

LOUISVILLE FAMILY JUSTICE ADVOCATES AND DOING JUSTICE AMID CHAOS AND DIVISION

By Judi Jennings

Across the country and in our own community, more people are waking up to the devastating impact of mass incarceration. According to the Sentencing Project, incarceration in the US increased 500% over the last 40 years. There are now 2.2 million people in our prisons and jails. An estimated 5,749,000 children have had a parent in jail during their childhood.

Kentucky is the second highest in the nation – 15% of children have had an incarcerated parent, which is nearly twice the national rate of 8%. Kentucky also has the second highest rate of female incarceration in the US. Almost 71% of females in state custody are mothers with minor children. Parental incarceration is now known to be an Adverse Childhood Experience, which can be traumatic and have lasting negative effects – such as toxic stress – on children’s health and wellbeing.

Doing social justice work on the scale and pervasiveness of mass incarceration and its impact on children can be overwhelming and may seem impossible to address. Especially now, when communities at the local, state, and national levels are polarized



Special Project team member Mari Mujica demonstrates an art activity at the West Louisville Women’s Collaborative ELA House. Photograph by Lafayierre Mitchell.

to the point of contesting whose realities are real; this is perpetuated when print, visual, and social media outlets portray different versions of what is news and what is true.

In the midst of this chaos and division,

justice reform from the community up, where we work face to face to reduce mass incarceration. As a community-based coalition, we are innovating, evolving, and out-right borrowing social justice principles and democratic practices to help us reclaim civic equity, empathy, and reality.

Here are four principles and practices for doing social justice we are using in these trying times:

“Nothing about us without us”

Wikipedia traces this phrase to Poland in the 1500s. Whoever used it first, it is critical for criminal justice reform today. JustLeadership USA, which includes National Fellows from Louisville, rightly stresses that people with direct experience of incarceration must lead criminal justice reform because they understand the current system firsthand.

Focus on creating knowledge and solutions

With the breakdown and profiteering of news sources today, social justice organizations can help fill the gap by creating new knowledge and solutions that work at the

(see JUSTICE, page 7)

CHOICES AND THE HOMELESS

By Isaac Marion Thacker IV

Ronald Reagan claimed, as sort of a parting shot on December 22, 1988, that the homeless “make it their own choice.” Even a large percentage of liberals (of those in my acquaintance, anyway) seem, incredibly, to tacitly agree with this sentiment, saying whenever the subject comes up that “a lot” or “many” choose to be homeless.

I think this is (at least borderline) crazy. My position is that there should not be any homeless human beings in the United States, rather than the 1.42 million that HUD reported in Part 2 (the yearly total) of its 2017 Annual Homeless Assessment Report (AHAR) to Congress, or the 553,000 that it reported were homeless on a given January 2018 night in Part 1 (the “snapshot”) of its

2018 AHAR. It should be noted that the first figure is only for the sheltered homeless—humans living on the streets are not even counted; and that of the 553,000 included in the latter figure, some 194,000 were in fact unsheltered.

And homelessness, once largely limited to single men and a lesser number of single women, now affects virtually every demographic sector of the U.S. population, even full-time workers and families with children. For this we can unsurprisingly thank that same erstwhile President, Ronald Reagan, who cut housing subsidization by some 78 percent, leaving millions who had never dreamed they would ever be homeless, homeless.

(see HOMELESS, page 5)



Homeless tent village under the freeway in San Francisco. Photo by Shannon Badiiee (Wikimedia Commons).

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FROM THE RIVER TO THE SEA

By Andrew Hebert

“Palestine will be free, from the River to the Sea.” To some, this declaration is controversial. But, after three months living in and traveling around Palestine, I have come to see this statement as more of an inevitability than a controversial statement.

I lived in the Palestinian neighborhood of Shuafat in Occupied East Jerusalem with two American roommates and two German roommates, on the third floor of a Palestinian family’s home. Despite the trash build up (a result of the lack of municipal funding given to East Jerusalem) and the constant presence of Israeli police, Shuafat is a beautiful neighborhood. Sitting on the balcony and watching the sunset over the hills to the west made every day worth it. I got to know the local shopkeeper, a man who studied at the University of Texas and knew about the prestigious University of Louisville basketball teams of the 1980s. It took me some time, but Shuafat and Palestine truly felt like home.

One of my favorite memories in Jerusalem was a conversation with a shopkeeper in the Old City market, the “Suk”. The man, appropriately named Muhammad Ali, asked if it was my first-time visiting Jerusalem, I said yes, it was my first time in Palestine. He responded with “Welcome home, *habibi*” (*habibi* is the term for “my dear”). This anecdote sums up how I felt around Palestinian people. Despite being in a land under occupation and oppression by, and despite the fact my country is complicit in these heinous crimes, I was welcomed as if I were Palestinian myself.

I spent time with a group of activists in Palestine called the International Solidarity Movement (ISM). This is a group of activists of all ages from all over the world, who come to Palestine to stand in solidarity with the Palestinians in their fight against

the occupation of their land and other abuses committed against them by Israel. The movement included attending protests, documenting violent crimes against Palestinians by the Israeli army and/or Israeli settlers, observing checkpoints, helping harvest olives and other small actions aimed at showing Palestinian people they had allies around the world. Sometimes, these actions were lighthearted and fun, like days out in the hot sun picking olives. Other times, these actions were adrenaline-filled protests involving tear gas, rubber bullets, and even live ammunition.

My first experience with ISM was at the Bedouin village of Khan al-Ahmar. The village is set to be demolished by the Israeli government in order to construct more illegal settlements in the West Bank. Activists from all over Palestine, the world, and Israel would stay the night in the village and wake up in the morning ready to defend the building from Israeli bulldozers. I was fortunate enough to be in Khan al-Ahmar the night Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu announced the postponement of the destruction. The night was filled with waving of Palestinian flags and Palestinian music. No one slept. This was a small victory, and the village could certainly still be destroyed at some point in the future, but it showcased the power of international solidarity and hope for Palestine to fight the constant land grabs taking place by Israeli settlers all over the West Bank.

