

FORsooth

New assignment plan gets mixed grade

by George Morrison
FORsooth editor

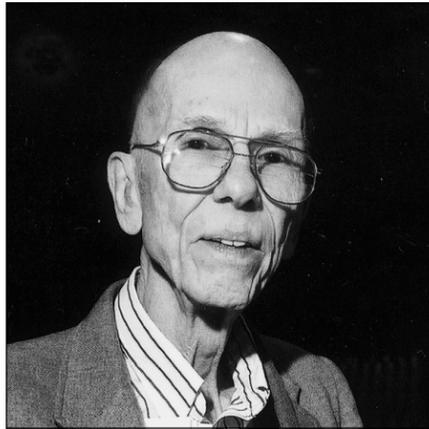
A proposal by the Jefferson County Public Schools to largely preserve racial integration while conforming to the June U.S. Supreme Court ruling reducing assignment based on race drew - just as did the June ruling itself - mixed reviews from Louisville justice activists.

Under the JCPS proposal, a more complex set of guidelines than simply race itself would determine to which schools many students are assigned, a method superintendent Sheldon Berman has said is geared to maintain integration while complying with the Supreme Court decision, which resulted from one white Louisville parent's suit and another action by Seattle parents.

"I feel that they came up with a very creative and very workable plan," said Tom Moffett, who is white and lives in the African-American Park Du Valle neighborhood. "What they've come up with may be quite a bit better than we've had in the past.... It takes into account... what the income levels and education levels are."

Moffett, a member of the board of the Kentucky Alliance Against Racist & Political Repression, said he was speaking only for himself and that the alliance had not yet taken a stand on the JCPS proposal.

Under the plan, all JCPS schools would have to enroll at least 15 percent and no more than 50 percent of their students from neigh-



Tom Moffett

borhoods that have income and education levels below the district average, and higher than average numbers of minorities.

Justice Resource Center founder Rev. Louis Coleman said the new proposal, like the de-segregation plans that have preceded it since busing began in 1975, fails to put a badly needed emphasis on improving schools in poor and minority neighborhoods, which he sees as more important than racial balance in schools.

One way to address the needs of minority and poor students, Coleman, maintained, is to assign the best teachers to their schools, rather than to bus students.

"I still believe the best plan is when you have the best teachers working with



— photos by Eddie Davis
Rev. Louis Coleman

the schools that are most at risk," he said. "We're moving students. I think we ought to be moving teachers."

Coleman said emphasis also should be on expanding programs like the JRC's Street Academy, a once-a-week session for black males in certain elementary grades in which research has shown males are vulnerable to problems.

"Up to the third grade these black boys do well," Coleman said. "After (the start of) the fourth grade to the sixth grade there's a tremendous drop.... On every Saturday from one o'clock to four o'clock we have 35 to 40 black boys. We work on their math skills and their reading and

(continued on page 2)

Speaker: courage at Selma still inspires

by Eustace Durrett
and Ike M. Thacker IV

Before Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s march to Selma, Ala. in 1965, most blacks there cooperated with their oppression because of fear and intimidation, DeBorah Gilbert White told the Louisville FOR's Third Thursday Lunch Feb. 21.

Although White said covert and overt fetters of oppression were overcome there by the march, she recalled the statement of

Gracie Lewis writes about the Jena 6 case on page two.

an organizer for the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee, who before the march wrote the city of Selma off as backward after a visit there. Courage and hope were scarce indeed, but needed, said White, associate for cultural proficiency at the Presbyterian Church, USA.

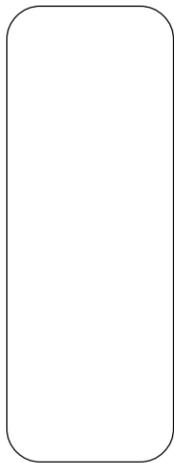
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Wheels of justice

Pedaling and peddling a message that non-polluting transportation prevents war, organizers of Peace Transit (above) launch the circum-national bicycle relay in November in Louisville's Cherokee Triangle neighborhood by a statue of, ironically, confederate major general John Breckinridge Castleman. Bikers are riding in portions of 30 to 100 miles, organizer Jackie Green of Louisville said, and pass a baton (left) at each stop. In February the ride reached Alabama and it is slated to go through Miami, New York, Chicago, the west coast and back to Louisville by summer 2009, Green said. For more information or to become a rider, contact him at (502) 583-2268.

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God said no weapon against the Jena six shall prosper

by Gracie Lewis

As we here in Louisville were participating in the 40th anniversary celebration of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., The National Movement, a white supremacist group from Learned, Miss., was marching on Jena, La. spreading hatred and supposedly sending a message to the 20,000 or so people who descended on Jena in September 2007.

I am not surprised about their march. Jim Crow democracy is alive and well here in America. Now where is the LaSalle Parish District Attorney Reed Walters. who threatened to take his pen and destroy the life of Mychal Bell and the Jena Six?

This march is "domestic terrorism." Where are the arrest warrants for these racists who are violating the hate crimes legislation as we celebrate Dr. Martin Luther King Day? Where is the Justice Department of civil rights now?

This is why the 20,000 or so protestors who were "young, gifted and black" should remain together and form defense committees to "Free the Jena Six." Although there has been a plea bargain

entered, this case is not over. So, we have to keep having serious discussions about Jim and James Crow terrorism.

Every day for 350 years, there was some man or woman hanging from a tree, about which Billie Holiday one day found herself singing "Strange Fruit." We are not afraid of the actions of The National Movement or the KKK. My God promised that "no weapon formed against the Jena Six shall prosper."

If the U.S. Justice Department has not seen fit to prosecute the three students who hung the nooses on school property, then the social justice movement must continue until "Justice rolls down like a mighty stream!"

We need to let the world see the continuing racism in America. Dr. King's dream is a reality; but it is left up to a new generation of leaders to ensure they fully understand that freedom is not free! Frederick Douglas said, "Where there is no struggle, there is no progress."

On October 16, hearings on the Jena Six were held before the powerful United States House Judiciary Committee chaired by Congressman John Conyers (D-MI).

The recent events in Jena, La. have highlighted the importance of continuing the struggle against white supremacy that must be completed in the area of civil rights and race relations in the United States.

If you are serious about Dr. Martin Luther King's "Beloved Community," this is your time to be heard. Contact the House Judiciary Committee at 202-225-3951. Fax 202-225-7680. You may review the website: www.judiciary.house/gov.

This will give a new generation of leaders the courage to stand up and fight for their rights. This is the real meaning of the civil rights movement. Timing is very important. Young folks, get busy. This is a call for action! You can't just wiggle your way through a crisis.

The writer co-chairs the Black Caucus of the Kentucky Alliance Against Racist & Political Repression.

Trees to be given April 5

Residents and businesses of Louisville's Belknap neighborhood are celebrating Kentucky Arbor Day Saturday, April 5 by giving away 800 seedlings from the Kentucky Division of Forestry to anyone who promises to plant and nurture a tree to adulthood.

The 12-to-24 inch bare root seedlings of canopy species will mature into 70-to-120-foot-tall trees, organizer Stephen R. Spanyer said, adding that they will include Oaks, Hickories, Kentucky Coffeetrees and other varieties.

The giveaway will start at 9 a.m. and end at 3 p.m., rain or shine, and will be at Warheim Park, 1832 Overlook Terrace, four blocks from the Douglas Loop (balloons from the loop to the park will mark the way), Spanyer said.

The event will include refreshments, entertainment and much advice from foresters, arborists, environmental activists and naturalists, he added. For more information, contact the Belknap Arbor Day Committee at (502) 459-1405 or BelknapNeighborhood.org.

Assignment plan *(continued from page 1)*

English skills, and we work on their behavior problems."

The Street Academy has had the backing of the JCPS under recent superintendent Stephen Daeschner, Coleman, said, adding that The Louisville Urban League, the Rainbow Coalition and retired University of Louisville professor Joseph McMillian have also helped organize the academy.

Coleman said he hopes JCPS, which refers at-risk students to the academy, will refer more so the academy will expand. He also hopes to open an academy for girls and said organizers will soon talk to Berman about expansion and co-education.

The Jefferson County Board of Education will vote on the new student assignment proposal in May, after several public forums. Many activists said they will eagerly attend the forums to learn more about the proposal or gauge community sentiment on it, including Suzy Post, a longtime racial justice activist and one of the original plaintiffs in the 1972 lawsuit that brought busing to Louisville.

She wasn't familiar enough with the proposal's details to make a judgment on it, but said it shows the school system is committed to achieving racial integration.

