

PEACEWAYS



Issue # 247

April 2011

The Newsletter of the Central Kentucky Council for Peace and Justice
112 N. Upper St. Lexington KY 40507 859.255.6999

E-mail List: peaceandjusticeky@gmail.com Website: www.peaceandjusticeky.org

Lexington's 6th Annual Peace and Global Citizenship Fair Sat. May 14

Time: from 12:00 noon until 6:30 pm—Free of charge—Free Parking

Location: Grounds of Bluegrass Community and Technical College

Address: 470 Cooper Drive, Lexington—all are warmly welcome



by Rebecca Glasscock,
event organizer

Now in its 6th year, the Peace and Global Citizenship Fair is hosted by BCTC's Students for Peace & Earth Justice and co-sponsored by the Central Kentucky Council for Peace and Justice. Each year the fair is on the Saturday after Mother's Day, on the BCTC grounds just north of Commonwealth Stadium.

The peace fair is intended as a glimpse into an alternative to the culture of war.



And what would a culture of peace look like?

Knowledge of the place one calls home; a strong, vibrant, and resilient community; a deep connection with the earth and a commitment to living in an ecologically, socially, and economically sustainable manner; an embrace of knowledge from— and of— other cultures.



A culture of peace will surely include music, art, activities, local and international food, conversation, interesting and new ideas, and FUN! For this year's fair, musical entertainment will include Nelda Wyatt, Lost Dog, Chasing Dragons, Cheryl Pan and the adorable Chinese dancers (pictured below and left from last year's fair), Sydney Cubit, belly dancer Tina Safiya, and others. New activities this year include Kentucky Time Banks, a cooperative effort to share skills and time; a film festival, including showing of the documentary *The Economics of Happiness*; and community art for cultural understanding. Please mark your calendar and encourage friends and family to come. You can go to www.peace2day.org for program updates.

In building the future we want, we should remember Albert Einstein's words: "We can't solve problems by using the same kind of thinking we used when we created them."



Graphics this page courtesy BCTC Students for Peace & Earth Justice—see www.peace2day.org. Photo, above, *Peaceways* staff.

The Central Kentucky Council for Peace & Justice

Board of Directors: Joe Anthony, Arne Bathke (co-chair), Joan Braune, Rebecca DiLoreto, Mary Ann Ghosal, Rebecca Glasscock, Teresa Hendricks, Randolph Hollingsworth (co-chair), Matthew Longacre, Billie Mallory, Richard Mitchell, Bruce Mundy, Howard Myers (treasurer), Kerby Neill (secretary), Sandra Powell, Melynda Price, Pedro Santiago, Rabbi Uri Smith

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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. 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 peaceandjusticeky@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.

Student Organizing Update from Joan Braune, CKCPJ board member and organizer in the UK Socialist Student Union (SSU)

A collaborative effort, the "Fund Our Future, Not War" rally we organized for Sat. April 9 at Lexington's downtown courthouse square provided a local voice echoing national protests in Washington D.C., New York, and elsewhere. These actions called for the funding of people's needs and an end to the massive budget cuts that are sweeping the country. The Lexington rally was lively and well-attended, with speeches from BCTC SSU activists Ryan Smith and Emily Trowbridge, Janet Tucker of Kentuckians for the Commonwealth, and Bronson Rozier from Socialist Action. Three people even drove in from Louisville to attend the rally. The local affiliate of ABC news (WTVQ Channel 36) sent a reporter to interview protesters and film speeches.

Held the day after Congress voted to approve massive cuts to social services, the rally theme could not have been more apt. Speeches emphasized the need to prioritize the needs of working class people and to cut the defense budget. Ryan Smith's speech addressed the use of bombs in Libya that have exposed the Libyan people to highly dangerous depleted uranium.

Organized by the BCTC and UK Student Socialist Unions, the rally was co-sponsored by the Central Kentucky Council for Peace and Justice, BCTC Students for Peace and Earth Justice, Kentucky United National Antiwar Committee, Kentucky Dream Coalition, and Socialist Action.

