

PEACEWAYS



Issue # 217

April 2008

The Newsletter of the Central Kentucky Council for Peace and Justice
112 N. Upper St. Lexington KY 40507 (859) 255-6999

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2008 Peace and Global Citizenship Fair

Saturday May 10th
noon to 8 pm

Think. Act. Discover. Peace.

by Rebecca Glasscock

Human Rights is the theme for the third annual Peace and Global Citizenship Fair presented by the Bluegrass Community and Technical College's Peace and Justice Coalition (PJC).

The fair provides opportunities for young and old alike to learn about living in an ecologically and socially sustainable manner and to increase their understanding of cultures around the world.

Fair co-sponsors are Central Kentucky Council for Peace and Justice, Kentuckians for the Commonwealth, Kentucky Commission for Human Rights, Open Ground, and Sustainable Communities Network.

Activities are planned in the areas of: alternative transport-

ation, food and gardening, environment and the Bluegrass bioregion, peace, spirituality, global cultures, health and well-being, youth, Mother's Day, social justice, and art.

New this year is an dedicated area for storytelling and dance. Expect to see Falun Gong practitioners and Tai Qi demonstrations, jugglers, and a miniature golf course constructed of recycled materials.

Music will be provided by the Swells, Water, the Lexington Children's Drum Choir, Lost Dog, Jen Rose and the Kentucky Bootleggers, Wes Houpp and High Bridge, What Happened When, and Pangaea Drums.

Local food will be provided by Terrapin Hill Farm and Slow Food Bluegrass.

For Children for Peace art contest info, updates, or to sign up for booth space, go to the PJC's redesigned webpage at www.peace2day.org. Find interesting bits and pieces on our blog: <http://BCTCpeaceandjustice.blogspot.com>.

When: Saturday May 10th
from noon until 8 p.m.

Where: Bluegrass Community and Technical College Grounds (north of Commonwealth Stadium).

NOTE: Volunteers are needed to assist with Peacecraft Fair Trade Sales and CKCPJ Table at the Fair in 1-2 hr. shifts between 12-6 p.m. Contact Billie Mallory at 859-285-5211 or Richard Mitchell at 859-327-6277.

IN THIS ISSUE

- KCCJ sponsors film: *For the Bible Tells Me So*
- BCTC Spring Speaker Series
- *Troubled Youth Not Served by Abusive treatment programs*
- CKCPJ news
- *Take a Stand Against Hate*
- *Diversity Leadership Summit*
- *Reconciliation Breakfast Report*
- *Project C.U.R.E.*
- *Martin Luther King's Legacy*

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The Central Kentucky Council for Peace & Justice

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Peaceways is published ten times a year by the Central Kentucky Council for Peace and Justice, 112 N. Upper St., Lexington KY 40507.

Submissions of articles or items in the Calendar are welcome. Contact the editor, Gail M. Koehler at 859-335-5701 or gmkkentucky@gmail.com. **Deadline: the first Wednesday of the month.**

The views expressed in *Peaceways* are those of the authors, and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Central Kentucky Council for Peace and Justice.

The Kentucky Conference for Community and Justice presents film: *For the Bible Tells Me So*

at the Kentucky Theatre Tuesday, April 29, 2008
at 5:30 and 7:30 pm — Tickets available at the door

Can the love between two people ever be an abomination? Is the chasm separating homosexuals and Christianity too wide to cross? How can the Bible be used to justify hate?

These are the questions at the heart of Daniel Karslake's film: *For the Bible Tells Me So*.

Through the experiences of five very normal, very Christian, very American families — including those of former House Majority Leader Richard Gephardt and Episcopal Bishop Gene Robinson — the filmmaker explores how people of faith handle, or sometimes tragically fail to handle, having a gay child.

Informed by such respected voices as Bishop Desmond Tutu, Harvard's Peter Gomes, Orthodox Rabbi Steve Greenberg and Reverend Jimmy Creech, *For the Bible Tells Me So* offers healing, clarity and understanding to anyone caught in the crosshairs of scripture and sexual identity.

