – a notion, however naïve and ephemeral, of being human above being a type of human. Wishful at the time, the passing notion of Armistice Day has since become the minimal condition

(see ARMISTICE DAY, page 6)

TRUMP’S WAR (continued from page 1)

3. Trump’s political appointments of people who are well known for their bias for Israel’s agenda. For US ambassador to Israel, he appointed David Friedman, an ardent right-wing supporter of the settlement movement in the West Bank and East Jerusalem.

For Special Adviser on the Middle East in charge of peace talks between Israelis and Palestinians, Trump appointed his son-in-law Jared Kushner, who is a close friend of Israeli Prime Minister Netanyahu and a big donor to the settlement movement.

For the position of Chief Negotiator, Trump appointed Jason Greenblatt, another supporter of the right-wing Israeli agenda.

All three are either Zionist millionaires or billionaires.

For the US ambassador to the United Nations, Trump appointed Nikki Haley, whose statements at the UN echo the positions of Netanyahu and Adelson. Haley sees no good in Palestinians and no evil in Israelis.

With such appointments, who could imagine that negotiations would lead anywhere but to disaster?

The cumulative effect of these forces against Palestine and the Palestinians is to push the peace process further into oblivion.

The Palestinians, whose political muscle is no match for the US president, and whose finances pale in comparison with the wealth of extreme Zionist billionaires, did the only thing they could do: withdraw from any future peace talks that would be sponsored by Washington. This decision frustrated Trump, and now he is looking for ways to discipline the Palestinians and force them back into US-controlled negotiations.

During the Obama era, the Israelis resisted all efforts to sit with Palestinians and negotiate peace, even under US sponsorship. Secretary of State John Kerry openly criticized Israel for frustrating the path to peace. With President Trump and his chosen team of right-wing advisers in power, the Israelis are euphoric, knowing they could never again have a US administration that would provide more favorable terms leading to a better deal for the State of Israel.

Recently, Washington has been inflicting

all kinds of punishments on the Palestinians—in particular, economic ones—hoping to weaken their resolve and beat them into submission. Will the Palestinians declare defeat, crawl on their knees, and submit to US and Israeli dictates, or will they patiently endure until a friendlier administration controls the White House?

Speaking to the Maan News Agency, Dr. Hanan Ashrawi, a member of the Executive Committee of the Palestine Liberation Organization, responded, “Palestinians will not surrender, and no amount of coercion or unwarranted collective punitive measures will bring the Palestinian leadership or people to their knees.”


Israeli journalist Gideon Levy minced no words when he wrote in the Israeli newspaper Haaretz (“Shame on You, America,” September 2, 2018), “America has declared a war on the Palestinians.... It no longer even wants to pretend to be the honest broker.... Let us say, then, shame on you, America.”



Rev. Alex Awad is an Evangelical Christian Minister. He spoke at the Springdale Presbyterian Church in Louisville, Kentucky on Sunday, September 16, 2018. Rev. Awad

was Dean of Students and full-time instructor at Bethlehem Bible College in Bethlehem, Palestine until his retirement. He served as a Commissioned Mission Partner with the General Board of Global Ministries of the United Methodist Church and was the Pastor at East Jerusalem Baptist Church in Jerusalem. Rev. Awad is a Palestinian refugee. He comes from a Palestinian Christian family who were driven out of Palestine by Jewish militants in 1948 when the militants seized Palestine to create the State of Israel. Rev. Awad’s father was killed during those tragic events. Rev. Awad is the author of the book, “Palestinian Memories; the Story of a Palestinian Mother and Her People.” He is the founder of “Christ at the Checkpoint,” an annual conference that brings Evangelical Christians to Palestine to learn about the effects of Israel’s harsh military occupation on the lives of Palestinian Christians and Muslims, who suffer equally from it. Learn more at: christatthecheckpoint.bethbc.edu. Rev. Awad can be reached at: alexawad@yahoo.com

INTERFAITH PATHS TO PEACE
AND FRIENDS PRESENT



Armistice Day

A Celebration of Human Unity

Music, Dancing, Poetry & the Celebration of Peace

Sunday, November 11th, 2018 **3-5PM**

LOCATION: Crescent Hill Baptist Church, 2800 Frankfort Ave

FREE and open to the community!

How Are We Doing?

