

PEACEWAYS



Issue # 236

March 2010

The Newsletter of the Central Kentucky Council for Peace and Justice
112 N. Upper St. Lexington KY 40507 859.255.6999
E-mail List: richard.mitchell@insightbb.com Website: www.peaceandjusticeky.org

VOICES for Peace and Justice
...the arc of the moral universe is long but it bends towards justice.-MLK Jr.

Training peace leaders

Paul K. Chappell to speak in Lexington April 12 & 13

The Central Kentucky Council for Peace and Justice is very pleased to present, for the first time, a spring Voices event series. (Watch *Peaceways* and our JusticeList blog <http://justicelist.typepad.com> for more details). In the first event of that series, we welcome to Lexington Paul K. Chappell. He is the author of *Will War Ever End? A Soldier's Vision of Peace for the 21st Century* and *The End of War: How Waging Peace Can Save Humanity, our Planet, and Our Future* (May 2010), and is working on his third book, *Peaceful Revolution*.

A graduate of the United States Military at West Point (2002), Paul Chappell served in the Army for seven years, was deployed to Baghdad, and left active duty in November 2009 as a captain.

Chappell now serves as Leadership Director for the Nuclear Age Peace Foundation (www.wagingpeace.org) and speaks throughout the country to colleges, high schools, veterans groups, churches, and activist organizations on the need for



peace leadership and effective strategies for addressing violence. In his "Peace Leadership Program Booklet" (a downloadable pdf resource available at www.wagingpeace.org), Chappell re-

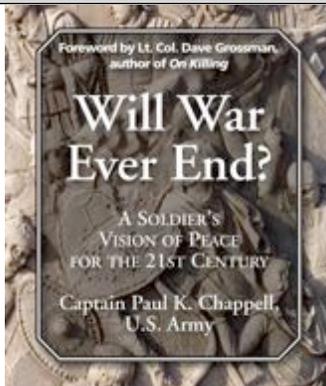
fects on the lessons he learned in his training at West Point and in his experiences as a soldier. "One thing that has always impressed me about the military," he writes, "is how good the training is. Military training is incredible, and right now the training people get in waging war is much better than the training people get in waging peace." Reflecting on the history of the suffra-

gist and civil rights movements, which had powerful leaders, he says: "All meaningful progress has resulted from small groups of thoughtful, committed citizens. The army taught me that a small group of disciplined soldiers is stronger than a large untrained army. Quality is also more powerful than quantity when waging peace."

Paul Chappell will be speaking at these locations in Lexington:

- | | |
|-----------------------|---|
| April 12—3:30 | University of Kentucky
UK Student Center Theater, 2 nd Floor |
| —5:30 | Transylvania University
At the Canteen |
| —7:30 | Lexington Public Library
Central Branch, 140 E. Main St., Auditorium |
| April 13 —3:30 | Bluegrass Community & Technical College, Auditorium,
Oswald Building, Cooper Campus |

For more information on his Lexington speaking engagements contact Kerby Neill: e-mail at tkneill@earthlink.net, or call 859.293.2265.



Voices logo by Erin Fifield

~ Council Alerts, Reports, Updates ~

The Central Kentucky Council for Peace & Justice

Board of Directors: Arne Bathke (co-chair), Soreyda Begley, Joan Braune, Rebecca DiLoreto, Jim Embry, Mary Ann Ghosal, Rebecca Glasscock (co-chair), Chester Grundy, Teresa Hendricks, Randolph Hollingsworth, Stephanie Hopkins, Nabeel Jawahir, Steve Kay, Billie Mallory, Richard Mitchell, Bruce Mundy, Howard Myers (treasurer), Kerby Neill, Nadia Rasheed, Rabbi Uri Smith