"All I can say is that I believe that (school officials) want to. Whether they will be able to I don't know. I think they're making a genuine effort," Post said.

U of L College of Arts and Sciences dean J. Blaine Hudson said he too will try to learn more about the proposal's details at hearings.

"I think the goal that JCPS has in mind of maintaining as much diversity as possible is a worthy goal," Hudson said. "Whether this is the plan to do that remains to be seen."

Maintaining racial balance in the schools

in light of the limits put on JCPS by the June 28 ruling, Hudson added, is "going to take a lot of creativity and also I think the community is going to have a look at the other side of the problem we seldom talk about and that is segregated housing patterns."

He said increasing enforcement of open housing and other anti-discrimination laws and working toward economic equality are the best ways to integrate housing and, consequently, schools.

Moffett said maintaining racial balance in the schools is crucial to providing an equal education.

"It's the only way, in my opinion, that this community is willing to devote equal resources for the education of black children," he said. "So I think it's very fortunate that the school board and administration want to continue this plan."

Coleman, noting disproportionately high rates of suspensions of and drop outs by black students, said mere numerical integration isn't enough to truly equalize education. He also is concerned about racial achievement gaps and what he called "push outs."

"Push outs are students who have gotten so disgusted with the school system and the traditional program that they feel they are no longer part of the process," he said. "These are students who have low grades in the classroom and others are passing them by.... These young people eventually quit school."

Moffett acknowledged the need to improve teaching and learning, adding a hopeful note regarding at what officials under Berman's administration have hinted.

"They've already talked about reducing class sizes," Moffett said. "No matter how much you spread the black and white children around, if you don't do a good job in the schools it doesn't do a lot of good."



FOR's Mission Statement

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



Founded 1915

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

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Part one: social organization and the worldwide crisis

Following is the first portion of remarks by Ira Grupper Jan. 9, speaking as one of three panelists at a planning meeting of the Kentucky Interfaith Taskforce on Latin America and the Caribbean (KITLAC). Part two will run in the April FORsooth. The topic was "Notable victories and successes in Latin America, and possible flashpoints or things to watch."

There is little that can adequately characterize the depth of the crisis spawned by capitalist globalization. Hunger, disease and crippling poverty afflict billions in many parts of the world. Latin America has its fair share of these inequalities, if we can call it "fair."

At home in the U.S., we face a growing crisis in health care, wage stagnation, education, military aggression and human rights abuses against major constituencies, especially oppressed nationalities and immigrants. While we battle to stem the tide of oppression and to build a progressive majority to effect a significant turn in the nation's politics and economic structure, we need to turn our attention also to fundamental underlying issues of social organization that impact the lives and collective fortunes of people all over the world.

Unless we undertake this challenge, we may be left with significant resistance and important victories, but we will never rid our society, and the world, of the economic and social relations that are the root causes of today's problems. Yet we know that there exist the natural resources, technology and people power to feed every woman, man and child on the face of the

earth. The problem is distribution, or rather unequal distribution, and the rapacious economic system behind it.

All of what I have just laid out describes the universality of the problem. But I am charged tonight with honing in, not on the universality, but rather the particularity of Latin America, so here we go.

Back in the 1980s, I was in Mexico City, staying at the Hotel María Cristina, then a fading example of opulence. We ventured out to a small town. Poverty was everywhere, except for the Catholic Church, whose insides were encrusted in pure gold.

I was in socialist Venezuela last year, and saw people getting free and high-quality health care, and I visited "mercals," government-subsidized supermarkets with reasonable prices.

In a January 7 article, "Why Bolivia Matters," Laura Carlson (Foreign Policy in Focus) writes:

"During the colonial period the Spanish exploited the country's mineral wealth without mercy, leading to the death of hundreds of thousands of indigenous mineworkers and uprisings that punctuated the nation's history with blood and legends. Between forced labor, the war of independence, and European diseases, the new nation began its life as a republic rich in natural resources but with a decimated populace. In the words of an historian in 1831, Bolivia was like 'a beggar seated on a throne of gold.' ...

"The government of President Evo Morales came to power in January 2006 with bold plans to change all this. Its main promise to its indigenous and impoverished base of support was to reform the constitution to

assure the indigenous majority the full exercise of its citizenship, and to redistribute national wealth in favor of the poor.

"Despite winning an absolute majority in the 2005 presidential elections, the Morales administration has had considerable difficulty leveraging its political capital into an efficient reform process...

"Bolivia has sought renegotiation of its Free Trade Agreement (FTA) with Mexico as well as opposing an FTA with the United States, while signing a People's Trade Agreement with Venezuela and Cuba. In March of 2006 the government stated it would not seek to renew its standby agreement with the IMF.

"The response of the Bush administration to the Morales government has been hostile but guarded."

KITLAC resides in the belly of the beast. Naomi Klein, in the Nov. 26, 2007 issue of the Nation, writes about this beast, its prey, and the fightback. Her article is entitled "Latin America's Shock Resistance."

"In less than two years, the lease on the largest and most important U.S. military base in Latin America will run out. The base is in Manta, Ecuador, and Rafael Correa, the country's leftist president, has pronounced that he will renew the lease 'on one condition: that they let us put a base in Miami — an Ecuadorean base. If there is no problem having foreign soldiers on a country's soil, surely they'll let us have an Ecuadorean base in the United States.'

"Since an Ecuadorean military outpost in South Beach is a long shot, it is very likely that the Manta base, which serves as a staging area for the 'war on drugs,' will

soon shut down. Correa's defiant stand is not, as some have claimed, about anti-Americanism. Rather, it is part of a broad range of measures being taken by Latin American governments to make the continent less vulnerable to externally provoked crises and shocks.

"This is a crucial development because for the past thirty-five years in Latin America, such shocks from outside have served to create the political conditions required to justify the imposition of "shock therapy" — the constellation of corporate-friendly "emergency" economic measures like large-scale privatizations and deep cuts to social spending that debilitate the state in the name of free markets.

"In one of his most influential essays, the late economist Milton Friedman articulated contemporary capitalism's core tactical nostrum, what I call the shock doctrine. He observed that 'only a crisis — actual or perceived — produces real change. When that crisis occurs, the actions that are taken depend on the ideas that are lying around.'

"Latin America has always been the prime laboratory for this doctrine. Friedman first learned how to exploit a large-scale crisis in the mid-1970s, when he advised Chilean dictator Gen. Augusto Pinochet... Friedman advised Pinochet to impose a rapid-fire transformation of the economy — tax cuts, free trade, privatized services, cuts to social spending and deregulation. It was the most extreme capitalist makeover ever attempted, and it became known as a Chicago School revolution, since so many of Pinochet's top aides and ministers had studied under Friedman at the University of Chicago."

Ira Grupper writes the monthly Labor Paeans column in FORsooth. He is a retired factory worker, a former delegate to the Greater Louisville Central Labor Council, and has been an officer in many civic organizations. He has visited Central and South America and the Caribbean and lived in Israel for six months. He has spent much time in the West Bank, Gaza Strip and Amman, Jordan. Contact him at: irag@iglou.com.



Witness for Peace 25th Anniversary Delegation to Guatemala

June 12-23, 2008

As a way to mark 25 years of service and solidarity with the people of Latin America, Witness for Peace is organizing several delegations to the region this summer to Guatemala, Nicaragua, Chiapas (Mexico), Venezuela and Colombia.

The delegation to Guatemala will be led by **Father Jim Flynn**, a WFP Board Member and an active participant in its programs since the beginning. Fr. Flynn invites his friends and allies in Kentucky to join with him in this experience this summer.

The delegation will make the connections between the proposed CAFTA agreements and the immigration issue in the United States. (CAFTA is the Central American Free Trade Agreement.) Delegates will,

- ⊘ interview people from various sectors of Guatemalan society and will travel for a couple of days/nights to a town in the north-central part of Guatemala from which many have emigrated to the U.S.
- ⊘ interview someone in the U.S. Embassy in Guatemala City about the issue of migration from that country
- ⊘ after returning from Guatemala, delegates will be invited to Washington, DC, for a day of talking to our Congresspersons about what we will have seen and heard. That day will be followed by a day of "celebrating 25 years of WITNESS FOR PEACE". Return to home will be on June 24.