My first protest experience took place at Mazra’a al-Qibliya, a small-town northeast of Ramallah in the West Bank. The other activists and I took a service (Palestinian taxi) from Ramallah and arrived at the location where a crowd of Palestinians was gathering opposite from Israeli soldiers and armored vehicles. At first, the protest was peaceful, but the large contingent of Palestinian medics foreshadowed a turn for the worst. The soldiers were no

more than 40 yards from where we were standing. Suddenly, one of the young Palestinian boys with a slingshot, known as *shabbabs*, launched a rock toward the soldiers. Even though the rock missed badly, that was enough provocation for the soldiers, and they proceeded to shoot tens of tear gas canisters from an armored vehicle. I was located to the side of the truck. While I wasn’t the target of the tear gas, the smoke from the canisters blew directly toward myself and journalists covering the event, blinding us and making it impossible to breathe. Another activist and I both required attention from a medic. There’s no real treatment besides sniffing alcohol swabs and wiping your eyes with your *kufiya*.

This was one of the times I experienced the terror of tear gas. For Palestinians, young and old, this is an everyday part of life. Tear gas is banned internationally but the Israeli military still uses it. The Aida Refugee Camp near Bethlehem is the most frequently tear gassed place in the West Bank, and they have seen a tremendous rise in Palestinian infants with birth defects caused by chemicals in the gas according to Electronic Intifada. The use of tear gas is just one of the many examples of the inhumanity of the occupation, yet it appears the international community seems to not care.

These are just a few examples of the hope and tragedy I witnessed in three months in Palestine. I wish I had enough words to delve into the inhumanity of checkpoints, the young men I saw being humiliated and harassed at the Israeli police stop outside Damascus Gate, the paranoia of visiting Israel and having to be careful about what I said to certain people, lying to customs on my way in and out of Ben Gurion Airport, my trip to the Gaza Strip to show solidarity with the Great Return March. I wish I could describe the difficulty of traveling around Palestine through stops and walls, or the beautiful art on the separation wall in Bethlehem, or my long nighttime runs around the Mount of Olives and Sheikh Jarrah.

My time in Palestine was magnificent. I know one day I will return to this beautiful land and the beautiful people who inhabit it. For now, I simply try to highlight Israel’s illegal occupation, its violent siege of Gaza, and the millions of Palestinian refugees wanting to return home, and how the United States of America is directly complicit by providing weapons and money to Israel’s apartheid regime. But, I also want to portray the diverse culture of Palestine,



A young Palestinian fearlessly walking toward tear gas at a protest in al-Mugahyyir. Photo by Andrew Hebert.

the delicious falafel in Jerusalem, the street art in Ramallah, the Knaffeh in Nablus, the wonderful harmony of Christians and Muslims in Bethlehem, and the awe-inspiring hike from Wadi Qelt to Jericho. This is the Palestine that I will never forget, and the Palestine that will one day be free, from the River to the Sea.

“Palestinians embody perhaps the most visible and certainly the most universal case of human rights abuses on Earth today.”

- Edward Said



TOP: IDF soldiers across from a protest at Mazra'a al-Qibliya. BOTTOM: Celebrations at Khan al-Ahmar after the destruction was postponed. Photos by Andrew Hebert.



Andrew Hebert is a recent graduate of the University of Louisville where he earned a B.A. in History and a B.A. in Spanish Language. He has spent time in Costa Rica, Spain, Palestine and several other countries through his studies and internships. He currently lives in his hometown, Louisville, is looking for work, and can be contacted at andrewhebert87@gmail.com.

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ON THE ORIGIN OF DENIAL: AMERICA'S TURBULENT RELATIONSHIP WITH DARWINIAN EVOLUTION (PART 2)

By Adam Khayat

This is Part 2 of a 3-part article that began in February and will conclude in the April issue.

The translocation and diffusion of Darwin's work into the American realm was accomplished by Alfred Russel Wallace, who conducted a lecture tour between 1886 and 1887 upon invitation from the Lowell Institute in Boston, Massachusetts. Nonetheless, Wallace's evolutionism must be relativized to the sociocultural context of the period; through earlier associations with other prominent scholars, he amalgamated his interpretation of evolutionary biology with a strong creed of systemic land nationalization, in which "which biological and sociopolitical convictions reacted upon one another to provide insights, not just into the relationship between humans and nature but also humans and nature in relation to land" (Fichman, 2001). Moreover, he advocated for sweeping political and social reform. Nevertheless, his predilection for theistic spiritualism was undeniable; he proposed a bifurcation in evolutionary theory between the development of the human body and mind. He asserted that though bodily structure derives from the lower animals via natural selection, the human mind and its capacities cannot be explained by the same theory; essentially, his proposition included the stipulation that the evolution of human mental faculties does not correspond to that of bodily structure (Fichman, 2001). This accommodating rendition of Darwin's theory is important to take under consideration due to the ramifications it had on the American scientific community. During his stay in the United States, Wallace came into contact with eminent American scientists – such as Asa Gray, Oliver Wendell Holmes,

James Dana, James Russell Lowell, William James, and Alexander Aggasiz – all of whom were influenced by his metaphysical system that amalgamated evolutionary biology, science, and theism. Nonetheless, this occurrence was limited to the intellectuals of the time. Though abolitionists and other groups utilized Darwin's agenda to support their campaign, the notion of evolution did not play a big role in the public discussion during the mid-to-late 19th century in the United States; this, of course, is attributed to the political and social tension surrounding slavery and the imminent war. However, the cogency of Darwin's evolution would be called into public question soon after the end of World War I in one of the most important legal cases of American history: The Scopes Trial.

