

PEACEWAYS



Issue # 225

February 2009

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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Soup, Salad, Peace and Justice: Our Annual Supper and Resource Fair Saturday, March 7th

"Many Cultures, One Community" is this year's theme

What is it like to come to Central Kentucky from other parts of the world? At our 23rd annual Peace Supper and Resource Fair, CKCPJ co-chair Nabeel Jawahir will moderate two multicultural panels to explore that question. One panel will consist of persons who have come to central Kentucky from the wider world as adults. The other will consist of those whose parents came from elsewhere but who have, themselves, grown up in central Kentucky. The panels will explore: What surprises new arrivals? What is it like to be from a family from another culture but to grow up here? What is good? What is difficult? What parts of their own culture do these Kentuckians most want to preserve?

Location: The University of Kentucky's E.S. Good Barn, 1451 University Drive, Lexington.

Time: The resource fair begins at 5:00 p.m., the supper at 6:00 p.m., and the panel discussions at 7:00 p.m.

Details: In order to make the supper affordable to as many as possible, we are keeping the menu simple: bread, soup, salad, dessert and beverages. Vegan soups will be available. Tickets are \$8 for adults (18 & up) and \$5 for students. There is no charge for children (12 or under) or persons with low income.

Tickets: can either be purchased ahead of time from CKCPJ Board members, or reservations can be made by contacting Richard Mitchell at 859.327-6277 or richard.mitchell@insightbb.com. In Madison county, contact Maryann Ghosal at 859.626.7495 or maryann.ghosal@eku.edu. Those with reservations can pay at the door. Unfortunately, we cannot guarantee tickets will be available at the door for those without reservations.

Deadline for reservations is 5:00 pm, Friday, February 27th. When you contact us,

please tell us how many will be in your party and how many would prefer vegan soup.

To reserve a space for a table display at the resource fair, contact Richard Mitchell.

During the fair, there will also be an opportunity to bid on a selection of silent auction items. Come join us for an evening of fellowship as we gather to rededicate ourselves to working for a more sustainable, just, and peaceful world. ■

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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 859.355.5701 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.

Kentucky General Assembly Alert

This February, the Kentucky legislature convenes for a “short” session. Confronting a budget crisis, the session will be contentious as legislators and interest groups struggle to preserve or find new revenue for their dearest priorities. Issues we are tracking include:

- ➔ Our friends at Kentuckians for the Commonwealth want the restoration of voting rights for former felons.
- ➔ Kentucky Youth Advocates has developed thoughtful ideas for added tax revenue.
- ➔ At a time when predatory lending has triggered worldwide recession, predatory gouging of the poor persists in Kentucky—especially payday lending and rent-to-own operations. The Kentucky Coalition for Responsible Lending hopes to tackle the former during this session (see below).

The Council’s e-mail listserve will try to keep us posted on key legislative developments. If you wish to receive these notices, send an e-mail to JusticelistCKCPJ-subscribe@yahoogroups.com.

The Kentucky Coalition for Responsible Lending

CKCPJ has joined the newly formed **Kentucky Coalition for Responsible Lending**.

This coalition is working to promote state legislation to stop the abuses of the payday loan lending industry, a business which severely penalizes our most vulnerable citizens through predatory practices and interest rates.

Other member organizations of the coalition include: the Kentucky chapter of AARP; CLOUT (Citizens of Louisville Organized & United and Working Together); Community Action KY; Frontier Housing; Homeless and Housing Coalition of Kentucky; Kentucky Asset Building Coalition; Kentucky Domestic Violence Association; the Kentucky Equal Justice Center; Kentucky Resources Council; Kentucky Youth Advocates; and MACED (Mountain Association for Community Economic Development).

An essential component of these efforts will be to educate legislators regarding the serious impact of the practices and interest rates of the payday loan lending industry.

For those interested in researching these issues, the Center for Responsible Lending is a national organization worth examining. It is based in North Carolina and has offices in Washington, D.C., and California. Their website www.responsiblelending.org contains numerous policy studies, testimonials, and related resources.

Evening with the Mountain Keepers April 9th

University of Kentucky Student Center Grand Ballroom 6-10 pm



Art by The Beehive Collective
www.beehivecollective.org

Join us for an evening that brings together artists, poets, journalists, musicians and organizers who present creative perspectives on Appalachian culture and Mountaintop Removal (MTR) coal mining. Thanks to generous sponsors, this event is free and open to the public.