Cost on the ground in Guatemala: \$1,000 (includes all transportation, lodging, food and stipends for speakers). Air fare is separate, but approximately \$900 (including a stop in DC). **Applications by April 30.**

For more information contact Fr. Jim Flynn jflynn@stmarysparkcity.com



Peace signs on a candidate's night

Invited or not, two ask Hillary and Bill to mull war's effects

by Lee Lewis

On caucus night in Iowa I stood in the ballroom of the Hotel Fort Des Moines among hundreds of people waiting for Hillary Clinton to appear to give her election night speech after the first votes of the 2008 presidential election were cast.

It was a packed ballroom and the whole world was watching. Would Hillary Clinton surprise the naysayers and eke out a victory over Barack Obama? Or would her front of invincibility finally be broken?

Neither mattered to me because I was there simply to make a point about how disastrous the war in Iraq had turned out by staging a simple protest — unveiling an “End the War” sign and holding it in the air for both Hillary and Bill to see while she spoke and the world watched.

I had no intention of interrupting her speech. I just simply hoped that she would notice and possibly remember the children on the other side of the world who would go to sleep without a home — refugees in their own country.

Over the last few years I had become convinced that the war in Iraq was a horrible mistake and, at age 39, that it was the biggest mistake my country had made in my lifetime. My life had changed dramatically since 1994 when I had worked for Hugh Rodham, the brother of the woman and presidential candidate that I was now protesting.

As her speech began, I stood in the doorway of the ballroom and tried to make my way with my friend Suzanne through the crowd where mobs of people were

pushing up against each other jockeying for the best view.

As her speech continued a few people began to leave trying to escape the mass of people.

My friend and I made our move and began walking forward through the crowd holding our blue and white “End the War” signs, which made for a colorful contrast to the green and white “AFSCME for Hillary” signs and the red, white, and blue “Hillary for President” signs.

We made it all the way to the center of the room holding our signs in the air but being

in the world and ending the war in Iraq.

At that moment I yelled out as loud as I could: “End the War” two or three times. I knew that if I was going to get away with a shout this was going to be the moment.

A few short minutes later she finished her speech and the crowd started to move forward. My friend and I started to step forward and the moment had finally arrived that I had been wondering about since we unveiled our signs.

A Hillary staffer got to me and grabbed my sign. I held my ground and did not let go while my friend continued stepping forward.

“I just simply hoped that she would notice and possibly remember the children on the other side of the world who would go to sleep without a home.”

careful enough not to cause a disruption that would get us removed. After all, our goal was for Hillary to see us holding our “End the War” signs while she spoke. It didn't matter to us if anybody else saw them.

After it became apparent to me that Bill Clinton saw our signs and knew we were there, Hillary had to see us as well. She never once displayed any sign of pausing or slowing down. Hillary was too much of a professional to get distracted by us or show any sign of interruption. Shortly after I knew that we had been seen by Hillary and Bill she went into the part of her speech about restoring America's place

I asked him not to take it from me and he said that it was not supposed to be in the room.

Since my friend and I had already accomplished what we had set out to, I told him that I would put it away, so I folded it up and stuck it in my shirt. He asked me if I had a ticket to be there and I replied no. He then took my arm and started escorting me out of the room.

I motioned to my friend to continue forward as the staffer had not even recognized that I wasn't alone. I told him that I didn't have any problem leaving as I walked out the door of the ballroom. He said that this was a private event and that I

had to go down to the hotel lobby. As I walked down the stairs he directed security to watch me and not let me back in.

My life, ambitions and politics have evolved a lot since 1994. I no longer see Hillary as an agent of change as I once did back in 1994, when I saw her championing universal healthcare and taking on the Washington establishment as a woman that was clearly ahead of her time.

She has become part of a broken system that allows an irresponsible and unjust occupation of a sovereign nation to continue.

The war in Iraq represents much more than the world's most powerful country making war on an oil rich nation to remove a dictator from power so it can exploit its vast natural resources.

It is rather about complete global, economic, social and political domination by an imperialist nation seeking to assert its will over the rest of the world. Unfortunately, our presidential candidates are buying into the rhetoric of American preeminence in the world and, in fact, our broken system requires them to.

Dorothy Day couldn't have been more right when she said that our problems stem from our acceptance of this filthy, rotten system.

The writer is a Louisville-based peace activist who was a participant in SODAPOP: Seasons of Our Discontent: A Presidential Occupation Project in Des Moines, Iowa, that was sponsored by Voices for Creative Non-Violence and the Des Moines Catholic Worker Community.

Courage at Selma *(continued from page 1)*

Similarly, White said her children have needed the courage to hope; she explained that her son was arrested for the “crime” of “driving while black” on a suburban street and her daughter was told in front of her whole college class by a black male professor at a traditionally black university that she would never “amount to much” because she didn't talk “white” enough.

Courage and hope were what King provided in Selma, White said. As oppression was overcome there, it is important for us to understand how, so we can act similarly, she said, adding that having this courage to hope also lets us see more clearly how we react to people who in whatever way are different from us.

White spoke at the lunch as part of Black History Month. She began by proclaiming that we may be at the beginning of a whole new political age. It is, she said, an exciting time to be alive. As regards the overcoming of racism, White said that we have come a long way but still have a long way to go.

White was 11 years old and living in New York City — thus far removed from southern racism — on April 4, 1968, when Martin Luther King Jr. was shot, she said. She knew only vaguely of King but knew that he was a good man and a spiritual man; she said his murder ended the innocence both of White and of the civil rights movement.

White, who is doing research on the march to Selma, closed by quoting a verse from one of her favorite hymns: “Lift every voice and sing, Till earth and heaven ring.... Let us march on, Till victory is won.”

Louisville activist Gracie Lewis followed White with an excellent history of the Jena 6 travesty, noting that Jena, La. is far from being the only place where racism is “alive and well.”

She described a list of similar events, including a noose being found hung to intimidate a black female

Columbia University professor and a racist cartoon being run in the University of Kentucky student newspaper.

Lewis concluded the day's presentations by focusing on what we can do to oppose racism (have our grandchildren do papers on lynching and show them the movie “Roots,” among other things) and then by quoting King that a nation that continues to spend more on war than social programs is “approaching spiritual doom.”

Cathy Hinko, executive director of the Metropolitan Housing Coalition, will talk at the March 20 Third Thursday Lunch at the Rudyard Kipling restaurant, 422 W. Oak St. in Louisville, on the foreclosure crisis and the need for affordable housing. For reservations for the \$7 lunch, which starts at 11:30 a.m., call Mary Ann Lambert at (502) 425-3844 or Polly Johnson at (502) 473-8435 by March 18.

**On Wednesday, March 5th, at 7 pm,
the Henry Wallace Brigade invites you to join us at the
Monkey Wrench for the Louisville Premiere of *Salud!*
directed by Academy Award Nominee Connie Field**

A powerful film about conflicting values and the urgency of ensuring the universal right to health care. Beautifully filmed in Cuba, South Africa, Gambia, Honduras and Venezuela, *Salud!* reveals the human dimension of the world wide health care crisis, and the central role of international cooperation in addressing glaring inequalities. The film examines the remarkable case of Cuba, recognized as having, as the BBC says “one of the best health care systems in the world,” and accompanies some of the 28,000 Cuban Health Professionals now serving in 68 countries. *Salud!* makes us question why the richest country in the world still has millions of men women and children suffering without any kind of health care.

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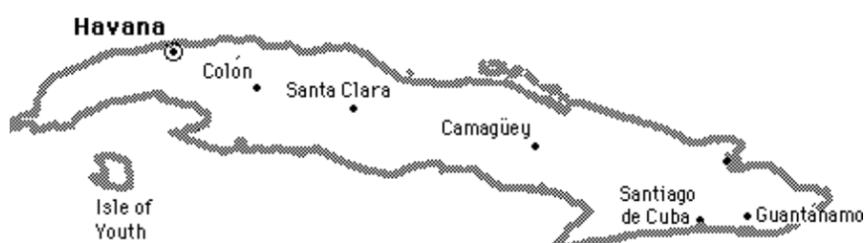
Inventos, Hip Hop Cubano a film by Eli Jacobs-Fantauzzi
“*Inventos*” chronicles the dynamic hip-hop movement inside Cuba today, the challenges it faces and the incredible energy, beauty and hope of the artists.

**Wednesday March 5th at the Monkey Wrench,
1025 Barrett Avenue 7 pm - 10 pm**

Salud! will start at 7:15 followed by *Inventos* at 8:45

Come join us, grab something to eat and prepared to be inspired!!! Help us with a donation to support the brigade which will be helping to build the

Henry Wallace Community Center for the Elderly in La Guinera Cuba this spring. Call 558 3568 for more info.