Enacted in 1925, the Butler Act was a Tennessee law that prohibited the instruction of Darwinian evolution and the repudiation of the Biblical account of humans' origin in public schools. In that same year, a substitute high school teacher, John T. Scopes, was accused of violating the act for including a chapter from George William Hunter's textbook, "Civic Biology: Presented in Problems," in the curriculum; though initially dubious of the allegation, Scopes agreed to incriminate himself in order to challenge the Butler Act. The state brought in three-time presidential candidate William Jennings Bryan; conversely, the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) financed Scopes' position and hired Clarence Darrow. Both of these individuals were the most renowned legal names in the country. The resulting trial was highly publicized and followed on radio transmissions throughout the United States. Indeed, similar to the debate between Huxley and

Owen, this case propelled the theory of evolution into the public sphere; two resoundingly apparent sides appeared: one defined by science and the other by religion.

Being the first trial to be broadcasted on radio and bringing in hundreds of reporters from around the country, the Scopes Trial became the most highly contentious case of the time; the magnitude of the hostility between both sides reflected the increasing social polarization surrounding the notion of evolution in American society. After eight days of trial, the jury only took nine minutes to deliberate; ultimately, Scopes was charged \$100, but the verdict was thrown out on a technicality of an appeal. However, the reverberations of the Scopes Trial in American society were

(see DARWIN, page 5)



John Thomas Scopes, the teacher at the center of proceedings. Photograph by Watson Davis (courtesy of the Smithsonian Institution).



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RETURNING TO HAIFA: FREE READINGS THROUGHOUT LOUISVILLE OF NEW PLAY SET IN MIDDLE EAST

By Russell Vandenbroucke

Home.

A simple word with so many evocations, a different one for every person’s memory or yearning: Home Sweet Home. Home Is Where the Heart Is. Take Me Home. Homeward Bound. Home Alone. Homeless. Can you *ever* go home again?

Ghassan Kanafani’s novella *Returning to Haifa* is one of the most widely admired works of modern Arabic literature and has been translated into dozens of languages. Now, it has now been translated to the stage by playwrights Ismail Khalidi and Louisville-native Naomi Wallace. Free public readings by a company of actors are scheduled throughout March at three public libraries, two University of Louisville venues, and Ramsi’s Cafe on the World. (See schedule below.)

The play’s dramatic arc is deceptively simple: a Palestinian couple, Said and Safiyya, fled their home in 1948 amidst the war surrounding the creation of Israel. As the play opens in 1967, in the aftermath of another war, the Israeli border has opened for the first time in twenty years. Said and Safiyya return to Haifa where they began their marriage and family. They are ready to find a stranger living in their home, but nothing prepares them for the surprises ahead.

Each 75-minute performance will be followed by a facilitated conversation in which audiences will reflect on their own experiences with the themes of the play, including the meaning of home.

“Reading Kanafani in Kentucky”

Returning to Haifa launches a two-year venture supported by the University of Louisville’s Cooperative Consortium for Transdisciplinary Social Justice Research with community partners including FOR, Kentucky Refugee Ministries, and Louisville Free Public Library. Named “Reading Kanafani in Kentucky,” the project blends arts, humanities, and social science to focus on home and its loss through displacement, dispossession, and urban renewal. Next year, building on audience talkbacks following readings of *Returning to Haifa*, we will create a new play on these issues as experienced by fellow Louisvillians. Themes of home and dislocation link “then and there” with “here and now,” i.e. the Middle East in the last century with Louisville today.

Kanafani may not have anticipated that his novella would travel so far, but he knew the specifics of his time and place could resonate widely: “At first I wrote about Palestine as a cause in and of itself. . . Then I came to see Palestine as a symbol of humanity. . . When I portray the Palestinian misery, I am really presenting the Palestinian as a symbol of misery in all the world.”

Born in 1936 in Acre, then under the British Mandate for Palestine, Kanafani worked as a teacher, journalist, and editor of publications, including the weekly magazine of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine. He was assassinated by a car bomb in Beirut in 1972. Mossad, Israel’s intelligence agency, later affirmed it had carried out the attack in response to the Lod airport attack six weeks before. Lebanon’s Daily Star wrote in Kanafani’s obituary, “He was a commando who never fired a gun, whose weapon was a ball-

point pen, and his arena was the newspaper pages.”

The novella is widely taught and admired throughout the Arab world. Ranen Omer-Sherman, Director of UofL’s Jewish Studies program, has taught it for years and notes that it reveals how false the assertion is that Arabs in general and Palestinians in particular do not acknowledge the Holocaust: a Polish Holocaust survivor is as central to the novella as the Palestinians. All have survived war.

Among many strong reviews from the London premiere in March of 2018, Judi Herman blogged on *Jewish Renaissance*, “Kanafani’s parable of this contested land is even-handed.” Michael Billington, Britain’s leading critic, calls the play “a moving confrontation between two sets of displaced people and an utterly unsentimental exploration of the complexities of home, history, and parenthood.”

Still, Kanafani remains divisive: New York’s Public Theatre commissioned the play, then refused to produce it, reportedly

due to pressure from its board. Similarly, UofL’s Theatre Arts Department voted overwhelming against producing the play, hence these readings instead of a full production.

Thanks to fortuitous scheduling, Louisville hosts two plays drawn from Arabic literature at the same time. This year’s Humana Festival includes *The Corpse Washer*, adapted from Sinan Antoon’s Iraqi novel. Billed “a haunting portrait of an artist’s fight to survive in war-torn Iraq, where life and death are inextricably intertwined,” it was adapted by the same playwrighting team, Khalidi and Wallace. They will be attending rehearsals of both. *The Corpse Washer* runs at Actors Theatre March 1-April 8.

Returning to Haifa schedule of performances:
Feb. 27, 5:30 p.m., LFPL Western Library, 604 S. 10th St.
Feb. 28, 6:30 p.m., LFPL Iroquois Library, 601 W. Woodlawn Ave.
March 1, 7:30 p.m., Ramsi’s Cafe on the World, 1293 Bardstown Rd.
March 6, 6:30 p.m., LFPL South Central Regional Library, 7300 Jefferson Blvd.