At a joint UK/BCTC SSU meeting after the rally, we planned a carpool from Lexington to Cincinnati to protest the American Legislative Exchange Council (ALEC) at their national meeting there on Sat. April 29.

The SSU is also continuing our campaign in solidarity with the migrant farmworkers of Immokalee, Florida. We are planning to get in touch with the local chapter of Kentuckians for the Commonwealth, which has also signed on to the Immokalee Workers' campaign. And we plan to co-sponsor a film screening about the campaign and collect petition signatures in May. In the fall, we'll build more alliances with Cincinnati groups and ideally have a protest at the national offices of Kroger in Cincinnati, as Kroger is one of the grocery store chains that has been driving down the wages of farmworkers. Jerry Moody brought his guitar and played us a couple of songs at the end of the meeting.

If you are interested in joining the Sat. April 29 carpool to the Cincinnati demonstration against ALEC, joining the Immokalee farmworkers campaign, or more info about the Socialist Student Unions, please contact me at standinsolidarity@yahoo.com. ☺

Fair Trade Town Organizing Update from Teresa Hendricks, CKCPJ board member and owner of Lucia's Boutique

Billie Mallory, Soreyda Begley, and I attended the national conference of United Students for Fair Trade in March at Western Kentucky University, where the announcement came that WKU is now the 6th institution to become a Fair Trade University. Lexington-area schools were well represented, including a group from Transylvania University and representation from the UK and BCTC. We are very hopeful all 3 campuses can get started on a campaign toward receiving Fair Trade certification. We also met with Billy Goldsmith, the national Coordinator for Fair Trade Towns to discuss our next steps in Lexington's certification as a Fair Trade Town. Soreyda gave a presentation titled: "Fair Trade, Worker's Rights and the Fashion Industry."

I've just recently returned from a short trip to Guatemala which provided plenty of time to remind me why we do what we do by supporting fair trade. The poverty and economic crisis are striking. Gas is \$5 a gallon and general prices are double what they used to be when I lived there 7 years ago.

Look for us at the Peace Fair on the BCTC campus (May 14 is World Fair Trade Day!). I'll also be attending the Annual Fair Trade Federation Conference May 6-8th in Milwaukee. To help us in the Fair Trade Town certification process, contact me at Teresa@luciasboutique.com. ☺

Global Connections Television Honored by UN

Global Connections Television (GCTV) recently won, in international competition, the bronze Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation-UNCA Global Prize. Below is Bill Miller (left) of Frankfort, receiving the award from UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon.

Miller is the creator and moderator of GCTV, which was selected for the prize because several program interviews in 2010 focused on sustainable development and climate change. Miller says, "The main goal of Global Connections Television, a privately funded internationally oriented talk show, is to help American audiences understand how international issues impact their lives. Climate change is probably the

most important international issue since all 7 billion people on the Earth may be adversely affected by it." You can view GCTV at www.youtube.com and on www.Livestation.com.



(Photo from GCTV)



"Binding Their Wounds" — Caring for our Warriors

Board member Kerby Neill has completed a long-term writing project in the new book *Binding Their Wounds: America's Assault on Its Veterans*. Neill shares author credit with Robert Topmiller and the work, according to its cover description, is really two books. One is the story of the way U.S. veterans have been treated since the time of the early republic all the way up to the current wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. The second story is that of Bob Topmiller—a father and a husband, a veteran of Vietnam, a founder of a school for orphans there, a professor of history, and ultimately a victim of suicide. Neill "rounded up a village" of Topmiller's friends and colleagues to complete the book that captures Topmiller's commitment in the last years of his life.

CKCPJ will be arranging local book signings for this project—the first at the April 15 Gallery Hop. Watch for more information in future issues of *Peaceways*.