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Roundtable calls area 'fertile ground for social justice'

by Ike M. Thacker IV
and Eustace Durrett

If 21st Century U.S. social justice movements, such as the FOR, are to succeed, knowledge of their 20th century history is essential.

With this belief in mind, seven people discussed social justice research in the Ohio Valley at a roundtable Jan 15.

As the first speaker, J. Blaine Hudson, Dean of U of L's College of Arts and Sciences, noted that there is an inherent tension between the two basic responsibilities of researchers, and especially of social justice researchers: the responsibility to tell the "truth" (accurately) and the responsibility to "make a difference" in a society in desperate need of change.

This he noted on what, tragically, only *would* have been Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s 79th birthday in an auditorium named, ironically, to honor our current conservative secretary of labor (and wife of Sen. Mitch McConnell), Elaine Chao.

The discussion brought acclaimed researchers from around the region to talk about some related issues with some of U of L's own (lifelong) students, including Hudson and Cate Fosl, associate professor in U of L's Department of Women's and Gender Studies and Director of the University's Anne Braden Institute for Social Justice Research, which, along with The Filson Historical Society, sponsored the roundtable.

The program was geared to celebrate publication of The Filson Historical Society journal *Ohio Valley History's* special issue, "Twentieth Century Social Justice Movements in the Ohio Valley," and the opening of Anne Braden's Papers at the U of L Archives.

Hudson went on to note that the Ohio Valley at different times in its past has

linked West and East and then (in the years surrounding the Civil War, and after) South and North in this country. As such, he said, it is fertile ground for social justice and other research, for example into the underground railroad.

As if to prove Hudson correct, Fosl followed his presentation with a similarly brief one of her own, touting the relevance of the Braden Papers for the "history" of Anne Braden herself (The Filson Society dates the "Twentieth Century" as 1924-2006 to honor Braden's lifespan) and (less obviously) for research into such current or recent phenomena as the Meredith Supreme Court re-segregation ruling. She said that the institute was "just getting started" — it won't be a year old until April — and pointed out that Angela Davis herself spoke at the funeral for Anne Braden's husband, Carl, in 1975. During the Q & A session that followed the presentations, Fosl also pointed out that the Institute is studying the "digital divide:" race and class issues around the internet.

The burden of the longer presentation by Tracy E. K'Meyer, Associate Professor of History at U of L, had to do with the movement for a West End Council (WEC) in the poor black western part of Louisville that would be partially if not totally separate from Louisville's city government. K'Meyer's main argument was that the integrationists and Black Power advocates were *not* at loggerheads: there was even some overlapping of personnel! She also dealt at some length with the open housing movement of 1967.

James E. Cebula, Professor of History at the University of Cincinnati and a 40-year member of the Kennedy Heights Community Council, followed K'Meyer and said that his research has been largely in Cincinnati for the University of Cincinnati, and has often dealt with labor

history. He made a persuasive pitch for preserving the records of America's disappearing labor unions (pointing out that archiving in general is getting less and less funding as time goes on), and asked the interesting question of how one preserves the ever-more-prevalent *electronic* records.

The next presenter, Rhonda Mawhood Lee, an Independent scholar and priest in the Episcopal Church, USA, in Durham, North Carolina, was perhaps the highlight of the evening. Her article in *Ohio Valley History* focused on the Louisville chapter of FOR, a true marvel of resiliency and staying power, and on the most radical of its activities, its participation in the sanctuary movement of the 1980s.

Lee said that she chose the sanctuary movement for three reasons: first, the *historical* objective of complicating our view of the 1980s — not all Christians were conservative; second, the *theological* reason of focusing attention on the Christian admonition not to kill but display (strong) "meekness" by turning the other cheek; and third, the *political* aspect of how a small group in a medium-sized city persevered over the decades.

Now, said Mawhood Lee, although the 1980s had looked bleak, there is sort of a resurgence of FOR-like thinking. She laid out several keys to survival for groups such as the FOR, including: share key beliefs; have good, effective communication; give members and participants some *actions* to take, not just things to think about.

Daniel I. Hurley followed Lee. He is Assistant Vice President for History and Research at the Cincinnati Museum Center, and appropriately began by laying out some Cincinnati sources such as its Urban League papers; the 99 volumes of papers left by Charles Phelps Taft, who spent 30-odd years on the City Council; and sources relating to William Mallory, the first

African-American leader of the Ohio legislature, with whom Hurley has done several hours of oral history (Hurley has 20-plus hours of taped history spoken by Mallory and others). Hurley ended with an exhortation that we "put our work to work:" we have the responsibility of giving historical context to front-page headlines!

One way those of us who live in Louisville can do this is by researching the Anne Braden Papers in the Archives at U of L. Katherine Johnson, Curator and Archivist there, concluded the evening's presentations by laying out the important contents of those papers, which consist of 153 linear feet in 124 volumes — one of the largest collections at U of L, even though not all of the Bradens' papers are included (many of them went north, in this case to Wisconsin, to keep them safe from southern racists).

The 153 linear feet are divided into ten series, from personal records and six boxes of Braden's literary production, to her correspondence and four boxes of teaching materials. The largest series concerns social justice movements (more than 100 boxes), especially the 15 boxes of materials on the SOC (the Southern Organizing Committee). There are many boxes of audio and videotapes, mostly unlabelled photographs and printed materials from organizations, to mention only *some* parts of the treasure trove that these invaluable papers can be for those of us who want to see history written and made not only by the (mostly wealthy) past winners, but rather from the bottom up and for the benefit of all.

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

Third Thursday Lunches

presented by the

Fellowship of Reconciliation

March 20

Fair and Affordable Housing Issues in Louisville

Cathy Hinko, Executive Director of the Metropolitan Housing Coalition, will discuss the need for affordable housing, the segregation of female heads of households and the MHC study on the foreclosure crisis. She will help us see what everyone can do to bring about change.

April 17

Refugees and Our Community

Carol Young, Director, Kentucky Refugee Ministries, will discuss the changing fabric of Louisville and the role that KRM plays in the resettlement of refugees here. She will address such issues as how refugees get to Louisville, why they are being resettled here, how they restart their lives and what they contribute to our community

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



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



Dowd's conclusions insult poets, artists, the spiritual

I thank God that I can thank God for evolution without having to put any faith in Michael Dowd's convoluted and twisted excuse for a reasoning process (FORsooth Feb. 2008, p. 1). The very fact that he calls poetry, metaphor, symbols — the domain of art and spirituality — “night language,” is a flat insult to those of us who are poets, artists, and spiritual, and indicates a distinct bias, a pronounced prejudice. It reminds me of Plato's authoritarian *Republic*, which keeps such people out, branding them as “liars” and “enemies of the state,” which is ruled strictly by elites who think as Plato thinks.

When the theory of evolution first came out, Evangelicals and other Christians accepted it with little problem. It physically backed up the doctrine of inter-relatedness of all creation, going back to the “dust” from which everything is made. It was not until worshippers of materialistic ideology — like T.H. Huxley and Auguste Comte — discovered burgeoning science as a front for their ideology that the battles over evolution started.

Conflating materialistic ideology with science, they planned a universal worship of (materialistic) “science,” with scientists (of their own brand) as the new “highpriests” of the world, and both transcendent religion and transcendent art to be buried abruptly. Fundamentalism, originally an intellectual movement, rose in counter to this.

Since then, the “science-religion,” or “evolution-creation” battles have been fought on false grounds. Real science and true religion have nothing to do with it. The elephant in the room, which neither party will point out, nor much of the media, from their own motives, is that the “controversy” is between science-as-religion, and religion-as-science — two different versions of modern materialism. In the process, both real science and real religion get trashed.

The
People's
Forum
Letters to
FORsooth

Despite its convolutions, Dowd's argument is the old religion-as-mere-subjectivity (therefore, unreal, merely fanciful) vs. science-as-total-objectivity, though the covert meaning given the word “objectivity” is thoroughly materialistic, that being the only “reality.”

The Biblical God is not someone “who can be believed in or not believed in.” Nothing is more manifest to us than God. The classic “proofs” of God, which the materialists frantically try to debunk, are merely localized instances of this overwhelming reality, which is even more existential than it is rational. The Bible merely accepts the reality of God in the presence of people's experiences with God.