This landmark film, says the Seattle Times, "boldly takes on a loaded topic and examines it both intellectually and emotionally.."

National Public Radio's review noted the film "...restores your faith in people."

Bluegrass Community and Technical College Spring Speaker Series

The BCTC Spring Speaker Series runs through the month of April. **All events are held in the Oswald Building Auditorium on Cooper Campus.**

April 14, 6:30-7:45 p.m.: Mac Stone, Kentucky Department of Agriculture Manager. Learn about the impact on Kentucky's farms and farm families of payments made to Kentucky tobacco growers to compensate for loss of quotas and declining demand for their tobacco.

April 17, 6:30-7:45 p.m.: Aloma Dew, Sierra Club. Our country's largest recall of meat — 143 million pounds—brought attention to

the inhumane treatment of livestock, the suffering of farmers in Mexico, the use of synthetic pesticides, and nutritional deficiencies. All are aspects of Dew's thesis: that eating is a moral act.

April 22, 6:30-7:45 p.m.: Garrett Graddy, UK Geography Graduate Student. On Earth Day, come and learn about the political ecology of the source of our food — the seed. Open pollinated versus hybrid versus genetically modified seeds and their global distribution result in misery or bounty for those who plant the seed.

April 25, 11:30-2:30: United Nations Association Annual Meeting/Luncheon, UK Goodbarn. Presentation by Sarah Lynn Cunningham — Is Our Carbon Footprint Stomping Out the Developing World's Chances? Kentucky Proud meal, silent auction, international displays. Students \$10; All others \$25.

Abusive Programs Fueled by Irrational Fear—Provide No Help To Our “Troubled” Youth

by Joan Braune

One of the social justice issues close to my heart is our country's treatment of troubled teens. I became involved with this issue in July 1999 when a fourteen-year-old girl named Gina Score died in a juvenile boot camp in my home state of South Dakota.

Gina was not a hardened criminal. A shy, lonely, overweight girl sent to the camp after facing shoplifting charges, Gina was unprepared for the rigor of boot camp where on her second or third day she was forced to run almost three miles in summer heat. When she collapsed she was dragged along the road beside the school until she lost all strength, was foaming at the mouth, and unconscious. Other teens were shooed away by drill sergeants who accused her of “faking” her symptoms and then went inside, leaving her in the hot sun for almost two hours before finally calling an ambulance.

Gina was dead on arrival at the hospital.

When Gina's story hit the press, it caused a lot of concern and was followed by investigative reporting that revealed widespread abuse throughout South Dakota's juvenile corrections system. Boot camp employees felt they had “not done their job” if a new inmate did not vomit or involuntarily urinate in terror on his or her first day at the camp. Outraged, Amnesty International demanded immediate reforms.

Not everyone was outraged. Then-Governor of South Dakota, William Janklow, scoffed and infamously suggested that youth should be “shackled in front of their peers.” As a junior high and high school student I witnessed

this policy first-hand, as a number of my peers were publicly arrested during school hours and taken away in handcuffs for petty offenses like alleged theft, puerile “threats,” or alcohol possession.

Governor Janklow was riding a wave of conservative reaction against youth. The late 90s were a time of widespread fear of youth in the United States, a fear that has not entirely dissipated since then even though youth crime of all kinds, both violent and non-violent, has been steadily falling since the 1960s. Sociologist Mike Males has done some great research on the “crackdown on youth” and youth crime stats. His books *Framing Youth* and *Scapegoat Generation* are excellent. [Editor's note: a related website Youthfacts.org is kept up-to-date and full of points un-heralded by the media.]

Following Gina Score's death, I helped form a group called “Young Activists for Justice.” We called a press conference at the state capitol building and researched abuses in the juvenile system, trying to figure out how the abuse had become systemic. I wrote articles for a psychology journal called *Reclaiming Youth*. I am still on their editorial advisory board.

While doing that research, I was shocked to learn of a network of highly abusive, for-profit juvenile detention camps, which prey upon the fears of worried parents. For high fees and without trial, parents can ship their troubled youth to any of various camps, with deceptively delightful names like “Tranquility Bay” and “Cross Creek Manor.”