What do you think about this issue of FORsooth?
Do you have any ideas of how we can improve?
Is there something you like and want to see more of?

Contact the FORsooth Editor:
adamkhayat10@gmail.com

Contribute to FORsooth!

Send submissions for news stories or commentaries to the FORsooth Editor at adamkhayat10@gmail.com

Send submissions for the Peace Calendar to calendar.peace@gmail.com



Runners prepare for the Sweat4Syria 5K race on May 19, 2018. More than 200 people participated in this inaugural event. Photo courtesy of the author.

SWEAT4SYRIA (continued from page 1)

A charity 5K with the name of “Sweat-4Syria” was born. It was only a brain-child at that point and I had no clue how to carry out the endeavor. As I put the theoretical framework together, fate put in front of me three brothers who would prove to be instrumental in the creation of the event known as “Sweat4Syria.” Adam Khayat, Hamza Foy, and Kirk Kimsey kindled the flame of S4S in a way that I could have never imagined. It is unequivocal that, without their intervention, S4S would not have materialized into the event that took place on May 19th, 2018. Our collective energy turned this unassuming ember into an inexorable inferno that ended up raising \$11,714.59.

My team and I diligently met for seven months in a row on a biweekly basis. Every Friday, we met at the Quill’s Firehouse coffee shop on Main Street. At these meetings, we assigned tasks, drew up actionable plans, and exercised ingenuity. We were all unified by our desire to serve those who deserve service. The synergy we had was electric and I really started to believe that we could pull off the very large task of putting together a professional 5K with no access to infrastructure and resources.

I can’t put into words the enjoyment that these meetings gave me. I would drive to the coffee shop busting with the ideas I had come up with during the week. The team would report on what they had done since the last meeting. The atmosphere was one of true comradery. We always managed to come up with creative and inventive solutions to our issues. Our meetings were the epitome of collaborative action. We really became close friends through this endeavor as well. Sweat4Syria gave me three new brothers and I cannot be thankful enough for this.

Above all, Sweat4Syria had a transcendent purpose. The global refugee crisis that the world is facing is, simply put, harrowing. Moreover, the way in which the world has dealt with it is truly appalling. Refugees are subject to some of the worst kind of suffering imaginable. They are forcibly uprooted from their ancestral homes and literally go through hell as they try to find safety elsewhere. If they are lucky enough to survive the onerous task of escaping the violence, they still face an uphill climb. Refugees end up living in massive camps with little to no access to the basic necessities of life. Children lose the opportunity to get an education. Many of the refugees have lost limbs, friends, and family members. They have to deal with brutal memories of the past. Many of them develop mental disorders and to compound all of this, the world paints refugees in the darkest of shades. They are called terrorists and freeloaders. Our leaders say they are taking over your country and taking away your jobs. Little do they know that these refugees are skilled and compas-

sionate individuals. They are no different from anyone else; they are humans, they are families, they are people who have a will to live. Taking care of these people must be a moral imperative.

Sweat4Syria was a pragmatic solution to a global issue. Not only did we want to raise money to sponsor high-needs Syrian refugee families who have been resettled in Louisville, we also wanted to deliver a message. That message was one of altruism and solidarity. I chose to do a 5K because of its cost-effectiveness, but more importantly, because of its ability to bring people together. I wanted Sweat4Syria to be a social event more than anything else. In our outreach campaign, we educated the public on the refugee crisis. We wanted to create a visceral awareness of the suffering of refugees. Sweat4Syria was our medium for accomplishing that. We held a press conference in which young Syrian refugees spoke about their experiences in America. In the same press conference, we disseminated information about the current state of the refugee crisis in a political context. The 239 people who registered became part of a family that believes in extending a helping hand to a person in need, irrespective of ethnicity and religion.

Alas, the situation in Syria is as dire as ever. We can only pray for a change. As average citizens, it is easy to feel helpless. I want to tell you, though, that you shouldn’t feel helpless. Four average citizens put on an event that sponsored four Syrian refugee families. These families received \$2,500 each. They felt loved and welcomed, knowing that the city that took them in cares about them. Our event reached a city-wide audience on television. Almost 200 people came out on May 19th to support those in need. There is much good that can be done. You do not need to be a politician or a billionaire to have an impact. All you need is a creative idea, pure intentions, and a team of staunch individuals. I promise you, the journey will elevate your consciousness. When you complete the trek, you will solemnly sit and wonder, “what I am going to do next?”