When the word “believe” is used in Biblical texts concerning God, the proper meaning is “trust in,” and “have faith in” the God who already knows you, and reaches out to you (Only in Hebrews 11.6b, and James 2:19 is the word “believe” used in the sense of intellectual assent). When one chooses *not* to believe in God, it is in

the teeth of evidence stronger than any demonstration through logic or experiment, or even “gut-feeling.” One chooses not to “believe” in God because to do so challenges one's (or one's group's) ego and appetites — particularly appetite for power and control, which is what materialism, hiding behind science, is really about. *Theirs* is really the “flat-earth” ideology, and they want to flatten us all into their narrow, paper-thin version of things.

So, I can thank God for evolution as one of the myriad ways, science has discovered, creation keeps going on being renewed. As for Dowd, he would be more honorable if he stopped taking his pay from an organization the heart and soul of which he denies and opposes.

He should work, say, for the Ayn Rand foundation, whose ideology he would seem to be much more compatible with — “objectivity.”

S. Harrell,
Louisville

Creation desecrated

Some things are inherently wrong. The deliberate destruction of the mountains in Appalachia — this uncreation of creation — is inherently wrong. The immeasurable negative impact of mountaintop removal mining will be felt for millions of years to come.

It is imperative that we safeguard our precious water, our clean air, the amazing biological diversity found in Appalachia, and the natural beauty with which we have been blessed. These assets are not disposable. They are not replaceable. They are gifts to be cherished and passed on to our descendants.

Yes, we want energy now. And yes, we want jobs for the people in Appalachia now. But blowing up the mountains to get coal is *not* our only option.

A variety of choices are currently available for clean, sustainable energy production and jobs that are life-enhancing rather than life-depleting. True, making the needed changes will be challenging, especially since it is crucial to act quickly. But by working together, summoning our wisdom, determination and creativity, we can embrace whatever changes are necessary to enable the Appalachian land and people not only to survive but to flourish both now and for generations to come.

The choices are ours to make. Now is the time to step out of our old destructive past into a new life-enhancing future.

What action will we take?

Margaret Stewart, Louisville

Change requires we cut ties to violence

On February 14, 2008 my wife and I viewed again the “Caterpillar” film depicting the bulldozing of Palestinian homes by the military-adapted bulldozers made in the USA. The Israeli occupation of Palestinian land, the illegal wall twice the height of the Berlin wall, the illegal construction of residences in East Jerusalem, the killing of Rachel Corrie, and so on — are a total disgrace to our professed respect for human rights.

These transgressions persist under both Democratic and Republican administrations.

Our financing of murderous weapons in the Middle East is an historic scandal worse than the crimes of Cataline lamented by Cicero.

The “changes” touted by contestants in the current presidential primaries are nothing but political rhetoric unless our country desists from its violent investment in Israeli expansion.

War is not the answer.

George R. Edwards
Professor Emeritus
Louisville Presbyterian Seminary

PEOPLE'S CAMPAIGN TO DEFUND THE WAR

For five years, people have marched, lobbied, and taken direct action to stop the war in Iraq. In September 2007 as Congress debated authorizing \$190 billion for the war, the “People's Campaign to Defund the War” was initiated by the National War Tax Resistance Coordinating Committee (NWTRCC). It is a call to civil disobedience, urging joining a nationwide boycott, promoting redirection of federal income taxes — however we can. Info can be found on the web: www.war tax boycott.org

Register now. Redirect taxes to the needs of people. Join with those who are promoting this act of conscience, including the National Campaign for Nonviolent Resistance, the Nonviolent Direct Action Working Group of United for Peace and Justice, Veterans for Peace, Voices for Creative Nonviolence and War Resisters League.

As 1st Lieutenant Ehren Watada stated in 2006 before refusing to deploy to Iraq, “... if you pay your taxes, you're taking part in this war. We all have a responsibility, as they determined after Nuremberg ... to resist and refuse enabling and condoning this criminal behavior.”

On March 19 NWTRCC will set up a nonviolent blockade of the national Internal Revenue Service headquarters in Washington, DC as part of the day of actions against the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. Protests will be taking place across the nation — and in Louisville too, an all-day commemoration reading the names of the dead on the Courthouse steps at 6th & Jefferson. Call 456-6914.

FIVE YEARS TOO MANY! SHUT DOWN THE IRS / SHUT DOWN THE WAR. More information at 5yearstoomany.org or e-mail nycwrl@att.net **WITHHOLD FROM WAR, PAY FOR PEACE.**

GREEN ELECTRICITY NOW AVAILABLE

by Sarah Lynn Cunningham

Concerned about climate change and mountain-top removal? LG&E and Kentucky Utilities customers now have an affordable, green alternative for powering their homes and businesses! Purchased in increments of 300 kilowatt-hours per month for only \$5, this “green tag” power comes from the Mother Ann Lee Hydroelectric Station on the Kentucky River.

No new dam was built. This previously abandoned power plant is being restored by Lock Hydro Partners, LLC — led by local peace activist and engineer, David Brown Kinloch. Two of its three units are already producing green power and the third is now being restored.

To sign up, visit <http://www.eon-us.com/green/default.asp> or call 502-589-1444 (LG&E) or 800-981-0600 (KU).

(Editor's note: Yes, this is the same David Brown Kinloch who helped get recycling started in Louisville, who raised the roof on his house and installed solar panels, who instigated community gardening in the Phoenix Hill neighborhood, and who can always be seen at the demonstration on tax day designated as a **WAR TAX RESISTER.**)



INTERNATIONAL DAY OF NONVIOLENCE LAUNCHED

by John H. Kim

Serving as an accredited FOR/IFOR representative to the United Nations, John Kim reports on an action taken last June 15, 2007 by the U.N. General Assembly (GA) to observe **October 2** (the birthday of Mahatma Gandhi) as the “**International Day of NonViolence.**” Introduced by India, the General Assembly approved Resolution A/61/271. Implementation began last fall with an informal GA plenary session.

Speakers included the new GA president (Dr. Srgian Kerim from the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon, and **Sonia Gandhi** who spoke of the essence of her father's philosophy: “**At the heart of Mahatma Gandhi's philosophy of nonviolence was his belief — that strength comes from righteousness, not force. Power comes from truth, not might. Victory comes from moral courage, not imposed submission. He held that means and ends are inseparable, and that in fact the means themselves shape the ends. He believed unworthy means can never produce worthy ends.**”

This report was included in *Fellowship* magazine, Winter 2008, p.10. Read more: go to www.forusa.org

HEADING OFF WAR WITH IRAN

The Presbyterian Peace Fellowship has been having serious discussions about the tension building between the United States and Iran. They have stated emphatically that they will not pay for a war with Iran. Some members have drawn up the following pledge and are looking for others to sign on:

*Because the spirit of Christ is more dear to us than the allure of war,
Because following Christ Jesus is to us a better thing than marching to the drumbeats of war,
Because pre-emptive warfare is to us a betrayal of our just and loving God,
And because, as Christians, we believe that peace is possible,
Therefore, we solemnly pledge that if the United States of America undertakes military action against the nation of IRAN,
we will refuse to pay that portion of our Federal Income Tax that we estimate would be put to military use.*

Ten members have already signed on: Doug Allen, Anne Barstow, Len Bjorkman, Bill Coop, Tom Driver, Peggy Howland, Betty Kersting, Roger Powers, Rick Ufford-Chase, Amy Ukena. To add your name, please contact Tom Driver: Email: tfd@colombia.edu Or write him at 501 W 123rd St, Apt 14G, New York, NY 10027.

FOR PEACE ESSAY CONTEST

In our February issue, we told a bit about our second annual Peace Essay Contest for high school students.

The brochures have been printed, and we will be glad to send some to you. Meanwhile, we also have a website now so that you can download the brochure and learn the guidelines for the contest: <http://louisville-for.org/Images/PeaceEssay.pdf> Call (502) 458-8056. E-mail: edwardsfor@bellsouth.net Please spread the word to high school students as you have opportunity. Remember the deadline for entering the contest is **April 4.**

Baldwin speaks to Iraq war, destruction of mountains

When this newspaper column reaches you, the invading U.S. military will have been in Iraq five long years. The reasons for our having bombed, shot, chemically poisoned, water-boarded and otherwise attacked the Iraqi people — rooting out weapons of mass destruction, and presence of Al Qaeda — were long ago proven to be pretext (read: damn lies).

The \$120 billion we spent last year on training, arming and bombing could have provided health care for 47 million uninsured Americans and new un-poisoned FEMA trailers for the victims of Hurricane Katrina and could have rebuilt the Iraqi infrastructure we decimated.