Unlike regular detention facilities to which youth are court-ordered, there is no U.S. govern-

ment agency established to monitor these for-profit, private facilities.

The most notorious network of such camps is called WWASPS, or the “Worldwide Association of Specialty Programs and Schools.” These groups have been forced to leave Mexico, Costa Rica, Samoa, and the Czech Republic due to allegations of abuse. Allegations of severe beatings, brainwashing techniques, sexual abuse and humiliation, and malnutrition have been widespread. Many of the facilities lack credentialed psychologists or teachers. Yet WWASPS facilities still operate in a number of rural areas of the U.S. and in Jamaica.

Youth in these facilities are especially vulnerable because they are invisible. Unlike adult prisoners, the youth are not permitted to contact lawyers or the media, and they are even forbidden from contacting their parents until they make “progress” in the program, which can take months.

The continuing abuse of youth in both privately and publicly owned facilities must be addressed and protested. The attack on youth stems from an irrational fear of the young.

Today's youth are better than ever before, and they need and deserve our solidarity. For further information about WWASPS and similar camps, I highly recommend Maia Szalavitz' book *Help At Any Cost: How the Troubled-Teen Industry Cons Parents and Hurts Kids* (2006).

Joan Braune is a CKCPJ board member and a graduate student of philosophy at UK. She can be reached at standinsolidarity@yahoo.com.

Stopping Hate—Recognizing Justice: Council's Annual Peace Fair and Dinner

On March 15th the Central Kentucky Council for Peace and Justice held its annual peace fair and dinner at First Baptist Church, Bracktown, in Lexington.

Almost thirty social justice organizations from the area set up display tables prior to the dinner itself.



William Wharton.

Featured speakers at the dinner included William Wharton, Director of Lexington-Fayette Urban County Government Human Rights Commission, who spoke on Stopping Hate and the sometimes surprising, even shocking, expressions of hate the Commission has witnessed in our community.



Jenisha Watts

Jenisha Watts, a native Lexingtonian and a UK senior in Journalism, reflected on her experience and on the layered meanings of hate.



Chungyen Chang and Abigail Grise

Two high school seniors from SCAPA Layfayette, Chungyen Chang and Abigail Grise, provided an interwoven performance of poetry that spoke to the experience of Gay, Lesbian, Transgendered and Bisexual students in public schools.

The evening included numerous much-deserved recognitions: retiring Council members Bill Poole, Mary Alice Pratt Janice Sevre-Dusznyska, Cindy Swanson and Ray Wilkie were thanked for their contributions. Former editor of *Peaceways*, Michael Fogler, received tribute.



Pastor Ronald Luckey and Council co-chair Kerby Neill

The Council also recognized the achievements of grassroots organization BUILD (Building United Interfaith Lexington through Direct-action).

Accepting on behalf of BUILD was Reverend Ronald G. Luckey, Pastor of Faith Lutheran Church.

CKCPJ in the News

When Vice President Dick Cheney came to Lexington March 31st for a GOP fundraiser, the Peace Action Task Group of CKCPJ took the opportunity to try to deliver a citizen's arrest warrant for the crimes and abuses of the current administration. Local TV stations and the Lexington Herald-Leader provided good coverage of the demonstration.

The Herald-Leader followed with an editorial on Thursday, April 3rd, titled "Cheney No Match For Free Speech: Veep Didn't Get Message, But Public Did." The editorial writers noted that "The administration's resident warlord, Vice President Dick Cheney, has a fear of words so great that he's almost manically secretive, and his keepers take extreme measures to protect him from exposure to unwanted words."

For those who might have missed this coverage, the original Herald-Leader story can be found online at <http://www.kentucky.com/179/story/362827.html>. The editorial can be found at <http://www.kentucky.com/591/story/364978.html>.

A link to one local news video clip can be found in the editorial: it can be found on YouTube at <http://youtube.com/watch?v=3S6W8oi-CGs&feature>.