Zeeshan Bhatti attended Bellarmine University (Class of 2016) and graduated with a Bachelors of Arts in Economics. He is a former board member of Sowing Seeds with Faith, former Merrill Lynch Investment Manager, and Sweat4Syria Founder. He is currently enrolled in a joint masters program in Global Economic Governance and Public Affairs at LUISS Guido Carli and Centre International de Formation Européenne.

Regular Meeting Times for Area Organizations

- AMERICANS UNITED FOR SEPARATION OF CHURCH AND STATE—Third Friday at noon at Sullivan University, www.au.org. Contact Paul Simmons at 608-7517, pdsimmons14@gmail.com.
- AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL—Contact Sharon at 637-8951
- APPAP [American Palestine Public Affairs Forum]—www.appaf.org, 664-2761
- AUDUBON SOCIETY OF KENTUCKY—www.audubonsocietyofky.org
- BECKHAM BIRD CLUB—2nd Saturday, 7PM, www.beckhambirds.org
- BLACK LIVES MATTER—Every Sunday, 3PM, 3208 W. Broadway, chelm416@gmail.com
- BREAD FOR THE WORLD—Last Monday every other month, 239-4317
- 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
- CEDAW [Convention for the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women]—2nd Tuesday, 6:30 PM, Bon Air Library, rosieblue1941@gmail.com
- 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, 574-6209
- COMMUNITY FARM ALLIANCE OF KENTUCKY—(859)351-4508, cfaky.org
- COUNTER RECRUITMENT, “Aim Higher”—1st Sunday, 7PM, 899-4119
- EARTHSAVE POTLUCK —2nd Saturday, 6PM, 299-2520, www.LouisvilleEarthSave.org
- EVOLVE [Electric Vehicle Owners of Louisville]—Join us on facebook, stuartungar@icloud.com
- FAIRNESS CAMPAIGN—Quarterly community dialogues and volunteer opportunities, 893-0788
- FDR/LINCOLN LEGACY CLUB—1st Thursday, papajohn15@bellsouth.net
- FOR [Fellowship of Reconciliation]—2nd Thursday, at 7:30PM, Louisville Presbyterian Seminary, Nelson Hall, www.louisvilleFOR.org, 609-7985 or 899-4119
- 15 THOUSAND FARMERS—15th day each month, www.15thousandfarmers.com
- FOOD IN NEIGHBORHOODS COMMUNITY COALITION—2nd Tuesday, 6:30PM, 819-2957
- FORWARD RADIO PROJECT — 296-1793, see page 5 for more info
- FRIENDS FOR HOPE—Support Group for Adult Cancer Survivors, 4th Wednesday, 6:30PM, 451-9600
- FRIENDSHIP FORCE OF LOUISVILLE—2nd Tuesday, 893-8436
- GREATER LOUISVILLE SIERRA CLUB—3rd Tuesday, 7PM, 644-0659
- GREEN CONVENE—2nd Tuesday, 6:30PM, www.greenconvene.org
- HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION ADVOCACY BOARD—1st Monday, 9AM, 574-3631
- HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION ENFORCEMENT BOARD—1st Monday, 9:30AM, 574-3631
- HUMANISTS OF METRO LOUISVILLE—2nd Monday, 7PM, 896-4853
- INTERFAITH PATHS TO PEACE—3rd Wednesday, every other month, 214-7322
- IRFI [Islamic Research Foundation International]—Sundays at 6PM, 423-1988
- JEWISH VOICE FOR PEACE—3rd Wednesday, 7PM, 553-6451, barbaraberman2@gmail.com
- JUSTICE RESOURCE CENTER—www.louisvillejrc.org, 774-8624
- KENTUCKIANS FOR SINGLE PAYER HEALTH CARE—1st and 3rd Thursday, 5:30PM, Board Room in the Mezzanine of the Main Public Library, www.kyhealthcare.org, 636-1551
- KFTC [Kentuckians for the Commonwealth]—2nd Monday, 589-3188
- KTAG [Kentuckiana Taskforce Against Genocide]— www.facebook.com/KYAgainstGenocide, 553-6172
- KY ALLIANCE AGAINST RACIST & POLITICAL REPRESSION—1st Tuesday, 6:30PM, 778-8130
- KY COALITION TO ABOLISH THE DEATH PENALTY —www.kcadp.org, 636-1330
- KITLAC [KY Interfaith Taskforce on Latin America & The Caribbean]—kitlac@mailforce.net, 435-3265
- KRCRC [KY Religious Coalition for Reproductive Choice]—www.krcrc.org, (866)606-0988
- KY WATERSHED WATCH—Volunteer water quality monitoring and training around the state every month. Call 1-800-928-0045
- LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS—3rd Monday, Sept-May, www.lwvlouisville.org, 895-5218
- LOUISVILLE COMMITTEE FOR ISRAELI/PALESTINIAN STATES—3rd Sunday, 451-5658
- LOUISVILLE COMMITTEE FOR PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST (LCPME)—First Monday, 7PM, 264-2437
- LOUISVILLE FORUM—2nd Wednesday, Noon, www.louisvilleforum.org, 329-0111
- LPAC [Louisville Peace Action Community]—www.louisvillepeace.org, 456-6914
- LOUISVILLE SHOWING UP FOR RACIAL JUSTICE (LSURJ)—Monthly meetings for learning and action, 558-7556
- LOUISVILLE WOMEN CHURCH—Meditation every Sunday, 473-8435
- LOUISVILLE YOUTH GROUP—Friday nights, 587-7755, www.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
- MOMS DEMAND ACTION FOR GUN SENSE—(571)278-2255, www.momsdemandaction.org
- MUHAMMAD ALI INSTITUTE FOR PEACE AND JUSTICE—U of L, 852-6372
- NAACP [National Association for the Advancement of Colored People]—3rd Monday, 776-7608
- NAMI [National Alliance for the Mentally Ill]—588-2008, www.namilouisville.org
- NATIONAL ACTION NETWORK, LOUISVILLE METRO CHAPTER—4th Sunday, 5PM, 778-8624 or (470)362-0317
- PARENTS, FAMILIES & FRIENDS OF LESBIANS AND GAYS (P-FLAG)—233-1323, www.pflaglouisville.org
- PEACE EDUCATION PROGRAM—www.peaceeducationprogram.org, 589-6583
- RESULTS (a hunger lobby)—2nd Saturday, 451-4907
- SICKLE CELL ASSOCIATION—3rd Saturday, 569-2070
- SIERRA CLUB INNER CITY OUTINGS—2nd Thursday, 7:30PM, 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—www.sowersofjusticenetwork.org, sowersofjusticenetwork@gmail.com
- STAND UP SUNDAY/STAND UP LOUISVILLE—Every Sunday, 3PM, 3208 W. Broadway, chelm416@gmail.com
- URBAN LEAGUE YOUNG PROFESSIONALS—2nd Monday, 6PM, 561-6830
- VETERANS FOR PEACE, Louisville Chapter 168—500-6915, CRawertTrainer@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.com*