March 20, noon, UofL Kornhauser Library, Preston Street and Muhammad Ali Boulevard
March 21 and 22, 7:30 p.m., UofL Thrust Theatre, 2314 S. Floyd Street (at University Blvd.)

“Reading Kanafani in Kentucky” is led by Avery Kolers of UofL’s Philosophy Department, Kelly Kinahan of Urban and Public Affairs, and me. Teens and adults are welcome. Conversations following each reading will invite the audience to share personal experiences about home, displacement, and relocation. To participate in subsequent interviews, focus groups, and/or public storytelling for the project, contact me at 502-852-8448 or rjvand01@louisville.edu.

Russell Vandenbroucke is Professor of Theatre Arts at the University of Louisville and co-founder and Director of its Peace, Justice & Conflict Transformation program.

Reading Kanafani in Kentucky

Reading Kanafani in Kentucky invites Louisvillians to participate in a public conversation about the loss of home, involuntary relocation, belonging, and the struggle to return or replace what was lost. Please join us for a reading of a powerful new adaptation of Ghassan Kanafani’s *Returning to Haifa* by playwrights Ismail Khalidi and Naomi Wallace, followed by a facilitated audience conversation about personal experiences with the themes of the play. All readings are free and open to the public.

Feb 27, 5:30 p.m./Western Library, 10th & Chestnut


Feb 28, 6:30 p.m./Iroquois Library, 6th & Woodlawn

Mar 1, 7:30 p.m./Ramsi’s Cafe, Bardstown & Longest


Mar 6, 6:30 p.m./South Central Library, near Jeff. Mall

Mar 20, 12:00/UofL Kornhauser Aud, Preston & Ali

Mar 21 & 22, 7:30/UofL Thrust Theatre, Floyd St.



Research supported by the University of Louisville’s Cooperative Consortium for Transdisciplinary Social Justice Research louisville.edu/socialjustice, in partnership with the Fellowship of Reconciliation, Kentucky Refugee Ministries, and LFPL. Also thanks to UofL Departments of Philosophy, Theatre Arts, and Urban & Public Affairs, and the Peace, Justice, & Conflict Transformation Program.



DARWIN
(continued from page 3)

severe; it would affect the structure of science curriculums in public schools and textbooks for years to come.

The immediate impact of Scopes’ conviction in science education was readily apparent. Many school boards and textbooks publishers removed all traces of evolutionary biology from their programs. The degree to which evolution was taught in public schools fell precipitously (Larson, 1989) and approximately all publishers excised Darwinian evolution from their textbooks (Troost, 1967). For example, the aforementioned popular textbook by Hunter – that Scopes had used – was quickly abandoned; Hunter removed all chapters that directly discussed Darwin’s theories and altered any passages that tangentially referenced them. Giving it the new title of *New Civic Biology*, the publishers acted quickly to avoid the scrutiny of being associated with the Scopes verdict. Four years after the Scopes Trial, the notion of evolution had been systematically and efficaciously purged from textbooks; anti-evolutionist preacher George McReady Price had claimed that all textbooks had been successfully modified to adhere to the doctrine of the Fundamental movement (Price, 1929).

The long-term repercussions of the Scopes Trial were even more pronounced. Though few textbooks began including the notion of evolution by the 1940s, this was not a significant trend. Contrariwise, some biology textbooks began the practice of including religious quotations; the California State Board of Education supported the addition of these passages on the grounds that they helped maintain neutrality and present evolution as a theory rather than a proven fact (Grabiner and Miller, 1974). Indeed, more than two decades after Scopes’ conviction, textbook publishers intentionally avoided any mention of evolution to avoid antagonizing conservative Christians (Numbers, 1992). This trend of obscuring Darwin’s is best exemplified by the most widely used biology textbook in the 1930s: *Dynamic Biology*. In it, Darwin’s ideas were consistently berated and portrayed as no longer generally accepted. Later, some authors attempted to reconcile evolution and Genesis by legitimizing the “order of Creation” found in Biblical text (Hunter, 1941). Certainly, as the 1950s drew to a close, the general instruction of biology – in both textbooks and public schools – were dominated by primordial and anachronistic religious traditions (Muller, 1959).



Adam Khayat is a student at the University of Louisville and is pursuing a Bachelor’s of Science in Biology with a minor in Philosophy. He is the Managing Editor of the FORsooth newspaper and a Brown Fellow. He hopes to attend medical school after graduation.

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BUY AMERICAN

LABOR PAEANS

By Ira Grupper

Buy American. That will save U.S. jobs—or will it? What is American? Is it the iconic Louisville Slugger baseball bat?

Reports the Louisville Courier-Journal (12.7.18): “... (A) group led by China’s Anta Sport has offered \$45 per share, or about \$5.2 billion, to buy Finnish sporting goods maker Amer Sports, which owns Wilson Sporting Goods, Atomic Ski, Salomon and Louisville Slugger.

“The investment group of Chinese tech firm Tencent and a firm owned by Chip Wilson, billionaire founder of yoga-apparel retailer Lululemon Athletica, also were mentioned as taking part in the transaction, expected to come soon.” Not only is China going to possibly buy up U.S. baseball stuff, but Louisville Slugger is not even now an American company; it is Finnish!

I am an internationalist, not a narrow nationalist. So I know the world and local economies are interrelated. Take booze. Louisville-headquartered Brown-Forman posted slight gains in net income for its quarter that ended Oct. 31, but worried that tariff-related pressures could take a bigger

hit on profits. Let’s thank President Trump for his retaliatory tariffs that are pressuring the European Union.

But U.S. economic ineptitudes, you will note, extend elsewhere as well. Reports even business-sated *Forbes* magazine, back on October 17, 2018: “Persistently large wealth inequality leaves many African-Americans—as well as Latinos and some parts of the Asian-American communities—in a very precarious economic situation and poorly prepared for retirement.”

So, not only are U.S. policies placing children into cages, pulling us out of the Paris climate deal, fueling fears of a nuclear war. We also read the *New York Times* report about how our president’s family built an empire from tax dodging and outright fraud.