In addition, Kerby Neill recently published an excellent op-ed in the Lexington *Herald Leader*, on Mar. 25, reflecting on the 8th anniversary of the Iraq war and misplaced economics. You can read the essay at: <http://bit.ly/kerbyneill>



It is Up To Us To Tell The Stories of Nonviolence

"Can the ordinary person in our culture embrace the power of nonviolence—when there is such a strong belief in violence as the way to solve conflict?" asks Dr. Terrence Rynne in a recent reflection published on the website of the Franciscan Peace Center (see <http://bit.ly/april26>). One of the students in his Peace Studies class reported that though her father initially challenged her assertion that nonviolence could be an effective response to conflict, after she told him several stories where nonviolence was successful, they had a "long, serious discussion," and her father went out and bought some books on nonviolence for further study.

"Our culture will never accept the power of nonviolence as a viable substitute for war and violence if they never hear the great stories of successful nonviolence. It is up to us to tell those stories to our friends and neighbors," says Rynne.

Rynne is the founder of the Marquette University Center for Peacemaking and the author of *Gandhi & Jesus: The Saving Power of Nonviolence*. He will speak at Lexington Theological Seminary on Tues, April 26 at 7 pm. Info: www.franciscanvision.org.



A Dinner Conversation with Activist Zohra Ebrahim

Lexington change agents will have an opportunity to meet South African activist Zohra Ebrahim, and learn from her experiences helping to develop the new democratic South Africa, on **Wed. May 4, from 5:30 to 7:00 in the Health Department conference room (650 Newtown Pike Rd, Lexington)**.

An important anti-apartheid activist in South Africa during the transition to majority rule, Zohra Ebrahim rose to become the national civics coordinator of the United Democratic Front or UDF (the main internal anti-apartheid organization). Since the end of apartheid, she has been involved in development work, particularly in the field of affordable housing and human settlements. She also has great insight into Black economic empowerment and its impact in a post-democratic South Africa, as well as the position of women in post-apartheid South Africa.

Address inquiries or the required RSVP to Jessica R. Jackson, Health Equity Coordinator, 859.494.3017, or JessicaR.Jackson@ky.gov. Be sure to mention you saw this notice in *Peaceways*.



Former Skeptic Reflects on March 20 Peace Rally

On Sat. March 20, CKCPJ held its "Invest in Peace, Not War" rally in Lexington. More than 100 participants stood when they could, sat when they needed to, bore witness, and held signs in commemoration of the 8th anniversary of the Iraq war.

by Erik Roby

On March 20, 2011, in light of the massive protests and potential U.S. involvement in yet another war, this time with Libya, I decided to attend my first anti-war, or positively said, pro-peace rally at the courthouse square in Lexington. My attendance was due in large part by a recent wall post on Facebook by friend, active promoter of equality though the U.K. Socialist Student Union, and current graduate student of the University of Kentucky, Joan Braune. What brought my attention to the wall post was that for the first time in my life I was witnessing in the footage from Tahrir Square in Cairo, Egypt, a peaceful protest rise and come to fruition in its demands to oust then-current president Hosni Mubarak.

Until recently I have always expressed doubt against the idea that raising awareness could create any change other than an iota of reflection that is quickly forgotten after honking a car horn in support of a peaceful crowd at a rally. But the revolution in Egypt, which took root though persistent social networking in combination with a public standing in solidarity, resulted in drastic changes. This, in a country deeply entrenched in autocratic rule. In view of Egypt's example, my skepticism is healing. Now I could not escape attempting to bring responsible resolve to the question: how can raising awareness actually create healthy substantial change and progress?

As I approached the courtyard rally in Lexington, I was initially greeted by a single person playing songs of peace and freedom on an acoustic guitar. This, I thought, is how it begins, with the warm greetings of songs of freedom. While listening to the song I took

out my phone and began to record. As soon as the song was finished I posted it to my Facebook page in an effort to be responsible for my part in raising awareness.

Immediately I was struck by a revelation: raising awareness is, at least in part, about responsibility, a responsibility to actively and persistently network. It is about individuals connecting with other individuals to form groups and connect with others to exchange ideas that can be brought into concrete situations. And even more than that, it is a responsibility for groups of individuals to connect with other groups that may be of a different background, belief, or opinion, but are willing to engage in honest discourse though an exchange of voices that contributes to the realization that we are all intimately connected to everyone. This is surely a concept as old as humanity itself, but it a concept that is quickly and forcefully renewing itself though a new medium, that of computerized social networking.