CALENDAR FOR PEACEMAKERS - NOVEMBER 2018

Meeting times are subject to change for some of these events. Before attending these events, it's best to contact the sponsoring organization to verify the time and place of the event. Please e-mail us information about your peace and justice events to calendar.peace@gmail.com

Nov 1 to Dec 30 » AMERICA TO ZANZIBAR. Muhammad Ali Center. Our family-friendly interactive exhibit explores the diversity of Muslim cultures in our community, country, and the world. Experience art, architecture, travel, trade, design and more. Visit www.alicenter.org.

Nov 1 to 30 » SACK LUNCHES FOR THE HOMELESS. Wayside Christian Mission. Open every day. Help us assemble sack lunches for men and women who are working and away from the Mission at mealtimes. Sack lunches are also used by our Good Samaritan Patrol. Visit <http://wcm1.weebly.com>.

Nov 1 to 30 » THE WORLD’S MAJOR RIVERS. The Crane House. Compare three of the world’s major rivers: Ganges, Yangtze, and Ohio. Learn more about their influence on the history and culture of their respective countries. Visit <http://www.cranehouse.org>.

Nov 1 to 12 » KIN KILLIN KIN. The Kentucky Center for African American Heritage. A visual experience for engaging our youth and community in the reality of gun violence and moving towards solutions. Visit <https://kcaah.org/>.