Well, let’s return to this “Buy American” choke point. I am a product of the labor movement, as a retired shop steward, delegate to the Greater Louisville Central Labor Council, and much more. So when I see so many union and auto company parking lots that require “foreign” cars to be parked in their farthest reaches—I get upset. Really upset.

Reports CNN Business (July 2, 2018): “Every US-made car is an import. That’s bad news for automakers... U.S. considers tariffs on car imports... Every car assembled in the United States contains a significant percentage of foreign parts, according to government data.

“‘There are no purely American vehicles,’ said Michelle Krebs, senior analyst at Auto-Trader. ‘These are global automakers who use global sources for all types of parts.’”

Maybe twenty five years ago, I was in the airport in Zurich, Switzerland. I entered the duty-free shop and bought a bunch of
(see AMERICAN, page 6)

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HOMELESS
(continued from page 1)

The results are tragic. A study of deaths of the Atlanta homeless, reported in the June 19, 1987 *Journal of the American Medical Association (JAMA)*, found that the median age at death was 44 years. A 1975 Swedish study put the average age of death at 53 and found that mortality among the homeless exceeded the age-adjusted expectation by a factor of four. Apparently the homeless are “choosing” not to contribute to the ever-increasing U.S. life expectancy (which has actually been reversed generally in this age of rampant inequality, in very recent years).

Worse in a way, though, than all this is that it doesn’t have to be this way. If some small percentage of the homeless really do choose to be so, they are so “choosing,” not

because they don’t want a home but because they refuse to jump through myriad hoops in order to have one. The real question, anyway, is whether those currently homeless would “choose” homelessness after six months or a year of having a place to call home. The solution, pioneered by Sam Tsemberis and others and sometimes called “housing first,” is to give folks homes and then work on whatever mental-health and/or substance-abuse problems they may have. The results of doing so have been stunningly better than the old approach—sometimes by a factor of ten or more. And this approach is also actually cheaper, reducing emergency-room visits, drug addiction, etc. As in so many other things, the morally-right thing turns out also to be the best practically.

It is not the homeless who choose their uniquely American plight, but rather our Horatio Alger society that chooses it for

them. I close with a quotation from *JAMA*’s September 8, 1989, editorial: “We forget that the other developed countries have successful public programs that provide basic levels of housing...to all citizens much as we provide basic education for all...Homelessness and intractable poverty are not social givens but the results of particular social policies.”

Isaac Marion Thacker IV (Ike Thacker) is a longtime activist for racial, political, social, and especially economic democracy, often focusing on housing issues. He currently serves as a co-Chair of the Kentucky Alliance Against Racist and Political Repression, and on the Steering Committee of the Louisville Chapter of the Fellowship of Reconciliation. He can be reached at ike.thacker@gmail.com

THE KEY TO PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST
Support a Two-State Solution to
End the Israeli/Palestinian Conflict



VIGIL FOR PEACE
Every Friday 12 noon to 1:00 PM
Corner of 6th Street & Broadway
Louisville, Kentucky

Louisville Committee for Israeli/Palestinian States | 502.451.5658 | www.louisvillepeace.org
Fellowship of Reconciliation (FOR) Louisville Chapter | www.louisvillefor.org

AMERICAN
(continued from page 5)

Toblerone chocolate to bring back to the U.S. The print on the wrapper said Toblerone was owned by Kraft-General Foods.

Kraft back then was owned by Philip Morris, which had a cigarette factory employing 4,200 workers in Louisville. So I in essence traveled 4,500 miles to buy a U.S. product I thought was uniquely European.

The plot thickens. Philip Morris melded into another company, Altria. It sold a lot of its food stuff to Mondelez. Arla Foods is now in the picture. Philadelphia cream cheese, originally part of Kraft, is now somewhere else.

You get the picture. Big time corporate machinations render the term made-in-the USA obsolete. The Canadian activist Naomi Klein writes: “When protesters shout about the evils of globalization, most are not calling for a return to narrow nationalism but for the borders of globalization to be expanded, for trade to be linked to labor rights, environmental protection, and democracy.”

So, when I see certain sectors of my beloved U.S. labor movement touting “buy American,” I shake my head in disbelief.

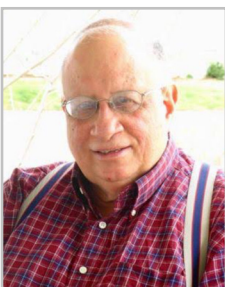
But maybe there’s a historical explanation for our present situation. Could it be the climate created by our president pushing “America First”? This is not the first time U.S. policy was guided by this term.

In 1941 there were 800,000 members of a U.S. group using this nomenclature,

America First. Its spokesperson was Charles Lindbergh, the famed aviator, brigadier general, winner of the Medal of Honor, Distinguished Flying Cross, and Congressional Gold Medal. And accused Nazi sympathizer.

States Wikipedia: “The America First Committee (AFC) was the foremost United States non-interventionist pressure group against the American entry into World War II. Started on September 4, 1940, it experienced mixed messaging with anti-Semitic rhetoric from leading members, and it was dissolved on December 10, 1941, three days after the attack on Pearl Harbor had brought the war to America. Membership peaked at 800,000 paying members in 450 chapters.”

Well, it may be best to end with the words of none other than Napoleon Bonaparte: “When a government is dependent upon bankers for money, they and not the leaders of the government control the situation, since the hand that gives is above the hand that takes. Money has no motherland; financiers are without patriotism and without decency; their sole object is gain.” Same for hoteliers.