Though I do not wish to downplay the fact that the speeches, signs, and honks of support were incredibly moving and thoughtful, I thought the most grabbing and passionate part of the event were the songs in which all voices, no matter how heterogeneous, were brought into harmony into one voice calling clearly for peace. Though I conclude this piece in a rhetorical fashion, I hope, despite the bombast typically associated with rhetoric, to inspire honest insight and reflection into the nature of raising awareness. To quote the legend Bob Marley, "None but ourselves can free our minds." The essential motif in songs of freedom, like the ones present in the Lexington courtyard that Saturday, is not one of acting alone, but is found in the word "our." The responsibility of actually raising awareness about our intimate connectedness to everyone is an essential motif of solidarity among plurality found in the harmony of voices in honest discourse in the motions toward peace.

Editor's note: Erik Roby studied the classics and philosophy at the University of Kentucky. An earlier version of this reflection was first posted on his Facebook page.



Photos on these pages by Arne Bathke and Richard Greissman.

Doing My Part: on Responsibility and Freedom

by Beth Rosdatter

On July 5th last year I crossed into the Y-12 plant at Oak Ridge, Tennessee and planted garden seeds. This year, on May 9, twelve other defendants and I will finally have our jury trial in federal court.

During this long wait, I've had a number of conversations with others and done some soul searching, myself, about WHY. Many people ask, and I sometimes wonder, whether the action is worth the cost to me and especially my family or whether it is, in an odd way, mere self-indulgence.

We are still waiting for the judge to decide whether to grant the prosecution's motion to suppress any testimony we might bring as to the constitutionality of the weapons themselves. Most likely we won't be allowed to talk about that in court because, for a defense based on "necessity" to prevail, we will have to argue that we acted to prevent a clear and imminent danger, and also that we had reason to believe that our actions would be effective in averting the harm.

We humans have grown accustomed to the threat of nuclear annihilation. We have had a few tense moments in the last 60 years, but nothing ever came of our worries—either disaster was narrowly averted (possibly through masterful handling by far wiser people than ourselves), or those who saw a possibility for disaster were alarmists. Maybe this means we have no reason to worry?

This seems the easy part of the argument to me. The fact that the threat has coincidentally not been realized (luckily) doesn't mean it doesn't exist. It is a logical fallacy to think otherwise. We are every day in imminent danger—not only us, but all humans and most other life on the planet.

More pointedly, the use our government makes of the weapons—threatening others to bend them to "our" will—is illegal by international law, and since we are party to the treaties that prohibit the threat of use, it is unconstitutional.

This is, for me, the strongest impetus to act—and the reason why my action last Independence Day felt patriotic. As citizens of a democracy, a government "of,

by and for" the people, we all have a responsibility to keep the government (us!) from breaking the law. If our government is threatening mothers and children in other places in order to gain tactical advantage, WE are doing that. I am.

I do not feel I can abdicate that responsibility, for two reasons. The nuclear threat is the obvious one. But also, I do not want to live in a society in which the government is seen (falsely) to be a separate entity which is above the law. This opens up a whole level of additional dangers, including fascism. I value my freedom, and it comes with responsibility. Those who do not abdicate that responsibility are the freedom fighters.

The second part of the argument from necessity is the harder one to make. Why do I believe that moving my tiny little body 50 yards over an arbitrary line will stop the nuclear industrial complex? Isn't that a grandiose delusion of breathtaking proportions? But, if I do not believe it makes a difference, why do it? And, why do I think to do so is the legal, and the morally right, thing to do?

All I can say is, if 300 million of us were to cross the lines in our areas, refuse to work on illegal projects, talk to congresspeople—or if, as congresspeople, we were to make the difficult calls—then the nuclear development would stop. I can't control, think, or act for others. That is for them to do. I can only do my part.

And I did.

If anyone would like to discuss this topic more please e-mail me: beth.rosdatter@yahoo.com.