A much longer video featuring the meeting—caught by a Herald-Leader photographer—between PATG member Geoff Young and a Secret Service agent named Keith can be found at New Morning World's website <http://newmorningworld.com/> on the "New YouTube" link or directly at http://youtube.com/watch?v=9RrAaAGx_s8.

Also on that longer video clip, PATG member Janice Sevre-Dusznyska describes the discrepancy between her three-month prison sentence for civil disobedience and the Vice-President's immunity from the courts.

Take a Stand Against Hate—For All Neighbors

by Liz Epperson and
Marie Downey

Lexington's crime rate is lower than it has been in the past 30 years.

Yet letters to the editor and local talk radio would have you believe we face a daily struggle to keep ourselves and our families safe from a full-fledged invasion of criminal, illegal aliens who are a drain on our resources and a threat to the "American" way of life.

To combat the perceived threat, recent local policies make the distinction between "native-born" and "foreign-born" though few of us have ancestors truly "native" to these shores.

Here is a great factual talking point: there are more Baby Boomers in our country than Gen X-ers. To replace the large segment of retiring workers, immigrants and their offspring provide essential workers (see *Miriam Jordan's May 7, 2007, article "Boomers' Good Life Tied to Better Life for Immigrants" on Wall Street Journal Online, found at www.wsj.com*). Our freedom, destiny, and future prosperity are bound together with all our neighbors.

The strongest argument for treating immigrants with justice is the intrinsic worth of every human being. As fair-minded citizens we must appeal to this moral principle and insist that every member of our community is deserving of dignity and respect.

In Lexington, although four of the six the recommendations produced by last year's Mayor's Commission on Immigration were positive in nature, the current administration has so far chosen to act only in a punitive manner.



For example, although the Commission recommended no local governmental department take part in enforcing federal immigration law, booking procedures at the detention center now identify "foreign born" individuals and report them to Immigration and Customs Enforcement.

Also, at the behest of a handful of people who insist their immigrant neighbors are the cause of an unsubstantiated claim of plummeting property values, selective enforcement of local housing codes have increased.

We cannot watch idly as our neighbors are scapegoated and dehumanized, as members of the immigrant community in Lexington are told repeatedly that they are not welcome.

Our humanity and our integrity as a community are diminished each time we remain silent in the face of discrimination.

Instead, we must strive to be a community that embraces the ideology Archbishop Desmond Tutu called *ubuntu*.

People with *ubuntu*, he says, are "open and available to others, affirming of others," and do not "feel threatened that others are able and good." This is because

such people have "a proper self-assurance" that comes from knowing they belong to a greater whole and are "diminished when others are humiliated or diminished, when others are tortured or oppressed."

Come take a stand against hate at the **"Love Thy Neighbor Gathering" on Saturday, April 19th, on the corner of Main St. and Martin Luther King Blvd. between 4:00 and 7:00 pm.**

Come and show ALL of our neighbors that fair-minded residents of Lexington appreciate a diverse and hate-free community.

You will also have a chance to help raise awareness of the positive recommendations made by the Commission on Immigration by signing a postcard addressed to the Mayor and Council asking for the establishment of an Office of International Affairs.

Come join us! We want to show everyone, including foreign-born among us, how proud we are of living in a community that truly believes good neighbors come in every color.

Liz Epperson and Marie Downey are Lexington-area community activists who work with the immigrant community.

Notes from Diversity Leadership Summit

by **Billie Mallory**

This Summit, sponsored by the Lexington-Fayette Urban County Government Human Rights Commission, took place on March 24th. The day included panel discussions addressing common concerns in Lexington, as well as potential solutions.

Participants—from faith-based and justice-advocacy groups, the media, business, social services and youth groups—enjoyed opportunities to brainstorm strategies to build multi-racial, ethnic, and cultural coalitions.

Some highlights and talking points from the day include:

We must confront our current reality by 1) having links to diverse populations to learn from each other and grow as a community, consciously removing barriers and asking tough questions of ourselves

and others, 3) attempting to understand diverse and minority populations, and 4) recognizing that the journey is not easy but essential for us all.

Race is a prevailing divisive issue, as witnessed by the current political campaigns. The new civil rights frontier includes: equity education, equal and fair wages, affordable housing, accessible health care and equal opportunities for minority businesses.