Ira Grupper has been involved in civic affairs for over fifty nine years. He has been an organizer, a consultant, an activist and a teacher in the civil rights, labor, disability rights, anti-war and human rights movements, also covering many of these struggles as a journalist. Ira can be reached at iragrupper@gmail.com

Fellowship of Reconciliation
& Sowers of Justice Network

present

Third Thursday Lunches

MARCH 21

“Human Trafficking 101”

Amy Leenerts

Human trafficking is a form of modern-day slavery and is considered to be one of the fastest growing criminal industries in the world today. Defined under U. S. Federal Law, human trafficking includes labor trafficking, domestic servitude, and sex trafficking. Child and adult victims are trafficked in every country and in every state in the U.S. Amy Leenerts is the founder and director of Free2Hope, Inc., a non-profit organization that operates out of Louisville Kentucky. She will teach us what human trafficking is and what it is not, give examples of the warning signs of trafficking, and provide a basis of understanding of its root causes and effects.

Hotel Louisville • 120 West Broadway
corner of Second & Broadway -- Free off-street parking

Lunch at 11:30AM • Presentation at 12 noon • Full Buffet \$7.00 at the Door

Reservations required by MONDAY before the lunch
RSVP to Pat Geier at (502)609-7985 or pgeier@fastmail.fm

FORward RADIO CALENDAR

FORward Radio | 106.5 fm | WFMP-Louisville | forwardradio.org

FORward Radio is a grassroots, community-based, FM radio station operating as an educational arm of the Louisville Chapter of the Fellowship of Reconciliation (FOR) in pursuit of peace and social justice.

As an affiliate in the Pacifica Network, our broadcast schedule is a mix of nationally syndicated programming (black text below) and locally or regionally produced programs (white text).

Time	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Time
12:00 AM	MUSIC	Ralph Nader Radio Hour	Sustainability Now!	RetroForward	Black Agenda Radio ^	Critical Thinking for Everyone!	He Said, She Said	00:00
12:30 AM								00:30
1:00 AM	Rockabilly N Blues Radio Hour	Thom Hartmann Show	Thom Hartmann Show	Thom Hartmann Show	Thom Hartmann Show	Thom Hartmann Show	RFN Weekend (classic rock/EZ listening)	01:00
1:30 AM								01:30
2:00 AM	The Sonic Café							02:00
2:30 AM							What's The Frequency, Kenneth?	02:30
3:00 AM	Song of the Soul							03:00
3:30 AM								03:30
4:00 AM	From The Vault	From The Vault	From The Vault	From The Vault	From The Vault	From The Vault	From The Vault	04:00
4:30 AM								04:30
5:00 AM								05:00
5:30 AM								05:30
6:00 AM	Alternative Radio	Kite Line - Prison Issues Sprouts	Le Show with Harry Shearer	Solutions to Violence	What's The Frequency, Kenneth?	Between The Lines	This Way Out	06:00
6:30 AM						CounterSpin	Making Contact	06:30
7:00 AM	Law & Disorder	On The Edge w/K.A. Owens	From Classroom to Newsroom	Economic Update	The Sonic Café	Economic Update	Save Our Schools	07:00
7:30 AM		Informativo Pacifica		Bench Talk		Sprouts	with Dear JCPS	07:30
8:00 AM	Project Censored	Depth N Weight	Solutions to Violence	Sprouts *	Ethics Forward	Clearing The FOG	Spirit in Action	08:00
8:30 AM				Informativo Pacifica *				08:30
9:00 AM	Radio EcoShock	The Sonic Café	Urban Voices	Radio EcoShock	Economic Update	The Sonic Café	Alternative Radio	09:00
9:30 AM					Sprouts			09:30
10:00 AM	Spirit in Action	From Classroom to Newsroom	Sustainability Now!	Ethics Forward	Clearing The FOG	Black Agenda Radio	Brunch with Black Folks	10:00
10:30 AM								10:30
11:00 AM	Ralph Nader Radio Hour	Le Show with Harry Shearer	Sea Change Radio	Black Agenda Radio	Access Hour	Critical Thinking for Everyone!		11:00
11:30 AM		Bench Talk						11:30
12:00 PM	On The Edge w/K.A. Owens	Sea Change Radio	Radio EcoShock	Alternative Radio	This Way Out	He Said, She Said	Kite Line - Prison Issues	12:00
12:30 PM	KY 120 Newscast	Citizens' Climate Radio			Making Contact		Sprouts	12:30
1:00 PM	Between The Lines	Ralph Nader Radio Hour *	Law & Disorder	Project Censored	Informativo Pacifica	Access Hour	Urban Voices	13:00
1:30 PM	CounterSpin				Between The Lines			13:30
2:00 PM	Depth N Weight	Urban Voices	Depth N Weight	Access Hour	RetroForward	Citizens' Climate Radio	KY 120 Newscast	14:00
2:30 PM						Making Contact	On The Edge w/K.A. Owens	14:30
3:00 PM	From Classroom to Newsroom	Letters & Politics	Letters & Politics	Letters & Politics	Letters & Politics	Save Our Schools with Dear JCPS	He Said, She Said	15:00
3:30 PM								15:30
4:00 PM	Kite Line - Prison Issues	Democracy Now	Democracy Now	Democracy Now	Democracy Now	Democracy Now	Black Agenda Radio	16:00
4:30 PM	Sprouts							16:30
5:00 PM	Song of the Soul	Solutions to Violence	Project Censored	Economic Update ^	Critical Thinking for Everyone!	KY 120 Newscast	Law & Disorder	17:00
5:30 PM				Sprouts ^		CounterSpin		17:30
6:00 PM	RetroForward	Sustainability Now!	Ethics Forward	Clearing The FOG	Save Our Schools with Dear JCPS	Kite Line - Prison Issues ^	Rockabilly N Blues	18:00
6:30 PM						Sprouts ^	Radio Hour	18:30
7:00 PM	The Climate Report	The Climate Report	The Climate Report *	The Climate Report	The Climate Report	The Climate Report	The Climate Report	19:00
7:30 PM	This Way Out	Bench Talk	Informativo Pacifica *	Making Contact	Sea Change Radio	Informativo Pacifica	Citizens' Climate Radio	19:30
8:00 PM	RFN Weekend (classic rock/EZ listening)	Rising Up With Sonali	Rising Up With Sonali	Rising Up With Sonali	Rising Up With Sonali	Rising Up With Sonali	Spirit in Action	20:00
8:30 PM								20:30
9:00 PM		The David Pakman Show	The David Pakman Show	The David Pakman Show	The David Pakman Show	The David Pakman Show	Between The Lines	21:00
9:30 PM							CounterSpin	21:30
10:00 PM	Le Show with Harry Shearer	Democracy Now	Democracy Now	Democracy Now	Democracy Now	Democracy Now	Song of the Soul	22:00
10:30 PM								22:30
11:00 PM	Best of The Attitude	The Attitude with Arnie Arnesen	The Attitude with Arnie Arnesen	The Attitude with Arnie Arnesen	The Attitude with Arnie Arnesen	The Attitude with Arnie Arnesen	What's The Frequency, Kenneth?	23:00
11:30 PM								23:30
* Veterans For Peace Radio Hour airs monthly on the last Mon 1pm, Tue 7pm, and Wed 8am.								
^ Body Justice airs monthly on the second Wed 5pm, Thu 12am, and Fri 6pm.								