View the new creation *The True Cost of Coal* by the Beehive Collective (that's art from their blog <http://beehivecollective.blogspot.com> at left), view coal-culture exhibits and talk with artists and presenters, browse art and culture displays, watch MTR visuals, listen to Appalachian music from Public Outcry! and others, and enjoy refreshments.

The program will begin with a brief consideration of how public writing and grassroots community action work together to ensure a healthy, participatory democracy. A short overview of Appalachia's endangered culture and its uneasy relationship with coal will show how activist citizen-writers have worked for decades to make disturbing environmental and social justice issues visible to the public eye.

Presenters include: Dave Cooper, Erik Reece, Silas House, Jason Howard, Jessie Lynn Keltner, Kate Larken, George Ella Lyon, Anne Shelby, and Larry Gibson.

There will be readings from fiction, non-fiction, and poetry, time for a general Q & A, and for participants to informally chat with presenters, peruse the art, culture, and information exhibits, and hear more from Public Outcry! and others

The evening is hosted by The UK Writing Program Community Engagement Series. Sponsors include the UK departments of Anthropology, Appalachian Studies, Forestry and Geography; the Bluegrass Sierra Club; Green Thumb Environmental Club; Kentuckians for the Commonwealth; Office of Residence Life at UK, and the Central Kentucky Council for Peace and Justice.

For more information you go to the event website www.uky.edu/~afma222/MountainKeepers.htm, call organizer Anne Mareck at 859.257.6995, or e-mail her at anne.mareck@uky.edu. Her article "From the Top of Black Mountain"—describing her experience of an MTR tour conducted by Dave Cooper in October—was published in the December 2008 issue of *Peaceways*, and is available online at our archive: www.peaceandjusticeky.org/peaceways_archives.htm.

One World Film Festival March Listings

Lexington's 2009 One World Film Festival opens on February 15, and during the months of February and March will show eleven films. This is the 11th Anniversary of the festival, which showcases documentaries and feature films and sponsors speakers chosen to stimulate discussion and increase understanding of issues of race, culture, and ethnicity. All associated with the series are volunteers, and all film showings are free and open to the public.

Our January issue of *Peaceways* featured information on the February films. This month, we feature those to be screened in March. For a complete listing, see the festival website at www.oneworldfilmfestival.org.

Sunday, March 1, 2:00 and 4:30 pm: War Dance.

This 2008 Academy Award Nominee for Best Documentary Feature is set in civil-war-torn Northern Uganda and follows the lives of youngsters who attend school in a refugee camp and find hope through their rich tradition of song and dance. Said Ty Burr in a review for *The Boston Globe*: "If these stories are almost paralyzing in their inhumanity, the children's immersion in music and dance is deeply moving." **Film shown at Lexington Library Theater, Central Branch, 140 East Main St., Downtown Lexington.**

Thursday, March 5, 5:00 and 7:30 pm: Up the Yangtze.

A beautifully photographed documentary that had its U.S. premiere at the 2008 Sundance Film Festival, this film depicts China's peasant life and the cultural upheaval caused by the largest hydroelectric project in history, the Three Gorges Dam, and gives a human dimension to the changes facing an increasingly globalized China. **Film shown at Kentucky Theatre, 214 East Main St., Downtown Lexington.**

Sunday, March 8, 2:00 and 4:30 pm: OutSourced.

This low-keyed, full-length feature film, is a satire about the human side of contemporary frustrations brought about by the emphasis placed on "global economy." A sales manager in Seattle, whose department is being outsourced to India, is sent to Mumbai to train his successor and in the process learns some important lessons about globalization. The romantic comedy reminds us that sometimes getting lost is the best way to find yourself. **Film shown at Lexington Library Theater, Central Branch, 140 East Main St., Downtown Lexington.**

Thursday, March 12, 5:00 and 7:30 pm: Arranged.

A full-length feature, *Arranged* tells the story of two

women, one an Orthodox Jew, and the other, a Muslim, both just starting their teaching careers in a Brooklyn school. They discover they both face "arranged marriages" according to their respective cultures. As the school year ends the women have found their future spouses, and developed a friendship that will endure as they move on to become wives and mothers and continue to be modern women with deep religious convictions. **Film shown at Kentucky Theatre, 214 East Main St., Downtown Lexington.**

Sunday, March 15, 2:00 pm: Under the Same Moon.