We must include all faith groups and learn about each other in a safe place dedicated to shared values, respectful dialogs, and building strong relationships and community.

Since defining any group as “other” creates division and inequality we need to remove barriers and give everyone the right to be at the table and stay there—for all of us to benefit.

Small minority businesses are the fastest growing business segment of the nation. To be welcoming to this exciting growth, we need to remove perceived barriers, offer equal opportunities, include diversity through participation and engagement, and develop a teamwork environment.

Our high schools need multi-cultural education and curriculum. Elsewhere in the community, we need cross-cultural dialogues, particularly related to race relations and perceived cultural clashes. We must learn and embrace our own history and celebrate the culture of others.

We must “move out of our comfort zone”—which means being willing to ask the difficult questions and must not be offended by the answers.

Billie Mallory is a CKCPJ board member.

Sorry you missed this Summit? Check the Commission’s website at <http://www.lfuchrc.org/> for info on upcoming events such as the 2008 Quad State Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity Conference scheduled for June, when participants from Florida, Indiana, Kentucky, North Carolina, South Carolina and Tennessee will come together to discuss housing issues.

The Commission also sponsors the Outstanding Achievement in Fair Housing Award to recognize individuals or organizations that have shown exemplary performances in fair housing practices. For more information on nominations and a list of 2007 recipients, check the website or call William D. Wharton, Executive Director Lexington-Fayette Urban County Human Rights Commission at 859-252-4931, ext 222.

Lexington’s Reconciliation Breakfast: A Report

Lexington’s annual Reconciliation Breakfast honors individuals and organizations that have promoted peace and goodwill throughout the community.

Held this year on March 6th, the breakfast included a call from Isabel Taylor, the city’s multi-cultural co-

ordinator, for Lexington to make use of its multilingual resources—residents who speak multiple languages—to be a good host for the upcoming World Equestrian Games.

During the breakfast, two adults and one youth received Drum Major for Peace awards.

Our own Kerby Neill, CKCPJ co-chair, received the honor along with Ginny Ramsey, Catholic Action Center’s director. Tyler Samson,

who works with refugee populations in Lexington and volunteers at UK’s Newman Center, received the third award.

The Lexington Humanitarian Award, new this year, was given to former Lexington police chief Anthany Beatty.

Text summarized from LexingtonHerald-Leader’s coverage dated March 7, 2008.

Events at a Glance

<i>Date/Time</i>	<i>Event Description</i>	<i>Contact</i>
Friday April 11th 4-6 pm	Human Rights Torch Relay —Light the torch at 4pm at Triangle Park. Route goes to Woodland: FranciscanVision.com	call Patricia Griffin at 859-230-1986
Sunday April 20th 3 to 5 pm	Franciscan Peace Center Earth Day Celebration at McConnell Springs. For info email at FranciscanVision@aol.com	or call Patricia Griffin, above
Tuesday April 22nd 7 to 8:15 pm	Peace Wave at Woodland Park —Join us as Lexington Drums for Peace begin at 7: then in the next time zone drummers will start at that zone's 7 pm. We have drummers in every time zone.	http://newmorningworld.com/
● Tuesday April 22nd 4 pm	Children for Peace Art Contest Deadline —Make a banner for the 2008 Peace and Global Citizenship Fair on May 10th.	_email rebecca.glasscock@kctcs.edu
Friday, April 25th	Day of Silence Organized by Gay, Lesbian, Straight Education Network and LGBT Student Empowerment Project. Go to www.dayofsilence.org or see March 2008 <i>Peaceways</i> , page 2	www.glsen.org or www.usstudents.org
1 st Wed. of the month 7:00 pm	CKCPJ Board Meeting , KCCJ offices, 112 N. Upper St. All welcome.	Rosie Moosnick 859.268.5260
Every Thursday 5:30 - 6:00 pm	Interfaith Prayer Vigil for Peace , Triangle Park in downtown Lexington.	
1 st Monday of the month 12:00 noon - 1:30 pm	Kentucky Migrant Network , Cardinal Valley Center 1306 Versailles Road	Miguel Rodriguez, Chair miguelugr929@yahoo.com
2 nd Tuesday of the month 7:30 pm	Bluegrass Fairness of Central Kentucky , KCCJ office, 112 N Upper St.	Paul Brown, Chair, heme1588@yahoo.com
4 th Tuesday of the month 5:30 pm	Lexington Living Wage Campaign Meeting Community Action Council, 710 W. High Street	Richard Mitchell 859-327-6277
1 st Wed. of the month 4:00-6:30	Franciscan Peace Center , 3389 Squire Oak. FranciscanVision.org	Pat Griffin 859-230-1986
2 nd Wed. of the month 7:00 - 8:30 pm	Humanist Forum of Central Kentucky (AHA) , Unitarian Universalist Church, 3564 Clays Mill Rd.	Dick Renfro 859.255.7029
3 rd Thursday. of the month 7:00 pm	Kentuckians for the Commonwealth (KFTC) , Episcopal Diocese Mission House, 4th St. and Martin Luther King	Dave Newton 859.420.8919
TBA -- call John Walker, right, for details	Kitchen Gardeners of the Bluegrass , Unitarian Universalist Church, 3564 Clays Mill Rd.	John Walker 859-225-3866
Every Sunday 2:30-4:00pm	NAMI Lexington Support Groups -- Faye Morton Center, Eastern State Hospital, Lexington, Wendall Building basement	call 859.272.7891 or go to lexington.nami.org for info