Member Organizations: ACLU—Central Kentucky Chapter, Amnesty International UK Chapter, Bahá'is of Lexington, Berea Friends Meeting, Bluegrass Domestic Violence Program, Catholic Action Center, Central Christian Church, Commission for Peace and Justice—Lexington Catholic Diocese, Franciscan Peace Center, Gay and Lesbian Services Organization (GLSO), Humanist Forum of Central Kentucky, Humanitarian, Hunter Presbyterian Church, Islamic Society of Central Kentucky, Jewish Federation of the Bluegrass, Kentucky Coalition to Abolish the Death Penalty—Central Kentucky Chapter, Kentucky Coalition for Immigrant and Refugee Rights (KCIRR), Kentucky Conference for Community and Justice (KCCJ), Lexington Fair Housing Council, Lexington Fairness, Lexington Friends Meeting, Lexington Hispanic Association (Asociacion de Hispanos Unidos), Lexington Labor Council—Jobs With Justice Committee, Lexington Living Wage Campaign, Maxwell St. Presbyterian Church, Newman Center at UK, North East Lexington Initiative, One World Film Festival, Students for Peace and Earth Justice (Bluegrass Community and Technical College), Progress—student group at Transylvania University, Second Presbyterian Church, Shambhala Center, Sustainable Communities Network, Unitarian Universalist Church of Lexington, United Nations Association—Blue Grass Chapter.



Peaceways is published ten times a year by the Central Kentucky Council for Peace and Justice, 112 N. Upper St., Lexington KY 40507. For subscriptions, queries regarding articles or if you'd like to submit items for the calendar, **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.

At its March meeting, the Central Kentucky Council for Peace and Justice board voted unanimously to support the initiative to suspend immigration enforcement practice during the time the census is in progress. Requested by the National Network for Immigrant and Refugee Rights (NNIRR), such a suspension would maximize immigrant community participation in the upcoming census. During the middle of March, households will receive in their mail the census form, with April 1st the target date for returning forms.

Numerous other organizations have also requested such a suspension. It is particularly important because immigrant based communities are among several known to be significantly undercounted by the census.

While the Administration and Department of Homeland Security have thus far not indicated that they will take any steps, in the past two census periods—during 1990 and 2000—many operations were suspended for specific intervals.

Though the deadline for organizations to endorse this measure has passed, individuals can still go to the NNIRR website: www.nnirr.org to endorse the suspension of enforcement practice during the census.

Watch our justicelist e-mail alerts for upcoming actions and lobbying opportunities on these and other important matters. If you are not yet a subscriber but would like to be, send a note to Richard Mitchell at: richard.mitchell@insightbb.com. ■

2010 Lauren K. Weinberg Humanitarian Awards Tuesday April 6th

The Board of the Kentucky Conference for Community and Justice (KCCJ) has unanimously chosen to honor Nathaniel Mission and Seedleaf, Inc. with their Lauren K. Weinberg Humanitarian Award. The Award ceremony will be held on Tuesday, April 6th from 5:30 to 8:00 at Buster's Billiards & Backroom, in the heart of the Lexington Distillery District revitalization project.

For more than 50 years, the Humanitarian Award has honored outstanding individuals and organizations in our community whose work exemplifies and affirms KCCJ's mission to raise awareness and speak out for the just, fair and equal treatment of all people by promoting respect, understanding and acceptance through advocacy, education and empowerment.

Nathaniel Mission will receive this honor for its 60-plus years of support to the residents in some of the most economically depressed neighborhoods in our community. The volunteers at Nathaniel Mission's free medical clinic provide health care, including dental and even veterinary services, to more than 2,500 people each year.

Seedleaf was chosen for its unique and transformative approach to the issue of hunger in our community. The organization provides nourishing food as well as education about production, preparation and sustainable gardening practices. They not only feed hungry individuals, but also improve the over-all health of the community, thus approaching a long-standing social problem in a new, more lasting and effective way.

For tickets to the event, contact Jill Hanna at jhanna@kccjky.org, or call 859.255.6999. ■



Lexington's One World Film Festival

In its 12th year, Lexington's 2010 One World Film Festival presents ten films—documentaries and feature films chosen to stimulate discussion and increase understanding of issues of race, culture, and ethnicity.

The festival began in February. In the last issue of *Peaceways* we featured information on the first seven films. Below are the final three, shown the last two weeks of March. The people who bring you this series are all volunteers.