Nov 1 to 4 » HAND IN HAND MINISTRIES. Work side by side with people who live and work in vulnerable communities. Visit <http://www.myhandinhand.org>.

Nov 1 (Thurs)»ANNEBRADENMEMORIALLECTURE. University of Louisville. 5:30PM. Hear Keeanga-Yamahatta Taylor of Princeton University discuss structural racism. Visit <http://louisville.edu/sustainability/>.

Nov 1 (Thurs) » DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS TO THIS CALENDAR IN THE NEXT ISSUE OF FORSOOTH. Every first Thursday. Please email calendar.peace@gmail.com.

Nov 1 (Thurs) » KENTUCKY SINGLE PAYER HEALTH CARE. Every first & third Thursday, 5:30PM at Main Public Library. Call Kay Tillow, 502-636-1551.

Nov 3 (Sat) » INTERFAITH SILENT MEDITATION. Every first Saturday. 9:30AM. Brief meditation instruction and longer periods of silence, interspersed with opportunities for walking meditation. Passionist Earth & Spirit Center, the Barn at 1924 Newburg Road. Call 502-452-2749 for information. Visit <http://earthandspiritcenter.org/>.

Nov 3 (Sat) » LOUISVILLE COMMUNITY AGRICULTURE. Every Saturday morning. Also, other days and times. 26 farmers’ markets from California neighborhood to Norton Commons.Visit <https://louisvilleky.gov/government/mayors-healthy-hometown-movement/services/healthy-eating>

Nov 3 (Sat) » PRESERVE OUR URBAN FORESTS. Olmsted Parks Conservancy. Almost every Saturday. Our tasks include invasive plant removal, mulching, painting or general park beautification in our various Olmsted parks and parkways. Gloves, tools, and guidance provided. Be sure to sign-up before coming out. Visit <http://www.olmstedparks.org>.

Nov 3 (Sat) » HELP BUILD A HOME. Habitat for Humanity of Metro Louisville. Almost every Saturday. Work alongside our sweat-equity families. Ask about our non-construction opportunities too. Visit <https://louisvillehabitat.org/>.

Nov 3 (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>.

Nov 4 (Sun) » COMMUNITY COMPOSTING. UofL Belknap Campus. Every Sunday. Noon to 2PM. Help us turn trash to treasure. Haul home some rich compost for your garden. Dress to get dirty. Tools provided. Visit <http://louisville.edu/sustainability>.

Nov 4 (Sun) » “AIM HIGHER” focusing on military counter-recruitment. Every first Sunday at 7 PM. 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, 502-262-0148 or e-mail FORnonviolence@gmail.com.

Nov 6 (Tues) » GLOBAL TRIVIA NIGHT. World Affairs Council of Kentucky and Southern Indiana, 7PM. Learn more about our world and make friends. Visit <https://www.worldkentucky.org>

Nov 7 (Wed) » VOLUNTEER FOR REFUGEE FAMILIES. Catholic Charities. 5:30pm. First Wednesday every month. Learn more about our refugee & immigration settlement program and family assistance efforts. Visit <http://cclou.org>.

Nov 7 (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.

Nov 7 (Wed) » REAL PEOPLE, REAL CHALLENGES, REAL SOLUTIONS. Volunteers of America Family Emergency Shelter, morning and evening sessions. One-hour interactive tour of VOA’s work and programs for self-determination. Call 636-4660 to RSVP.

Nov 8 (Thurs) » THIS IS AMERICA: AND JUSTICE FOR ALL? University of Louisville, 7PM. Join our discussion on who justice works and how it breaks down. Visit <http://louisville.edu/sustainability>.

Nov 8 (Thurs) » EVERYONE READS TRAINING. JCPS VanHoose Education Center, 4PM. Every 2nd Thursday. Join our community-wide effort to improve reading skills. Visit <https://apps.jefferson.kyschools.us/vounteer>.

Nov 9 (Fri) » A GLIMPSE OF ETERNITY. The Louisville Astronomical Society at dusk in Tom Sawyer Park. Every 2nd Friday weather permitting. Look through telescopes at planets, our moon, stars, double stars, the Orion nebula, and other wonders. Visit <http://www.louisville-astro.org/>.

Nov 9 (Fri) » SUSTAINABILITY ROUNDTABLE. University of Louisville, 11AM. Hear Tiago de Melo Cartaxo of Nova University, Lisbon, Portugal, discuss his experiences with sustainability initiatives. Visit <http://louisville.edu/sustainability>.