Judge Denise Clayton speaking at the release of the report on parental incarceration and children's health at Actors Theatre. Photograph by Lafayierre Mitchell.

JUSTICE (continued from page 1)

grassroots level. LFJA is a “new” coalition, yet it is more than two years in the making. And even before that, The Special Project, a lead partner in the coalition, originated weekly artmaking sessions with families in the Visitors Lobby of the Metro Louisville Jail beginning in 2008.

With the support of the Louisville Fellowship of Reconciliation, Inc. serving as fiscal sponsor over the last two years, the Special Project expanded its weekly artmaking activities to working for more fair and equitable policies and practices for children and families with incarcerated loved ones. In 2018, the Special Project partnered with Metro Louisville Center for Health Equity to produce a Health Impact Assessment showing how parental incarceration harms children’s health, especially children of color, in our community. Combining research and solutions, the report recommends corrective local actions to address this urgent public health concern.

Develop and maintain a strong equity analysis

According to Nation Public Radio, the “word of the year” for 2018 was “social justice.” Based on my personal experience, there are about as many definitions of social justice as there are people talking about it, pro and con. Social justice is a great concept, yet meaningful change requires a strong equity analysis linking individual behavior, social, economic, and cultural root causes, and the systems of power that feed root causes and behavior.

An equity framework enables comparative analysis and reveals disproportionate impacts. For example, all children may be harmed by parental incarceration. Yet, an equity lens reveals that children of color in Jefferson County are disproportionately affected because of the racial disparities in incarceration.

Practice collective impact, alignment, and art-making

Coalition is another word that carries lots of different meanings. Clearly, a coalition involves more than one group or organization, yet often the how and why of coalition work is not readily apparent. Collective impact is a strong component that requires taking time for careful alignment of goals and actions. Art-making is a valuable tool for inspiring new ways of thinking, social connections, and energetic engagement, although way too seldom taken seriously in doing justice.

Focusing on our local criminal justice system, LFJA is working on two positive actions to directly improve the health of children with incarcerated parents: (1) creating a pilot program for District Court judges to consider Family Responsibility Statements when a defendant is a custodial parent and (2) making the case for improving conditions for family video visitations and consider alternative technologies and practices.

Doing justice amid chaos and division requires ordinary people to take extraordinary actions to address mass incarceration and other pressing social injustices. The more we share strategies and develop mutual support, the more hope there is for substantive social change now.

Louisville Family Justice Advocates welcomes all participants. You can get involved by emailing familyjusticeadvocates@gmail.com.



Judi Jennings is a native of Kentucky with deep roots in the coalfields of Appalachia. The first in her family to attend college, she earned a Ph.D in British History, and is the author of books and articles on the abolition of the British slave trade. She worked at Appalshop, Inc. a media, arts and education center in eastern Kentucky, served as founding director of the UofL Women's Center and directed the Kentucky Foundation for Women from 1998 through 2014. She currently directs the Special Project, focusing on creating weekly artmaking activities to strengthen protective factors for children and families in the visitor's lobby of the Metro Louisville Jail.

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
- APPAF [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 - MARCH 2019

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

Mar 1 to 31 » 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>.

Mar 1 TO 31 » 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>.

Mar 2 (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>.

Mar 2 (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>.

Mar 2 (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>.

Mar 2 (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 <http://louisvillehabitat.org/>.

Mar 2 (Sat) » CANVAS 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>.

Mar 3 (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>.

Mar 3 (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, 262-0148 or e-mail FORnonviolence@gmail.com.

Mar 5 (Tues) » CONSOLING PARENTS. Meeting at First Lutheran Church every Tuesday at 6:30PM. Meet others who know the loss of miscarriage, stillbirth, and newborn death. Call 629-2103 for more information.

Mar 5 (Tues) » DANCING FOR VETERANS WITH PTSD. 6PM. Enjoy live music, dance and community. Every Tuesday until April 9th. Visit www.dancingwell.org.

Mar 6 (Wed) » VOLUNTEER FOR REFUGEE FAMILIES Catholic Charites, 5:30pm. First Wednesday every month. Learn more about our refugee & immigration settlement program and family assistance efforts. Visit <http://ccclou.org>.

Mar 6 (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.

Mar 7 (Thurs) » KENTUCKY SINGLE PAYER HEALTH CARE. Every first & third Thursday, 5:30PM at Main Public Library. Call Kay Tillow 636-1551.

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Mar 7 (Thurs) » DEADLINE TO SUBMIT EVENTS FOR THE APRIL ISSUE OF FORsooth. Every first Thursday. Please email calendar.peace@gmail.com.

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Mar 9 (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.

Mar 9 (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 contact Jean at jmchri@gmail.com or call 502-634-3114.

Mar 10 (Sun) » VIGIL FOR PEACE. Louisville Peace Action Committee (LPAC) and Veterans for Peace Chapter 168, 4PM to 5PM. Every 2nd Sunday. Bardstown Rd. at Douglas Blvd. Bring a sign. Remember those suffering from conflicts in the Middle East. For more information, call Harold Trainer, 502-419-4083.