All film showings are free and open to the public.

Sunday March 21, 2 & 4:30 pm: *Frozen River*. Lexington Public Library Theater (Central Branch, 140 E. Main St) On a Mohawk reservation on the Canadian border, Ray Eddy (Oscar-nominated Melissa Leo) teams with widowed tribe member Lila Littlewolf (Misty Upham) to smuggle illegal immigrants into the United States. Though the work provides the women with much-needed money, each trip puts them in peril. This riveting drama was nominated for multiple Independent Spirit Awards, including Best Feature. **Reception following 2 pm showing is sponsored by Central Kentucky Council for Peace & Justice.**

Thursday March 25, 5 & 7:30 pm: *Lemon Tree*. Kentucky Theatre (214 E. Main St., Lexington)

In this drama based on a true story, Palestinian widow (Hiam Abbass) fights to keep her lemon grove when Israeli security forces declare it a threat to the Israeli defense minister living next door (Doron Tavory). Teaming with a young lawyer (Ali Suliman), the widow takes her case to the Israeli Supreme Court. But in the process of seeking justice, she's forced to hide the forbidden bond growing between them. Reception following the 7:30 pm showing of the film sponsored by the Muslim Women's Council of Kentucky.

Sunday March 28, 2 & 4:30 pm: *Good Hair*. Lexington Public Library Theater (Central Branch, 140 E. Main St). Actor and stand-up comic Chris Rock travels from beauty salons to science labs to comb through the mystery of African American hair in director Jeff Stilson's insightful and hilarious documentary. Rock contemplates the purpose and application of a weave as well as women's self-esteem and their locks. Ice-T, Nia Long, Rev. Al Sharpton, Raven-Symoné, Maya Angelou and other celebrities share their insights on just what it means to have "good hair."

For more info: www.oneworldfilmfestival.org.

Mitch McConnell: Heartless in Kentucky

Friday, Feb. 12, members of the groups Kentuckians for Single Payer Health Care, the Clergy & Laity Network of KY, CKCPJ, Kentuckians for the Commonwealth, and the Democratic Women's Network of Kentucky staged a media event to highlight the failure of Senator Mitch McConnell and other Republicans to either support Democratic proposals or to offer even a single piece of legislation that would significantly reduce the number of uninsured Americans. The 4-ft heart you see here was then presented to a staff member at Senator McConnell's central Kentucky offices. No one should be denied health care for lack of ability to pay. Join us. Call 859.327.6277. Note: while all media outlets were advised of the event, none were present. To package our own new items, we are looking for people with video editing and related skills. Interested? Please e-mail: gmkkentucky@gmail.com or call 859.335.5701.



Catholic Action Center Celebrates 10 Years—The Catholic Action Center of Lexington, based on the Catholic Worker Movement begun by Dorothy Day, is celebrating its ten-year anniversary this year through a series of "Connection Events." These are opportunities for members of the community and the Center's guests to connect and share in the anniversary celebrations. Through March, connections are happening through a series of Lenten discussion groups, "Blessed are the Poor in Spirit" based on the book by Ron Hall and Denver Moore: *Same Kind of Different As Me*. In April, a "Twenty-four Hour Homeless Experience" will invite Lexington to take to the streets to "taste" the life of those experiencing homelessness in our community. Their culminating anniversary events will be held the week of June 18th; more details will be coming soon. More info: go to www.godsnet.info; send a note to caclexky@insightbb.com; or call 859.514.7210.

BUILD Action Monday, March 22nd Imani Baptist Church, Lexington

A BUILD gathering is not quite like any other meeting in Lexington. When rousing members, organizers might use humor to talk about Big Hairy Audacious Goals, but they are perfectly serious about achieving justice on behalf of the most vulnerable in our community. On March 22nd, an estimated 2,000 people will assemble, demonstrating the power of collective intention to achieve that justice. **You are invited to join this gathering at Imani Baptist Church, 1555 Georgetown Rd, Lexington. Registration is at 6:15; the Action begins at 7:00 pm.**

Organizers at BUILD (Building a United Interfaith Lexington through Direct-action) know there will be uncomfortable moments at that Action. In fact one public official has reflected that for him being called before a BUILD Action is a little like going to the dentist.