Nov 10 (Sat) » EARTHSAVE OF LOUISVILLE. Crescent Hill Ministries, 6PM to 8PM. Every 2nd Saturday. Discuss healthy food and behavior change. Bring a plant-based dish and share your recipe. Mix, mingle, music. Call 299-9520 for more information.

Nov 10 (Sat) » CITIZENS’ CLIMATE LOBBY. Crescent Hill Public Library, Noon. Every 2nd Saturday. Help plan efforts to lobby for state legislation to combat climate change. For more info contact Jean at jmchri@gmail.com or call 502-634-3114.

Nov 11 (Sun) » VIGIL FOR PEACE. Louisville Peace Action Committee (LPAC) and Veterans for Peace Chapter 168, 4PM to 5PM. Every 2nd Sunday. Bardstown Rd. at Douglass Blvd. Bring a sign. Remember those suffering from conflicts in the Middle East. For more information, call Harold Trainer, 502-419-4083.

Nov 11 (Sun) » THE NONVIOLENT CITIES PROJECT. Pace e Bene Nonviolence Service, every 2nd Sunday at 2:30PM. Help us spread and apply the principles of non-violent action here and now. Call 812-280-0665 or email rodwsm@gmail.com for more information.

Nov 11 (Sun) » BLACK PANTHERS. Speed Art Museum, 1:30PM. French New Wave filmmaker Agnes Varda interviews activists, interweaving footages of demonstrations. Visit <http://speedmuseum.org>.

Nov 11 (Sun) » ARMISTICE DAY PEACE MARCH. Meeting at Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Place, 3PM. Join us as we show our community how we can foresee an end to violent conflict. Visit <https://actionnetwork.org>.

Nov 11 (Sun) » ARMISTICE DAY PEACE CELEBRATION. 3 to 5 PM. Crescent Hill Baptist Church, 2800 Frankfort Avenue.

Nov 13 (Tues) » MOVIMIENTO 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.

Nov 13 (Tues) » AMERICANA COMMUNITY CENTER, 6pm, Volunteer orientation every 2nd Tuesday. Help bridge the gap for our refugee and immigrant neighbors. Visit <http://americanacc.org>.

Nov 14 (Wed) » Y-NOW CHILDREN OF PRISONERS MENTORING. Join us for a tour of YMCA Safe Place. 2nd Wednesday each month. Learn how you can help break the cycle through mentoring and encouragement. RSVP to 635-5233.

Nov 14 (Wed) » LOUISVILLE FORUM. Noon at Vincenzo’s Downtown. Every 2nd Wednesday. Speakers on current public issues. Non-partisan discussion. For details call, 329-0111.

Nov 14 (Wed) » COMPASSIONATE LOUISVILLE. Noon. Meeting locations rotate. Help monitor the progress of Metro Louisville ten-year campaign for compassion. Visit <http://compassionatelouisville.weebky.com> for more information.

Nov 15 (Thurs) » GROWING FOOD AND COMMUNITY. 15 Thousand Farmers at Dismas Charities St. Ann’s on Algonquin Pkwy, the 15th of every month. Share ideas and experiences about growing your own food. Taste samples. Visit www.15thousandfarmers.com.

Nov 15 (Thurs) » CHAT WITH POLICE. 6PM. Open dialogue with police officers. Meeting places rotate month to month. Visit <https://louisvilleky.gov/events>.

Nov 15 (Thurs) » MENTAL ILLNESS SUPPORT & ADVOCACY. NAMI Louisville every third Thursday at 3PM. Also Saturdays and Sundays. Support for families. Draw on years of experience. Visit www.namilouisville.org.

Nov 15 (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.

Nov 15 (Thurs) » THIRD THURSDAY LUNCH. Co-sponsored by FOR and the Sowers of Justice Network at Hotel Louisville at noon. Hear compelling speakers on current concerns and issues of justice, compassion,

faith, and public policy. RSVP to Pat Geier by the Monday prior at 609-7985 or pgeier@fastmail.fm.
See page 4 for more details about this month’s event.