● *An article in this issue contains more information on this event.*



The Central Kentucky Council
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112 N. Upper St.
Lexington KY 40507

I've chosen to preach about the war in Vietnam because I agree with Dante, that the hottest places in hell are reserved for those who in a period of moral crisis maintain their neutrality. There comes a time when silence becomes betrayal.

Martin Luther King, Jr.

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Issue #217 April 2008

Bits and Peaces

Deliver Health and Hope to the World — Project C.U.R.E. April 19th Drive By Collection

The Lexington committee of Project C.U.R.E is again hosting a Drive By Day, Saturday, April 19, to collect medical supplies and equipment for shipment to developing countries.

From 10:00-3:00 at Hunter Presbyterian Church, 109 Rosemont Garden, bring donated medical supplies to the Hunter parking lot. Volunteers will collect donations and pack containers for transfer to the Project C.U.R.E center in Nashville where supplies are shipped in response to requests from medical facilities abroad.

Project C.U.R.E. is the registered trademark of the Benevolent Healthcare Foundation, a 501(c)(3) non-profit, humanitarian relief organization that collects donated medical supplies and equipment and delivers it to clinics and hospitals that care for impoverished

people living in more than 100 countries around the world. (See www.projectcure.org for more information and details on how to help "Deliver Health and Hope to the World.")

Do you have crutches, wheel chairs, pressure casts, braces, or other medical supplies that are no longer needed? Would you like to see them used by someone who needs them? Or do you work at a medical office and have supplies that would normally be discarded?

Donation of supplies are welcomed from hospitals, doctor and dentist offices, surgery centers, stores, and individuals.

Call Suzi Kifer, Project C.U.R.E. Committee, 859-277-0816 for more information. If you can't make it to the Drive By Day, call and a volunteer can arrange to pick up your donations.

Recapturing Martin Luther King's radical vision: forty years after April 4, 1968

by Adam Taylor

I have become increasingly convinced that Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. has become the victim of identity theft. Too often we domesticate King, sanitizing his radical message and selectively choosing his words. Our nation embraces the King of Montgomery and Selma but suffers amnesia about the King of Memphis who called for a living wage, or the King of Riverside who spoke out boldly against the war in Vietnam....

Forty years ago [April 4th], Dr. King's life was cut short while supporting sanitation workers in Memphis. Dr. King said then, "Do you know that most of the poor people in our country are working everyday? They are making wages so low that they cannot begin to function in the mainstream of the economic life of our nation." Forty years later, Dr. King could still be saying the same words...

*This is an excerpt only: for full text,
see <http://blog.beliefnet.com>.*