That's okay, said Rev. Ron Luckey at the preparatory March 8th rally: after all, you go to a dentist to get a problem fixed. At the Action on March 22nd, invited public officials will be asked to commit to concrete, specific steps to address urgent problems in Lexington.

For example, Lexington needs affordable housing for all its residents. The Lexington *Herald-Leader* recently published a thorough analysis by columnist Jacalyn Carfagno of the need for a dedicated revenue stream for a trust fund dedicated to just that: "Affordable housing is just as essential as police protection," declared one headline. We need to see affordable housing "as an essential part of a community's infrastructure" (March 7, 2010). Ensuring a dedicated revenue stream for an Affordable Housing Trust Fund (AHTF), of the kind in use by over 500 cities nation-

wide, is one of four urgent community needs BUILD aims to address.

Council members present on March 22nd will hear loud and clear how committed are 2,000 Lexingtonians to affordable housing for all (if you cannot attend the Action, you can send a note stating your concern and support of a dedicated revenue stream to fund the AHTF by emailing all the council members at: councilmembers@lfucg.com, and the mayor at: mayor@lfucg.com).

Other problems BUILD will be addressing on March 22nd include: health care for Lexington's uninsured, high rates of suspensions in 5 identified middle schools, and a restorative justice model for youth who have used drugs and alcohol and are in the court system. Research committees have been working for months collecting data and shaping specific proposals to which the assembled public officials will be asked to commit themselves, their offices, and our resources.

It's a sight you really have to see for yourself.

History of "Earth Day"

Accustomed to celebrating Earth Day in April, many of us do not know that that the first Earth Day, and the one marked by the United Nations to this day, was actually in March.

Earth Day: In a 1969 UNESCO conference in San Francisco, eco-activist John McConnell introduced Earth Day to honor the Spring or Vernal Equinox, a time when the Earth is in a state of balance and harmony because the hours of daylight and darkness are almost equal. McConnell wanted a specific day set aside every year for humans to respect and cherish Mother Earth, promote and sustain peace, relieve human suffering, and increase the global commitment to the stewardship of our only home—Gaia. Interestingly, McConnell is also the originator of the "Minute for Peace

Program," co-founder of the Earth Society Foundation, and creator of the Earth Flag. His ultimate desire for Earth Day was to establish a universal holiday to promote peace, justice, and environmental stewardship of the Earth. At his urging, on 21 March 1970, the first Earth Day took place in San Francisco. In 1975 the U.S. Congress passed a resolution and President Ford proclaimed the observance of Earth Day on the March Equinox.

Environmental Teach-in:

The late Senator Gaylord Nelson wanted to bring the pollution of the air, water, and land to the political forefront because he felt that it was not on the national political agenda. He was inspired by the anti-Viet Nam War demonstrations in the 1960s and wanted to do something similar for the one-time observance he called Environmental Teach-In or Eco-Day.

Senator Nelson set aside 22 April 1970 as the day to make the general public and Congress more aware of our environmental problems through the teach-ins, which he hoped would spur a national dialogue.

Using his influence as a politician, he formed an organization called Environmental Teach-In, Inc. and placed an ad in the New York Times for the one-time event. However, prior to the ad being placed, he renamed the Environmental Teach-In Earth Day after he learned of the celebration that John McConnell introduced at the 1969 UNESCO Conference in San Francisco.

This text is excerpted from a longer piece written by Obiora Embry. You can read the entire original article and see relevant quotations and links to research on his website: www.econsultingllc.org/Earth_Day.



Studying Peace

At CKCPJ's annual dinner and resource fair

This year's gathering of Council members, friends, supporters and interested allies took place Sunday, March 7th at Central Christian Church in a time for renewed friendships, new connections, spirited conversation, and learning.