Pay attention to the words of James Baldwin: “The civilized have created the wretched, quite coldly and deliberately, and do not intend to change the status quo; are responsible for their slaughter and enslavement; rain down bombs on defenseless children whenever and wherever they decide that their ‘vital interests’ are menaced, and think nothing of torturing a man to death. These people are not to be taken seriously when they speak of the ‘sanctity’ of human life, or the ‘conscience’ of the civilized world.”

Your columnist thought about all this on February 15. More than 1,000 of us gathered in Kentucky’s capitol in Frankfort, to demand the legislature pass a bill banning the dumping of coal mining residue and rock atop headwater streams. Coal companies, with reckless abandon, shear mountain tops to get at the coal seams — and to hell with the people and the water.

Kentuckians for the Commonwealth, sponsor of the anti-strip mine gathering, is planning future action.

Please note: the despised Caterpillar D9 bulldozers used to destroy our mountains are the very same type used by Israel to bulldoze Palestinian homes.

Speaking of ending destructive practices, Earl Butz, U.S. Secretary of Agriculture under Presidents Richard Nixon and Gerald Ford, died recently. In 1976 “Mr. Butz made a remark in which he described blacks... in obscene and scatological terms,” the Associated Press reported Feb. 4.

Even the Republican Party had to react to this viciousness, and Mr. Butz was tossed out the door by the president. One can only imagine what Mr. Butz must have said when presented with petitions by African American farmers for fairness under ASCS (federal agricultural) policies.

But we are now in the 21st century, and surely things have changed. The headline



for a piece by Michelle Chen in Women’s International Perspective Feb. 7 reads: “New Orleans: Vanishing City/Post-Katrina Redevelopment excludes poor and working-class black New Orleanians.”

Chen writes, concerning rebuilding efforts after the devastation caused by Hurricane Katrina: “The pending demolition of the St. Bernard, B.W. Cooper, C.J. Peete, and Lafitte (structurally rehabilitable city housing) projects has confirmed the fears of the city’s poorest, blackest, and hardest hit communities: that New Orleans’ ‘recovery’ in the wake of the storm is built on the city’s old demons of racial and class strife.”

And as if the racism in New Orleans were not bad enough, the SNCC listserv, Jan. 25, carried the following: “Today’s local news on KPFT, Houston’s Pacifica Radio station, detailed the ‘crime’ for which (Olvide) Duncantell is being jailed: seems he happened upon Houston cops beating a handcuffed prisoner and took exception to that. He asked the cops why they were beating the young man and why didn’t they just take him downtown and charge him.

“They told him to butt out or they would take him downtown. He told them that they might have to do that because he could not stand silently by or just walk on when seeing injustice occurring. So, they arrested him for ‘interfering with an officer.’ He was convicted and courts all the way up the Fifth Circuit in New Orleans have upheld the conviction.”

Note: Mr. Duncantell, Executive Director of the Black Heritage Society, is seventy one years of age.

Truth be told, all is not so bad. In a Feb. 1 story, Bloomberg reports on record oil profits by the heavy hitters. Exxon Mobil’s “profit rose 14 percent to a record \$11.7 billion.” Chevron Corp., “the second-largest U.S. oil company, said fourth-quarter profit rose 29 percent as crude

prices climbed to a record on their way to topping \$100 a barrel last month.”

What about ConocoPhillips? Answer: “Its net income climbed 37 percent to \$4.37 billion.” Only Marathon Oil Corp. reported a decline.

So, for most of the oil billionaires things are looking up. But what about other parts of the economy? Well, the housing market is in deep trouble. Big-time lenders lured people who could not afford homes, the sub-prime market, to finance nonetheless with non-fixed rate mortgages.

Nearly one quarter of these home “owners” got way behind on payments or defaulted; mortgages were foreclosed. Then many lenders, themselves buying and selling as a risky investment, took huge losses.

Countrywide Financial, Merrill Lynch and big commercial banks took big losses as well. Other bankers used the tragedy to buy into the sub-prime market as an investment unto itself, and at bargain-basement prices. Yet and still, the fifth annual conference of the American Securitization Forum, the industry group, recently met in Las Vegas to plan for the future.

Back in January, the U.S. Conference of Mayors released recommendations for Congress and the lending industry to help mitigate the economic distress of the mortgage crisis by reducing the number of foreclosures, helping borrowers facing foreclosures and stabilizing neighborhoods suffering from vacated, foreclosed properties.

“Up to 2 million homeowners face foreclosure this year. The word ‘recession’ is on everyone’s lips. Now is not the time to be timid. We need strong and immediate action from both Congress and the mortgage industry,” said USCM President Douglas Palmer, mayor of Trenton, N.J., who led a delegation of mayors to Detroit in November to discuss possible remedies with mortgage lenders and community activists.

During that meeting, the mayors unveiled a report that projected “the foreclosure crisis would result in 524,000 fewer jobs being created this year and a potential loss of \$6.6 billion in tax revenues in ten states.”

President Franklin D. Roosevelt got the U.S. out of the depression during the 1930s by creating huge federal jobs programs. This was not socialism; Roosevelt was a capitalist. But he was a smart capitalist.

There are, indeed, a few politicians who speak out against the conglomerates and in favor of ordinary folk. Ohio’s U.S. Rep. Dennis Kucinich is one. He was rewarded for his integrity by General Electric, through its

NBC television network, “rescind(ing) an invitation to (then Democratic) presidential candidate Dennis Kucinich to appear in its January 15 debate in Las Vegas. (NBC) went all the way to the Nevada Supreme Court to defend its decision — all the while failing to explain its logic to the public.” The Nation reported in January.

We close with a troubling report distributed by the National Lawyers Guild Anti-Racism Committee: “Parviz Kambakhsh, a 23-year-old Afghani student, has just been sentenced to death after three months of detention under terrible conditions in the state security’s detention centre in Marzar-e-Sharif, Afghanistan.

“Now in his third year of a journalism course at Balkh University in Mazar-e-Sharif, Parviz Kambakhsh also works as a journalist for the newspaper *Jahan-e Naw*.

“The young journalist was thrown into prison after being characterised as an atheist and an opponent of the regime by the NDS, the Karzai regime’s security service. He is also accused of having printed atheist articles off the internet and distributed them among his classmates.

“Kambakhsh was tortured continuously during his detention, both physically and mentally, and even threatened with death if he did not admit to the charges leveled against him.

“He has not had access to a lawyer. He has not been allowed to see members of his family or friends.

“The death sentence was delivered in his absence and in secret... In 2001, when the war started with the invasion and occupation of Afghanistan under the aegis of NATO, the occupying troops from the United States, France, Italy and Germany talked about re-establishing democracy and democratic rights and freedoms.

“The Karzai regime that was put in place by the occupying forces has reintroduced Sharia law as the basic law of the land, with the support of all the states participating in the occupation and the war. It is precisely in the name of the Sharia law that the young journalist Parviz Kambakhsh has been sentenced to death for circulating documents downloaded from the internet.”

For more information, contact: ilcinfo@earthlink.net. Postal Address: Syndicat Général Des journalistes Force Ouvrière, 131 rue Damrémont, 75018 Paris, France. Please send your Labor Paeans scribe a copy of your note.

Contact Ira Grupper at irag@iglou.com.

Calendar

(continued from back page)

Mar 29 (Sat) **Pizza and a Movie.** 6 PM, Christ Church Cathedral, Bishops Hall, 425 South Second St. Sponsored by the Center for Faith & Action. For more info, call 896-0172. Donations welcome.

Mar 30 (Sun) **Third Annual Katie Geneva Cannon Lecture: “Why, In This Land: Unmasking, Debunking, and Disentangling the Interlocking Forces of Oppressive Institutions and Social Sin.”** Dr. Stacey Floyd-Thomas. 7:30 PM, Gardencourt, Hundley Hall, Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary. For more info contact: Heather Thiessen, 992-9376 or 894-2285. Email: hthiessen@lpts.edu

Mar 31 (Mon) **Deadline for Nominations: Peacemaking Educator of the Year Award, School Year 2007-2008.** Contact Peace Education Program for application to nominate yourself or a colleague: 589-6583.

Apr 21 (Mon) **LAST DAY TO REGISTER TO VOTE IN THE MAY 20th PRIMARY ELECTION!**

OUT OF TOWN EVENTS

June 12-23. **Witness for Peace 25th Anniversary Delegation to Guatemala**, celebrating 25 years of service and solidarity with the people of Latin America. Led by **Rev. Jim Flynn**. Cost will be \$1,000 plus airfare. Apply by April 30. Send e-mail request to: . See flyer in this issue for more information.