Mar 10 (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.

Mar 12 (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.

Mar 12 (Tues) » AMERICANA COMMUNITY CENTER, 6pm, Volunteer orientation every 2nd Tuesday. Help bridge the gap for our refugee and immigrant neighbors. Visit <http://americanacc.org>.

Mar 12 (Tues) » COOPERATIVE GAMES WORKSHOP. Peace Education Program, 8:30AM to 3PM. Learn to play cooperative games to build social skills and sustain relationships. Visit <https://peaceeducationprogram.org>.

Mar 13 (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.

Mar 13 (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.

Mar 13 (Wed) » LOUISVILLE FORUM. Noon at Vincenzo’s Downtown. Every 2nd Wednesday. Speakers on current public issues. Non-partisan discussion. For details call, 329-0111.

Mar 13 (Wed) » COMPASSIONATE LOUISVILLE. Noon. Meeting locations rotate. Help monitor the progress of Metro Louisville ten-year campaign for compassion. Visit <http://compassionatelouisville.weebly.com> for more information.

Mar 14 (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/volunteer/>.

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Mar 14 (Thurs) » DEADLINE TO SUBMIT ARTICLES FOR THE MAY ISSUE OF FORsooth. Email submissions to adamkhayat10@gmail.com.

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Mar 15 (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 <https://www.louisville-astro.org/>.

Mar 15 » 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.

Mar 17 to 23 » HAND IN HAND MINISTRIES. Work side by side with people who live and work in vulnerable communities. Visit <http://www.myhandinhand.org>.

Mar 19 (Tues) » WEST JEFFERSON COUNTY COMMUNITY TASK FORCE. Meeting at the NIA Center every 3rd Tuesday at 6PM. Help us examine and assess community environmental concerns. Call 852-4609 for more information.

Mar 20 (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.

Mar 21 (Thurs) » CHAT WITH POLICE. 6PM. Open dialogue with police officers. Meeting places rotate month to month. Visit <https://louisvilleky.gov/events>.

Mar 21 (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.

Mar 21 (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.

Mar 21 (Thurs) » LEARNING DIFFERENCES SUPPORT & ADVOCACY. Learning Disabilities Association of Kentucky every third Thursday at 7PM. Support for individuals and families. Call 473-1256 for more information.

Mar 21 (Thurs) » THIRD THURSDAY LUNCH. Co-sponsored by FOR and the Sowers of Justice Network at Hotel Louisville. Hear compelling speakers on current concerns and issues of justice, compassion, faith, and public policy. Lunch begins at 11:30AM, presentation begins at 12 noon. RSVP to Pat Geier by the Monday prior at 609-7985 or pgeier@fastmail.fm. *See page 6 for more details about this month’s event.*

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Mar 21 (Thurs) » FORsooth LABELING PARTY. Louisville Presbyterian Seminary, Winn Center. 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.

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Mar 26 (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.

Mar 26 (Tues) » KENTUCKY REFUGEE MINISTRIES LUNCH & LEARN. Noon. Learn more about our refugee & immigration settlement program and citizenship tutoring classes. Visit <http://kyrm.org>.

Mar 31 to Apr 5 » THOMAS MERTON WITH ROAD SCHOLAR PROGRAM. Travel with friends and share your interest in Merton’s life and works. Visit <http://merton.org>.

OUT OF TOWN

Mar 4 (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.

Mar 5 to 26 » FAIRNESS MEETINGS. ACLU of KY. 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>.

Mar 7 (Thurs) » INTERFAITH PRAYER VIGIL FOR PEACE. Lexington, KY at West Main and Broadway, 5:30PM to 6:30PM. Every Thursday for twelve years. For more information, visit <http://www.peaceandjusticeky.org>.

Mar 21 (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.

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

Mar 2 (Sat) » ENGLISH CONVERSATION CLUB. Every Saturday at the Iroquois Public Library, 3PM. Also Main Library on Wednesdays at 7PM and Shively Public Library on Thursdays at 6:30PM.

Mar 2 (Sat) » HOUR OF POWER BOOK DISCUSSIONS. Newburg Public Library, every first Saturday at 2PM. Discuss books on personal efforts

Mar 2 & 20 » BILINGUAL & SOUND STORYTIME. South Central Public Library, 6:30PM. Hear a story and enjoy a performance.

Mar 4 (Mon) » INTERMEDIATE SPANISH. South Central Public Library, 6:30PM. Every Monday. Increase comprehensive and oral expression.

Mar 7 (Thurs) » CITIZENSHIP CLASS. Iroquois Public Library, 11AM. Every Thursday. Instruction by Kentucky Refugee Ministries

Mar 8 (Wed) » READING KANAFANI IN KENTUCKY. South Central Public Library, 6:30PM. Dr. Russel Vandenbroucke will direct a staged reading of a new theatrical adaptation of Ghassen Kanafani’s “Returning to Haifa.” *See ad on page 4.*

Mar 9 (Sat) » WOMEN OF THE WORLD. Iroquois Public Library, 1PM. Learn more about women and girls who are making a difference.

Mar 12 (Tues) » IMMIGRATION STORIES. Main Public Library, 6:30PM. Here the stories of Louisville immigrants.

Mar 13 (Wed) » FUNDRAISING FOR NONPROFITS. Main Public Library, 1:30PM. Learn the basics of developing a fundraising plan.

Mar 20 (Wed) » BOOKS ON GLOBAL SOLIDARITY. Main Public Library, 12PM. Discuss contemporary books by authors from all over the world. (aka Mayor’s Book Club)

Mar 21 (Thurs) » WOMEN’S BOOK CLUB. South Central Public Library, 7PM. Join our discussion of books of interest to women.

Mar 23 (Sat) » FRENCH CIRCLE. Iroquois Public Library, 12:30PM. Join our conversation in French.

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