As the invocation, Shatila Zaman, a senior at Lafayette High School, read her prose poem "Web," where the assembled were reminded that there are times when "We do nothing, cowering in fear that we just did something." The piece concludes, though, with this vision: "We look in a mirror today and see a reflection where the subtractions and divisions are singed off..."

The panel discussion following dinner was moderated by Richard Greissman and began with an appreciation of the six years of Peace Studies established at BTC. Faculty members Rebecca Glasscock and Michael Benton explained the interdisciplinary program; former and current students Courtney Barlow and Joshua Saxton described their motivation to take the peace studies curriculum and the results in their lives and career choices. The evening concluded with the vision of establishing a Peace House Living-Learning community at UK. Marianne Lorensen, Mel Lesch, and Peter Berres, helped the gathering understand how other living-learning communities work at present and what Peace House might become. Student leader Matt Longacre presented results of his informal surveys during international travel—even the most negative responses to the idea of a Peace House, he says, concluded with insistent suggestions that "if this crazy idea *does* go forward, you're going to want to..."

Even in those who have witnessed atrocities and bloodshed, the hope for peace burns like an ember, waiting.



Photos by Peaceways staff





by Carole Johnston

Day of Silence is an event sponsored by GLSEN (Gay Lesbian and Straight Education Network <http://www.dayofsilence.org>). I sponsor the Gay Straight alliance at Lafayette high school, and we plan to celebrate the Day of Silence. It takes place on April 16th nation-

wide. On this day, people who participate close their mouths and open their eyes to bring attention to the fact that it's not always easy for people who are gay, lesbian, bisexual or transgendered to discuss their personal lives with others who may not accept them for who they are.

Participants go an entire day without speaking, holding cards that explain their reasons for doing

so and asking that people respect their choice to be silent. They choose to be silent for one day because many others live not just a day, but their entire lives unable to really talk about what they're experiencing. People who are interested in participating can contact their local Gay Straight Alliance for resources and more information (www.kentuckylgbt.org).

Editor's note: students who chose to observe the day and write about their experience are invited to submit short articles to: gmkkentucky@gmail.com, for possible publication in future issues of Peaceways.

Stand up—speak out—strengthen the cause

Take Back the Night: Wednesday, March 31st

Lexington joins the national movement—for the right of everyone to live free of violence and fear—with a march and rally downtown. Meet at one of the “March With Me” launch sites at 7:00pm. Current sites include the Patterson Office Tower plaza at the University of Kentucky, the parking lot of 3rd Street Stuff on Limestone, and Triangle Park. The marches will lead everyone to Courthouse Plaza in downtown Lexington where the rally will be from 7:30-8:30pm. Area colleges, high schools, and community members are invited to participate. The rally will include special speakers, musical guests, a candlelight vigil, community resource tables, and more.

Now over thirty years strong, Take Back the Night has become known internationally as a visible way for men and women to take a stand against sexual violence as well as domestic violence in their community. For more information, please contact Kenya Cummings: Kenya.Cummings@uky.edu or 859.257.3189.

Feminist journal “V” calls for submissions

Excerpted from the journal's promotional material:

V is a feminist journal which examines violence against women in Lexington specifically and contemporary America generally. Editors Stephanie Straub and Bianca Bargo say that: “Through creative and scholarly work, we hope to better understand and to educate both men and women in our community. We firmly believe that a critical examination of attitudes towards women and sexuality is essential to understanding why violence occurs—to understand the problem, we must also understand the context. Above all, we hope that V will make Lexington a safer, more hospitable environment for women.”

The journal is accepting black and white visual art, poems of any length, and longer pieces which may be published online at <http://v-source.org> where you can also find full submission guidelines and other links. Contact: vsourcuky@gmail.com or stephanie.straub@gmail.com.

Fair Trade advocates needed

Help make Lexington a Fair Trade Town—we are looking for a diverse group of: inspired activists, engaged community groups & organizations, and socially responsible members of the business community to join the campaign.

Fair Trade Towns USA is a national movement uniting community activists from across the country who are dedicated to the principles of Fair Trade (<http://fairtradetownsusa.org>).