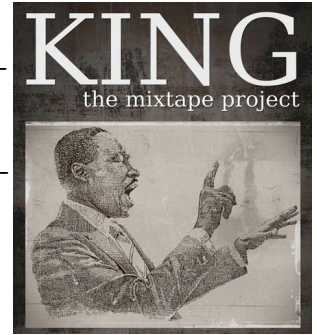
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You can read more about the upcoming trial of Beth Rosdatter and the 12 other defendants who participated in the July 2010 action at The Nuclear Resister (www.nuclearresister.org). The Nuclear Resister supplies information about and support for imprisoned anti-nuclear and anti-war activists. See *Peaceways* September 2010 issue for coverage of the initial action.



~ Upcoming Events, News and Notes ~

Tuesdays in April from 6-8 pm Martin Luther King Mixtape Project at St. Paul AME Church, 251 North Upper Street—Local Pastors, UK Staff Collaborate to Present Community Literacy Project, a free community reading and discussion group. The project, open to the public, is presented as a collaborative effort by Rev. Troy Thomas, Pastor of St. Paul; Rev. Anthony Everett of the Kentucky Conference of the United Methodist Church; Chester Grundy, Director of the Martin Luther King Cultural Center at UK; and Adam Banks, Associate Professor of Writing, Rhetoric, and Digital Media at UK. Participants in the project will read and discuss King's sermons on Kindle electronic books, and will each receive free print copies of his autobiography. They will also be encouraged to create their own remixes, or collages of the sermons, and "mixtapes" or soundtracks of their interpretations of King's life, the Black Freedom Movement, or contemporary issues. Info: Rev. Troy Thomas at 859.255.7945 or Dr. Adam Banks at adam.banks3@uky.edu.



Tues. April 19 from 6 to 8 pm: Youth Speak Out For Change—A forum for students to present ideas and participate in positive change for the Lexington community. **The event will be held on the 3rd floor in the conference room of the Phoenix Building on 101 E. Vine St, Lexington.** Hors d'oeuvres provided. Sponsored by the Mayor's Youth Council and Partners for Youth.

Thurs, April 21, 8:00am to 4:30pm : GROW Kentucky! Bluegrass Local Foods Summit at Crestwood Christian Church 182 Bellefonte Dr, Lexington, \$45. This conference aims to bring together policy makers, planners, public health professionals, environmentalists, community developers, academics, farmers and ordinary citizens to share their knowledge, experience, and expertise with regard to developing and maintaining local food systems in the Bluegrass region of Kentucky. Info: <http://sustainlex.org>, e-mail: sustainlex@gmail.com or call Jim Embry at 859.379.9046.

Dates from April 22 to 29 at 7 pm; May 1 at 3 pm: Nevertheless: A Story of Resolve—Promotional material says "Share in the story of one woman's frailty after receiving a troubling diagnosis. Experience a story of faith, hope, and perseverance." University of Kentucky's Memorial Hall. Tickets are \$20 in advance or \$25 the day of performance. www.ticketmaster.com or call 859.257.TICS. Portion of the proceeds to benefit Step by Step Ministries. See the Lexington Herald-Leader article on playwright Lisa A. Brown: <http://bit.ly/lisaabrown>.

The Imani Summer Youth Mentoring Program is looking for individuals in the community who would be willing to serve as mentors for male youth involved in the foster care system. This summer program will take place on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons at Imani Baptist Church, beginning on June 14, 2011 and ending on August 4. Each day's activities will be approximately 4-5 hours in length, and will include lunch for the young men, recreation time, guest speakers, and field trips. Mentors should be motivated individuals who are good listeners who can help build self-confidence in young adults. These mentors must be willing to be leaders who can serve as positive role models for the program participants. For this summer program to be successful, we need the help of responsible, reliable, enthusiastic volunteers!

Organizers are asking that volunteers commit to being a mentor for the duration of the eight-week program, whether it is one or two days a week. This time commitment is extremely important in building strong relationships with the young male participants. If you or anyone you know would be interested in taking part in this worthwhile experience, please contact the Children's Law Center: 859.253.0152 or rebecca.diloreto@fuse.net.