This full-length feature film shows the dilemma of Mexican "illegals" living and working clandestinely in the U.S. and the loved ones they are supporting back home. A nine-year old boy living in Mexico with his grandmother misses his mother in the U.S. so much that he uses his street smarts to get to the U.S. and find her. Reviewer Owen Gleiberman says the film's "politics sneak up on you. The film says that the U.S. immigrant situation is untenable, but then it forces us to ask: What should be done?" **Film shown at Lexington Library Theater, Central Branch, 140 East Main St., Downtown Lexington.**

Thursday, March 19, 5:00 and 7:30 pm: Amal.

A multi-layered portrait of contemporary India, this feature film was shot in New Delhi, and is a modern-day fable that asks the question of what success means to each individual. The film reveals that sometimes the poorest of men are the richest. *Amal*, says filmmaker Atom Egoyan, is "full of beauty, grace, and great sensitivity." **Film shown at Kentucky Theatre, 214 East Main St., Downtown Lexington.**

Sunday, March 22, 2:00 pm: The Year My Parents Went On Vacation.

This full-length feature is the story of a 12-year-old in Brazil whose parents are forced to leave the country. The parents tell the boy to always say his parents are on vacation when they take him to stay with his grandfather, an Orthodox Jew, but in their haste, the parents simply drop the boy off in front of his grandfather's apartment building. Unbeknown to them, the grandfather died the day before. The film takes place in 1970, and tenderly shows how a young boy is forced into a change of life that builds his character and his appreciation for the global community. **Film shown at Lexington Library Theater, Central Branch, 140 East Main St., Downtown Lexington.**

Transgressions and Transformations:

University of Kentucky Gender and Women's Studies Spring Film Series

The Gender and Women's Studies Department at the University of Kentucky runs this Spring Film Series through February and March. Our January issue of *Peaceways* featured information on the February films. This month, we feature those to be screened in March. For a complete listing see: www.as.uky.edu/news_events/events/Pages/2008-09GWSEvents.aspx.

The two films listed here are shown on UK's campus in Lexington at the Gaines Center's Bingham-Davis House, 218 E. Maxwell Street. They are both free and open to the public.

Wednesday, March 4, 7:00 pm: My Home—Your War. Shot in Baghdad over three years that span the time before, during and after the invasion of Iraq, this film brings a perspective that has rarely been available to U.S. audiences.

It combines interviews with Layla Hassan and her family, vibrant scenes of Baghdad, and intimate footage shot by Layla herself to paint a picture of how the war has affected average Iraqis. Her shy teenage son turns to militancy, her once-progressive sister dons the veil, and whatever freedom Layla had under Saddam Hussein's secular rule is steadily being eroded.

While facts about the Iraq war garner much U.S. media attention, *My Home—Your War* is an account of something seldom discussed: how the Iraq war has created a situation where the rise of fundamentalism is putting women's rights increasingly at risk. "[H]ighly

recommended...for its devoted and emotive investigation and portrayal of life in war-torn Baghdad," says Educational Media Reviews.

Commentary and discussion led by Diane King and Ban Al-Attar. Diane King is Assistant Professor in Anthropology whose research on Iraq focuses on gender, identity, and conflict and its resolution. Ban Al-Attar recently received her Master's degree from UK's College of Public Health. She is from Iraq.

Tuesday, March 31, 7:00 pm: Bringin in Da Spirit.

Through the use of first person narrative and rare archival images, this film documents the history of African American midwives, those women who have skillfully brought scores of children across the threshold of existence. Narrated by Phylicia Rashad, *Bringin in Da Spirit* celebrates women who have committed themselves to holistic answers amidst powerful misconceptions about the practice of midwifery and virulent opposition from practitioners of Western medicine. The film won the Paul Robeson Award Initiative Special Prize, FESPACO, Burkina Faso, 2005.

Commentary and discussion led by Rynetta Davis, Assistant Professor in English, who researches and writes about black and white women's cross- and intra-racial friendships as they are depicted in 19th and 20th century African-American literature. ■

Migrant Network Coalition's "Achieving Dreams" scholarship

Since 1994, the Migrant Network Coalition (MNC) has been a broad-based coalition of public and private organizations and individuals networking to meet the wide range of needs of our diverse Latino and immigrant communities in the state of Kentucky.