Our goal is to raise awareness—because every dollar we spend is powerful. Ramifications of our decisions echo across continents, countries, and communities. By organ-

izing our communities at the local level we are able to make a tangible impact on the US market. We must insist that international justice and equity for producers, artisans, farmers, and workers around the world is a priority of our system of international commerce.

Becoming a Fair Trade Town is a process designed to empower citizens to develop a permanent platform in their communities for continued outreach and advocacy for Fair Trade. Join us! Contact Kim Browning at ksbrowning@windstream.net, Teresa Hendricks: Teresa@luciasboutique.com or 859.389.9337 or Billie Mallory at mallory.billie@yahoo.com or 859.285.5211.



The Central Kentucky Council
for Peace and Justice
112 N. Upper St.
Lexington KY 40507

I like to believe that people in the long run are going to do more to promote peace than our governments. Indeed, I think that people want peace so much that one of these days governments had better get out of the way and let them have it.
—Dwight D. Eisenhower

Non Profit Org.
US Postage
PAID
Lexington KY
Permit No. 1042

MOVING SOON??—Please send us your new address in advance.

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Issue #236 March 2010

Bits and Peaces

March 21, 7:30 pm
The Economic Impact of the Iraq War—7th Anniversary at Al's Bar, 6th and Limestone, Lexington. Not sure how to mark a sobering anniversary? Join us as we explore the economic impacts of the war both here and in Iraq. Discussion followed by concert of war protest songs. Info: rebecca.glasscock@kctcs.edu. ■

March 26, 7:00 pm
Mitch Barrett, 2009 Telluride Troubadour: benefit concert for Peace Meal Gardens. In the student center at BCTC Leestown Campus, 164 Opportunity Way, Lexington. The Gardens include allotment plots, a market garden, children's garden, and plots to feed the poor. Tickets or info: debbie.shambro@kctcs.edu or rebecca.glasscock@kctcs.edu. Suggested donation: \$5-15. ■

Calling WW II pacifists: The Lexington History Museum is assembling a 2011 exhibit on the 70th anniversary of the US entry into the war and say they want Lexingtonians' and Fayette Countians' experiences and artifacts from the WW II years. Wouldn't it be great if we could surprise them with stories of committed pacifists? Contact James Kemper Millard 849-254-0530 or email: jamie@lexingtonhistorymuseum.org. ■

April 8-11: "Covering Conflicts in a Modern World" journalism conference at University of Kentucky: Conference on war, journalism, and history. Info: Terry Anderson: terry.anderson@uky.edu or 859.257.6336, ext. 86216. ■

April 12-14 Centre College Colloquium on Religion and Genocide. Three-day conference at Center College in Danville brings major scholars on the holocaust, genocide, and peacemaking, to Centre's campus for convocations and workshops. Events are free and open to the public. Contact: Rick Axtell 859-238-5342 or email rick.axtell@centre.edu. ■

April 16-18: Campus Community Partnerships for Sustainability conference co-hosted by Bluegrass Community and Technical College, Transylvania University, and the University of Kentucky in Lexington. Keynote speaker is Jeff Biggers, writer, educator, radio correspondent, and co-founder of the Coal Free Future Project (<http://jeffrbiggers.com>). Info: rebecca.glasscock@kctcs.edu. ■

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- Spring VOICES event: Peace Leadership speaker Paul K. Chappell in Lexington April 12 & 13.....page 1
- CKCPJ board news; Lauren K. Weinberg Award date...page 2
- One World Film series—final 3 films in March.....page 3
- Mitch McConnell Heartless in Kentucky—Healthcare reform press conference;. Catholic Action Center: Tenth Anniversary events.....page 3
- BUILD Action March 22 at Imani Baptist.....page 4
- History of Earth Day.....page 4
- CKCPJ "Peace Studies" dinner—photos and facts.....page 5
- Day of Silence April 16.....page 6
- Take Back the Night March 31; Feminist journal V.....page 6
- Fair Trade advocates needed.....page 6
- March 23 Hanan Ashwari to speak in Lexington.....page 7