Nov 15 (Thurs) » FORsooth LABELING PARTY. Presbyterian Seminary, Winn Center. 6:30 PM. Every 3rd Thursday. We need volunteers! Many hands make light work, and the opposite is also true! Please join us if you can. Call 451-5658 for more information

Nov 21 (Wed) » JEWISH VOICE FOR PEACE. Highlands-Shelby Park Public Library. Every third Wednesday. Help us plan for future and assess our accomplishments. Call 502-553-6451 or e-mail barbaraberman2@gmail.com.

Nov 25 (Sun) » INVESTIGATION OF A FLAME. Speed Art Museum, 1PM. An experimental documentary portrait that follows the story of the Catonsville Nine, a disparate band of draft resisters. Visit <http://speedmuseum.org>.

Nov 26 (Mon) » JEFFERSON COUNTY ECONOMIC JUSTICE TEAM. Meeting at the Main Public Library. Every 4th Monday at 6:30PM. Help us organize and assess our local campaign for equitable development, affordable housing and healthcare, and participatory budgeting. Learn and share. Visit <https://www.kftc.org>.

Nov 27 (Tues) » FREE NONPROFIT START-UP CLINIC. Center for Nonprofit Excellence, 3PM. Every 4th Tuesday. Learn the fundamentals, avoid pitfalls, and find direction. Visit www.cnpe.org.

Nov 27 (Tues) » KENTUCKY REFUGEE MINISTRIES LUNCH & LEARN. Noon. Learn more about our refugee & immigration settlement program and citizenship tutoring classes. Visit <http://kyrm.org>.

Nov 30 (Fri) » SEARCHING FOR THOMAS MERTON: AN ARTISTIC TRIBUTE. Bellarmine University. Creative art by Joe McGee and Penny Sisto. One the first steps of our celebration of Thomas Merton’s life and work in Louisville. Visit <http://merton.org>.

Dec 20 (Thurs) DEADLINE FOR THE FEBRUARY ISSUE OF FORsooth. Every third Thursday. Email articles to adamkhayat10@gmail.com

OUT OF TOWN

Nov 1 (Thurs) » INTERFAITH PRAYER VIGIL FOR PEACE. Lexington, KY at West Main and Broadway, 5:30PM to 6:30PM. Every Thursday for twelve years. Visit <http://www.peaceandjusticeky.org>.

Nov 5 (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.

Nov 6 to 27 » FAIRNESS MEETINGS. ACLU of Kentucky. Help us promote LGBT Rights in Kentucky and join our meeting in Versailles, Georgetown, Frankfort, Bowling Green, Berea, and Shelbyville. Visit <http://www.aclu-ky.org>.

Nov 15 (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. <https://ksu.edu/academics/cafsss/organic-agriculture-working-group/about-organic-agriculture-working-group/>.

AT THE LOUISVILLE FREE PUBLIC LIBRARIES
Visit www.lfpl.org for more information.

Nov 1 (Thurs) » CITIZENSHIP CLASS. Iroquois Public Library, 11AM. Every Thursday. Instruction by Kentucky Refugee Ministries

Nov 3 (Sat) » ENGLISH CONVERSATION CLUB. Every Saturday at the Iroquois & Newburg Public Library Branches, 3PM. Also South Central on Mondays and Main Library on Wednesdays at 7PM.

Nov 3 (Sat) » CONFLICT IN IRAN. Iroquois Public Library, 1PM. Nazar Alatameemi to discuss the Islamic Revolution in Arabic without interpretation.

Nov 5 (Mon) » BASIC SPANISH. South Central Public Library, 6:30PM. Every Wednesday. Learn to use the basic tools of the language.

Nov 6 (Tues) » HOUR OF POWER BOOK DISCUSSIONS. Newburg Public Library, every first Tuesday, 6:30 PM. Discuss books on personal efforts

Nov 7 (Wed) » MEETING OF THE MINDS. Crescent Hill Public Library, 7PM. Discuss current topics with your friends and neighbors.

Nov 15 (Thurs) » WOMEN’S BOOK CLUB. South Central Public Library, 7PM. Join our discussion of books of interest to women.

Nov 17 (Sat) » SAVOR THE WORLD. Main Public Library, 10AM. Explore another country every month through food, music, crafts, and books.

Nov 21 (Wed) » BOOKS ON GLOBAL SOLIDARITY. Main Public Library, 12PM. Discuss contemporary books by authors from all over the world.