This year, they are proud to announce the 2009 MNC Achieving Dreams scholarship award for students accepted or enrolled in a 2- or 4-year college. All immigrants or

minority students are encouraged to apply.

Students are eligible for the scholarship if they:

- possess a GPA of 2.5 or higher
- are either a senior in, or graduate of, a Kentucky high school, or are a GED recipient
- Demonstrate financial need

Eligible students will need to complete a scholarship form and provide supporting documents. For those forms and for more informa-



tion, contact: Erin Michelle Howard at Bluegrass and Technical College, Hispanic Outreach Services, 470 Cooper Drive, 211 Oswald Building, Lexington, KY 40506. You can call Erin at 859.246.6436, or e-mail her at erin.howard@kctcs.edu. ■

War and the Economy: Peace Action Task Group sponsors first in a series of discussions and events

This year, CKCPJ's Peace Action Task Force has identified as its focus issues relating to the U.S. wars and their effect on our economy. We will be bringing you notices of events and *Peaceways* articles on related topics throughout the year.

On Wednesday, January 21st, at Al's Bar in Lexington, the Task Force sponsored its first event exploring this connection with a panel discussion by: Alan Bartley, professor of Economics at Transylvania University, whose areas of research and specialization include both microeconomics and public policy issues; Sue Roberts professor of Geography at the University of Kentucky whose academic work has examined aspects of the changing geography of the international financial system and its regulation; and Michael Benton, professor of English at Bluegrass Community and Technical College.

Each panelist presented an examination of the issues from their area of expertise. Michael Benton's presentation focused on the media's lack of attention to the link between the war and the economy and his work in helping students use critical analyses in exam-

ining conventional media coverage of both the war and the current economic situation. He generously offered to share with *Peaceways* readers his extensive electronic archive of relevant resources available at: <http://dialogic.blogspot.com/2009/01/rich-media-poor-democracy-researching.html>

The archive is organized in three parts:

- **Part One: Media Ownership** documents the maximization of profits at the expense of providing choice and diversity for consumers and points out that although the airwaves belong to the people, government policy has favored private, not public, interests.
- **Part Two: Journalism and Democracy** contains examples of the first amendment being interpreted as a protection for owners and advertisers, and not editors and reporters, and the effects of cost-cutting and consolidation of news departments on investigative journalism.
- Under "**Extras**," professor Benton has assembled examples of media influence on recent elections as well as important sources of alternative media. ■

Terra Madre 2008—Slow Food report coming to you

Terra Madre 2008—held in Turin, Italy, this past October—brought together over 6000 people for the largest-ever international gathering of small-scale farmers and local food producers. Twenty of them came from Kentucky. (See the January issue of *Peaceways* for a full report, available online at www.peaceandjusticeky.org/peaceways_archives.htm).

On January 25th at the downtown Lexington Public Library, five

of those attending from Kentucky shared their observations of the conference and their visions for the future of sustainable food.

Pictured below, they are, left to right, Pete and Brenda Cashel of Terrapin Hill Farm (www.terrapinhillfarm.com/dnn), Mark Williams, panel moderator and representing Slow Food Bluegrass (www.slowfoodbluegrass.org), Angela Caporelli, Kentucky Depart-

ment of Agriculture (e-mail: angela.caporelli@ky.gov), and Jim Embry (www.sustainlex.org).

You can go to www.slowfood.com to find out more about the conference and about food that is "good, clean, and fair," based on what has been called eco-gastronomy—a recognition of the strong connections between plate and planet.

These Kentucky delegates to Terra Madre are available to speak about their experiences and the movement for local food systems: contact Jim Embry at embryjim@gmail.com to arrange presentations. ■