40th Anniversary of the Israeli Military Occupation of the West Bank, the Gaza Strip and East Jerusalem June 1967-June 2007

Call upon the U.S. to act with courage and determination to end the occupation and secure a state of Palestine beside the state of Israel

at the VIGIL

Every Friday: 12 Noon – 1:00 PM
Corner of 6th Street & Broadway
Louisville, Kentucky



Louisville Committee for Israeli/Palestinian States (502.451.5658) www.louisvillepeace.org/twostates.html

Fellowship of Reconciliation (FOR)/Louisville Chapter (502.458.8056) www.louisville-for.org

American-Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee (ADC)/Kentucky Chapter (502.893.9828) www.adckentucky.com

Calendar for peacemakers

Mar 1 (Sat) **SATURDAY ACADEMY**. Dr. Blaine Hudson begins with Black and African World History (11 AM - 12:30 PM). Followed by "Girl Talk: Young Women Talk About Their Lives So Far" (12:45 PM to 2 PM). DuValle Education Center Cafeteria, 3610 Bohne Avenue, at 35th St just north of Algonquin Parkway. Call Bani Hines-Hudson, 295-7531.

Mar 1 (Sat) **EXPLORING CIRCLES OF TRUST**. A workshop for those working professionally in any church ministry. Based on Parker Palmer's A Hidden Wholeness: The Journey Toward an Undivided Life. Jay Rock and Tammy Wiens, facilitators. 9 AM - 3 PM, March 1 & April 5, \$60. Bring a brown bag lunch. James Lees Presbyterian Church. To register, call the Center for Faith & Action at 896-0172 or email directorfaithaction@yahoo.com.

Mar 2 (Sun) **VIGIL FOR PEACE** every first Sunday evening remembering all those suffering from conflicts in the Middle East. Bring a sign. Bardstown Road at Douglass Blvd. 7-8 PM, sponsored by **LPAC** (Louisville Peace Action Community). Call Judy Munro-Leighton, 456-6914.

Mar 3 (Mon) **Prayer Service for Peace and Nonviolence** held each Monday at 12:15 PM at James Lees Presbyterian Church, 1741 Frankfort Ave. This is a 20-minute service of silent prayer. For anyone who wishes to stay, lunch is provided following the service. For more info, call 896-0172.

Mar 5 (Wed) **Louisville Premiere of ¡Salud!** A powerful film about conflicting values and the urgency of ensuring the universal right to health care. Followed by a screening of *Inventos*, Hip Hop Cubano, which chronicles the dynamic hip hop movement in Cuba. 7 PM - 10 PM, the Monkey Wrench, 1025 Barret Ave. Sponsored by the Henry Wallace Brigade. Donations accepted. For more info, call 558-3568.

Mar 6 (Thurs) **SINGLE PAYER HEALTH CARE**, every first and third Thursday, 5:30 pm. Main Library, 4th & York St., Board Room, Mezzanine. Call Kay Tillow, 636-1551.

Mar 6 (Thurs) **Annual Minx Auerbach Lecture in Women's & Gender Studies**. Lecture/performance by Pulitzer-winning playwright, Suzan-Lori Parks. 6 PM, Margaret Comstock Auditorium, University of Louisville School of Music. Free and open to the public.

Mar 7 (Fri) **WORLD DAY OF PRAYER**, sponsored by Church Women United, service prepared by Women of Guyana. Services will be held at over 30 churches in the Louisville area. To learn where a service is planned in your area, call Genny Scheldorf, 239-5931. At 12:00 noon the service for downtown churches will be held at St. John United Church of Christ, 637 E. Market. Registration at 11:30. Lunch follows. **A special service is planned at the end of the day for those who are not able to come at noon. This will be at Coke Memorial United Methodist Church, 428 E. Breckinridge, at 6:15 pm.** Registration at 5:30 pm. Refreshments follow. Please bring canned goods for **Dare to Care**. Child Care provided. Call 587-0437.

Mar 7 (Fri) **Fourth Annual Women of Wisdom Art Exhibit Showcase**. Opening reception begins at 5 PM, Mary Craik Gallery, 815 East Market. Exhibit runs March 7 - April 5. All art is for sale, with proceeds benefiting Project Women and their mission to help educate and empower single mothers. For more info, call 584-8090.

Mar 7 (Fri) **NOON VIGIL FOR PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST**, including a news update. **EVERY FRIDAY AT SIXTH AND BROADWAY**, in front of the Federal Court House (where Senator McConnell's office is located). We vigil for a two state solution in solidarity with the **"Women in Black"** who vigil every Friday at noon in Israel. Sponsored by the Louisville Committee for Israeli/Palestinian States, the American Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee, and the Fellowship of Reconciliation. Call Beverley Marmion, 451-5658.

Mar 8 (Sat) **International Women's Day Celebration**. Includes music, dance, art, conversation, and celebration. 1 PM to 5 PM, Americana Community Center, 4801 Southside Dr. For more info, contact Jill Adams, 213-2364.

Mar 8 (Sat) **PEAK OIL** Every 2nd Saturday, Main Library, 4th & York, Mezzanine, Boardroom. 9:00 AM. Call George Perkins, 425-6645.

Mar 8 (Sat) **SATURDAY ACADEMY**. Dr. Blaine Hudson begins with Black and African World History (11 AM - 12:30 PM). Followed by Race and Reality Series, "It DOES Happen: Black Mothers and Daughters with Great Relationships" (12:45 PM to 2 PM). DuValle Education Center Cafeteria, 3610 Bohne Avenue, at 35th St just north of Algonquin Parkway. Call Bani Hines-Hudson, 295-7531.

Mar 9 (Sun) **"AIM HIGHER"** focusing on military counter-recruitment. Every 2nd Sunday at 7:00 PM, 2236 Kaelin Avenue at the FOR office. This group would welcome invitations to speak about conscientious objection, military recruitment, and the possibility for high school students to "opt out" of having their names given to recruiters. Also learn about the Second Annual Peace Essay Contest. Call Chris Harmer, 893-2334. colonel221@yahoo.com.

Mar 9 (Sun) **CONCERT FOR CONTEMPLATION** with **HARRY PICKENS**, internationally-known pianist. Experience the power of music to help you slow down, relax and deepen your conscious connection with the Source of peace within. 7:30 pm at James Lees Memorial Presbyterian Church, 1741 Frankfort Ave. Donations welcome. For more info, call 896-0172.

Mar 12 (Wed) **KITLAC (Ky Interfaith Taskforce on Latin America and the Caribbean)**. Every second Wednesday at the Presbyterian Seminary. 7:30 pm. Call David Horvath, 479-9262, or Pat Geier, 456-6586.

March 13-16 (Thurs-Sun) **35th ANNUAL NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON THE BLACK FAMILY IN AMERICA**, hosted by the University of Louisville, coordinated by Dr. Joseph McMillan. Holiday Inn, 2nd & Broadway. Theme: **Economic Empowerment in the Black Community**, addressing the critical issues of the survival of black people in the world's economic systems. Renowned speakers include **Dr. Claud Anderson, James E. Clingman, and Theda Rudd**. Registration \$200 (less for students and seniors). Daily registration fee (no meals) \$80. Call Dr. Joseph McMillan at 502-852-6656 or 502-245-2272. Fax 502-852-0913.

Mar 13 (Thurs) **CITIZENS AGAINST POLICE ABUSE (CAPA)**, every second Thursday at the office of the Kentucky Alliance Against Racist and Political Repression, 3208 W Broadway. 7:00 pm. Call K. A. Owens, 778-8130.

Mar 13 (Thurs) **APPAP** (American Palestine Public Affairs Forum). Meets every second Thursday. Documentary: "This Is Not Your War" features the poignant testimony of American nurse and volunteer Lyn Gras, who gave training in neonatal intensive care in hospitals under siege during attacks on Gaza and Ramallah in May of 2003. Lyn describes the impact of the attacks on the Palestinian population as she travels through the occupied territories. 7:30 PM, League of Women Voters, 115 S Ewing. Call Bashar Masri, 773-1836.

Mar 15 (Sat) **SATURDAY ACADEMY**. Dr. Blaine Hudson begins with Black and African World History (11 AM-12:30 PM). Followed by The Female Perspective: Anti-racist, C.O.O.L. White Women—Conscious, Outspoken, Organizing, Liberating (12:45 PM - 2 PM). DuValle Education Center Cafeteria, 3610 Bohne Avenue, at 35th St just north of Algonquin Parkway. Call Bani Hines-Hudson, 295-7531.

Mar 15 (Sat) **HIKE IN JEFFERSON MEMORIAL FOREST**. Bruce Otto will lead a four-mile hike through a remote section of the forest. Requires strenuous climbing. 10 AM - 2 PM. For more info, email Bruce at bandlotto@bellsouth.net. Sponsored by the Center for Faith & Action. Donations welcome. For more info, call 896-0172.

Mar 16 (Sun) **LOUISVILLE COMMITTEE FOR ISRAELI/PALESTINIAN STATES**. (Every third Sunday) First Unitarian Church, 4th & York Streets, 3:00 pm. Call Beverley Marmion, 451-5658.

Mar 17 (Mon) **DEADLINE for the April issue of FORsooth**. Contact **George Morrison, editor**, 944-6460, E-mail: k1m86@att.net **Note: Please email new or updated calendar listings to calendar.peace@gmail.com, or call Nikki at 451-3402.**

Mar 18 (TUES) **SACRED SITES OF TIBET TOUR**. Rebecca Martin and Glenda Hodges-Cook share a photographic presentation from their Tibet tour in the summer of 2007. 7 - 9 PM at James Lees Memorial Presbyterian Church, 1741 Frankfort Ave. Donations welcome.

Mar 19 (Wed) **Five Years Too Long—The Iraq War**. LPAC will mark the 5th anniversary of the US invasion of Iraq with an all-day commemoration on the Courthouse steps at Sixth and Jefferson Streets. LPAC will represent the one million Iraqi civilian deaths (estimated) and the 4,000+ US deaths and read the names of the dead. For more information, contact jimcmillan@insightbb.com or jmunroleighton@gmail.com or call 456-6914.

Mar 20 (Thurs) **THIRD THURSDAY LUNCH** sponsored by Fellowship of Reconciliation. "Fair and Affordable Housing Issues in Louisville." Cathy Hinko, Executive Director of the Metropolitan Housing Coalition, will discuss the need for affordable housing, the segregation of female heads of households and the MHC study on the foreclosure crisis. Rudyard Kipling Restaurant, 422 W. Oak St. \$7 buffet lunch begins at 11:30 AM. Presentation at noon. Reservations required. Call Polly Johnson, 473-8435 or Mary Ann Lambert, 425-3844.

Mar 20 (Thurs) **LPAC (Louisville Peace Action Community)** every third Thursday evening. Douglass Blvd Christian Church, 7:00 pm. Call Judy Munro-Leighton, 456-6914. Website: www.louisvillepeace.org E-mail: pcunity@yahoo.com

Mar 20 (Thurs) **AMERICANS UNITED FOR SEPARATION OF CHURCH AND STATE**. Noon, every other month. Location TBA. Come and voice your support for constitutional government and freedom of conscience. For more info, call 502-852-1308.

Mar 22 (Sat) **SATURDAY ACADEMY**. Dr. Blaine Hudson begins with Black and African World History (11 AM-12:30 PM). Followed by "Surviving and Thriving: Sistahs Who Overcame Traumatic Childhoods" (12:45 PM - 2 PM). DuValle Education Center Cafeteria, 3610 Bohne Avenue, at 35th St just north of Algonquin Parkway. Call Bani Hines-Hudson, 295-7531.

Mar 24 (Mon) **F.O.R. STEERING COMMITTEE** (every 4th Monday). Presbyterian Seminary, 1044 Alta Vista Road. Visitors encouraged. Call co-chairs Phil Schervish, 451-6638, or Dennis Bricking, 298-0590.

Mar 25 (Tue) **KCADP (Ky Coalition to Abolish the Death Penalty)** every last Tuesday. Highland Presbyterian Church, 1011 Cherokee Rd, 6:30 pm. Call Kaye Gallagher, 721-8885 or Mark Meade, 541-9998, E-mail: kcadp@earthlink.net

Mar 26 (Wed) **"Games Day II."** Learn the Peace Education Program's latest cooperative games during this fun and energizing workshop. 10 AM - 2 PM, 318 W. Kentucky St. \$55 fee includes box lunch and written material. Limited to 40 participants. Registration required. Call: 589-6583.

Mar 27 (Thurs) **FORsooth LABELING**, at Beverley Marmion's, 6:30 pm. **BOUQUETS to those who carry on this essential work every month!** Call 451-5658.

Mar 29 (Sat) **SATURDAY ACADEMY SPECIAL SESSION: 2008 SISTAH SUMMIT. "Black Women Hiding in Plain Sight: Silence, Secrets and Solutions."** 8 AM - 5:30 PM. Program features local experts, celebrities, activists and community women. Luncheon keynote speaker: Loretta Ross of SisterSong Women of Health Collective in Atlanta (www.sistersong.net). Summit cost: \$40 in advance/\$20 for students & seniors; \$50 at the door; luncheon only: \$20. DuValle Education Center, 3610 Bohne Avenue, at 35th St just north of Algonquin Parkway. Call Bani Hines-Hudson, 295-7531.

Mar 29 (Sat) **Money, Investing, and the Poor**. This day-long class with Rev. Andy Loving will explore Biblical economic themes such as Jubilee and the "preferential option for the poor" as well as contemporary ways to invest that make capital available to the poor in the U.S. and worldwide. 9 AM - 3 PM, James Lees Memorial Presbyterian Church, 1741 Frankfort Ave. \$30. (Bring a sack lunch.) To register, contact the Center for Faith & Action, 896-0172.

Regular Meeting Times for Area Organizations

ADDICTION RECOVERY ADVOCATES OF KENTUCKIANA – 2nd Thursday (585-3375)

AMERICA 2000 DEMOCRATIC CLUB – 4th Tuesday (459-0616)

AMERICANS UNITED FOR SEPARATION OF CHURCH AND STATE – 3rd Thursday, every other month at noon (608-7517)

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL – 1st Saturday (637-8951)

APPAP (American Palestine Public Affairs Forum) – 2nd Thursday (895-8155)

BREAD FOR THE WORLD – 1st Tuesday (239-4317)

CAPA (Citizens Against Police Abuse) – 2nd Thursday (778-8130)

CLOUT [Citizens of Louisville Organized and Working Together] – (583-1267)

COMMITTEE FOR PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST – 2nd Monday (456-6586)

COMMON CAUSE – 1st Tuesday, every other month (454-7797)

COMMUNIST PARTY USA – First Sunday at 5:00 PM (384-3875)

COMMUNITY FARM ALLIANCE OF JEFFERSON COUNTY – 2nd Tuesday (775-4041)

CONVERSATION CAFE – Wednesday evenings (454-4820)

COUNTER RECRUITMENT, "Aim Higher" – Second Sunday (893-2334)

EARTH SAVE LOUISVILLE – 2nd Sunday (569-1876)

FAIRNESS CAMPAIGN – Quarterly community dialogues and volunteer opportunities (893-0788)

FELLOWSHIP OF RECONCILIATION – 4th Monday (451-6638 or 895-8516)

FRIENDSHIP FORCE OF LOUISVILLE – 2nd Tuesday (893-8436)

GREATER LOUISVILLE SIERRA CLUB – 3rd Tuesday (897-3335)

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY – Wednesdays, Thursdays, Fridays & Saturdays (637-6265)

HATE FREE SCHOOLS COALITION – 3rd Thursday (454-3300)

INTERFAITH PATHS TO PEACE – 1st Tuesday (214-7322)

JOBS WITH JUSTICE KENTUCKY (582-5454)

JURISDICTIONARY CLUB OF LOUISVILLE – Know the law and how to use it (500-8161)

JUSTICE RESOURCE CENTER – 3rd Saturday (562-6737)

KFTC [KENTUCKIANS FOR THE COMMONWEALTH] – 2nd Monday (589-3188)

KY ALLIANCE AGAINST RACIST & POLITICAL REPRESSION – 3rd Monday (778-8130)

KY COALITION TO ABOLISH THE DEATH PENALTY – Last Tuesday (541-9998)

KITLAC (KY INTERFAITH TASKFORCE ON LATIN AMERICA & THE CARIBBEAN) – 2nd Wednesday (479-9262)

KY RAINBOW/PUSH COALITION – (245-2272)

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

LOUISVILLE PEAK OIL GROUP – 2nd Saturday (425-6645)

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

911 TRUTH LOUISVILLE (502-609-6020)

US DEPARTMENT OF PEACE CAMPAIGN OF KY – 3rd Sunday (472-1772)

YOUNG DEMOCRATIC SOCIALISTS – every Friday at 2:30 PM (712-2338)

Note: If your group would like to be added to this list or if information needs to be updated, please let us know by calling 458-8056.