Events at a Glance

<i>Date/Time</i>	<i>Event Description</i>	<i>Contact</i>
March 2-5: Gender and War Series , co-sponsored by Transylvania Women's Studies and UK Gender and Women's Studies Programs, Lexington	March 2 —Anna Froula, "Visualizing American Women at War," 4:00 pm, Room 211 New Student Center Addition, UK. March 3 —Cynthia Enloe, "Why Paying Attention to Women Makes Us Smarter about the Iraq War," 4:00 pm, Cowgill Building, Transylvania University. March 5 —Francie Chassen-Lopez, "Women, War, and Body Politics in Nineteenth Century Mexico," 4:00 pm, Room 211 New Student Center Addition, UK.	For complete listings and more information see website at: www.as.uky.edu/news_events/events/Pages/2008-09GWSEvents.aspx .
Wednesday, March 25th 8:00 pm Al's Bar, 6 th & Limestone, Lexington	Holler Poets Series #11 presents poets for peace in the mountains, a writer's perspective on mountaintop removal, featuring Erik Reece, Jason Howard, Jane Gentry Vance, Jude McPherson, Silas House, and George Ella Lyon—hosted by Eric Sutherland. The event is FREE.	For more information: www.myspace.com/hollerpoets .
March 30th-April 3rd Transylvania University, Lexington	Fair Trade Week at Transylvania University Monday, March 30 th —Information Booths around campus Tuesday, March 31 st —Panel discussions with local vendors, activists and professors Wednesday, April 1 st —Community Art Project in Gratz Park Thursday, April 2 nd —Movie Night, held in Cowgill Building Friday, April 3 rd —Fair Trade Fashion Show	For more information: Sara Marie Thompson at smthompson09@transy.edu
1 st Wednesday 7:00 pm	CKCPJ Board Meeting , in our offices at 112 N. Upper St. All are welcome.	Nabeel Jawahir, Co-chair 859.619.3369
Every Thursday 5:30 - 6:00 pm	Interfaith Prayer Vigil for Peace , Triangle Park in downtown Lexington.	
1 st Monday 12:00 noon - 1:30 pm	Kentucky Migrant Network , Cardinal Valley Center 1306 Versailles Road www.mnclex.net/Welcome.html	Jennifer Hubbard-Sánchez jsanchez@lfucg.com
2 nd Tuesday 7:30 pm	Bluegrass Fairness of Central Kentucky , KCCJ office, 112 N Upper St.	Paul Brown, Chair, heme1588@yahoo.com
1 st Wednesday 4:00-6:30	Franciscan Peace Center , 3389 Squire Oak. FranciscanVision.org	Pat Griffin 859.230.1986
2 nd Wednesday 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 7:00 pm	Kentuckians for the Commonwealth (KFTC) , Episcopal Diocese Mission House, 4th St. and Martin Luther King	Ondine Quinn 859.276.0563
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



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

Patriotism means valuing—and investing in—the common good. Attacking taxes and undermining the tools by which we pursue the common good is the least patriotic thing I can think of.

—Sally Kohn

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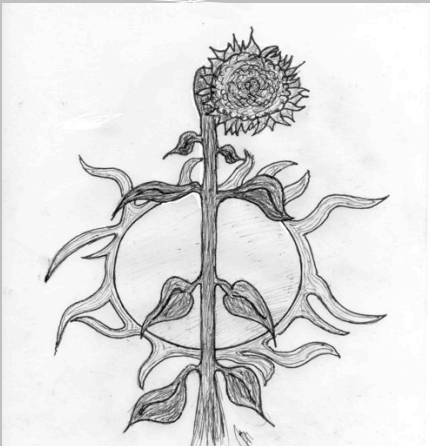
Issue #225 February 2009

Bits and Peaces



The Peace and Justice Coalition
A BCTC STUDENT ORGANIZATION

Think. Act. Discover. Peace.
peace2day.org



Benefit Concert
Al's Bar, Feb 21, 2009

Al's Bar,
6th & Limestone, Lexington

Benefits: Footprints for Peace &
2009 Peace & Global Citizenship
Fair

Sponsored by: New Morning
World

♪ **Sundown Service**
♪ **Freak the Mighty**

9:00 p.m.
\$5 cover

Come to the benefit concert February 21st in support of two local groups: the Peace and Justice Coalition, a BCTC student organization responsible for the the 4th Annual 2009 Peace & Global Citizenship Fair (to be held this year on May 16th); and Footprints for Peace,



co-sponsors of the Lexington to Frankfort Walk to Stop Mountaintop Removal, February 14th-17th (for more information, see: <http://footprintsforpeace.tripod.com>).

Music by Sundown Service and Freak the Mighty. Sponsored by New Morning World (see website at <http://newmorningworld.com>).

For map and more: <http://tinyurl.com/bhk5q9>, or call Rebecca Glasscock at 859.276.6146.

Look here for more information about the 2009 Peace and Global Citizenship Fair in the coming months.