Update: Fasica Christine Shiferaw, founder of FCBSEO Inc. (Fasica Christine Boarding School For Ethiopian Orphans), an organization created to address the needs of Ethiopian orphans who lost their parents to HIV/AIDS and Malaria, reports that she's been able to establish and begin construction on 2 orphanages which could serve up to 200 girls. She will have a table at the BCTC Peace Fair (see page one). Info or to donate, e-mail: fashiferaw@aol.com, call 859.270.1784, write FCBSEO Inc. P.O.Box 11264, Lexington, KY 40574 or see the website at www.fcethiopianorphans.org.



Events at a Glance

The Council seeks to promote dialogue as a path to peace and justice. Consequently, we announce events that we do not necessarily endorse.

<i>Date/Time</i>	<i>Event Description</i>	<i>Contact</i>
<p>Bluegrass Community and Technical College Spring Lecture Series continues, presented by Students for Peace & Earth Justice at the BCTC Cooper Campus in Oswald Auditorium (230 OB)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mon. April 18 from 6:30-7:45 presentation: <i>Serving the World through the Peace Corps</i> by Angene and Jack Wilson, authors of <i>Voices from the Peace Corps: Fifty Years of Kentucky Volunteers</i>. Co-sponsored by United Nations Association, Blue Grass Division. • Wed. April 20 from 11:00 am to 12:15 pm presentation: <i>Building Diverse, Sustainable Communities of Well-Nourished People</i> by Stephen Bartlett 		
<p>Sun, May 1 You are warmly invited to a community-wide Commemoration of Yom HaShoah (Holocaust Remembrance Day), at 11:00 am at Temple Adath Israel (124 North Ashland Avenue, Lexington). This year's program will include lighting of memorial candles for the six million Jewish lives lost in the Holocaust and presentation of the annual Emilie Szekely essay contests awards.</p> <p>The format of the program has changed from previous years. Instead of a guest speaker, roundtable discussions of the lessons of the Holocaust will be featured at the commemoration following the ceremony. The program is being conducted during religious school so that parents and teenage students can participate. For more details about the program, please contact Judy Wortman at 859.268.0672 or jfb@jewishlexington.org.</p>		
1 st Wednesday 7:00 pm	CKCPJ Board Meeting , in our offices at 112 N. Upper St. ALL ARE WELCOME!	Arne Bathke, co-chair 859.257.3610 or arne@uky.edu .
Every Thursday 5:30 - 6:00 pm	Interfaith Prayer Vigil for Peace , Triangle Park in downtown Lexington. <i>Mourn the dead. Heal the wounded. End the wars.</i>	Richard Mitchell 859.327.6277
1 st Monday 12:00 noon - 1:30 pm	Kentucky Migrant Network , Cardinal Valley Center 1306 Versailles Road	Isabel Gereda Taylor itaylor@lexingtonky.gov 859.258.3824
1 st Tuesday 6:30-8:30 pm www.pflaglex.org	PFLAG: Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays, Bisexuals and Transgendered . Support Group Mtg. Beaumont Library, Fieldstone Way, Lexington	Info: president@pflaglex.org or call 859.338.4393
2 nd Tuesday 7:30 pm	Bluegrass Fairness of Central Kentucky , Lexington Public Library downtown branch info@lexfair.org	Craig Cammack, Chair 859.951.8565
1 st Wednesday 4:00-6:30	Franciscan Peace Center , 3389 Squire Oak. Info: www.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 frickdan@windstream.net)
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—Participation Station, 869 Sparta Court, Lexington.	call 859.272.7891 or go to www.namilex.org



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

Live your life in such a way that your
actions transform the space you operate
in. It's about throwing yourself against
those things in life that should not be.

—Bernice Johnson Reagon

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Issue #247 April 2011

Remembering Chernobyl: 25th Anniversary

Craig E. Williams, Recipient of the 2006 Goldman Environmental Prize
Jim Toren, Footprints for Peace Activist— Doug Slaymaker, UK professor of Japanese

**Wed. April 27—7:00pm at the W.T. Young Library Auditorium
at the University of Kentucky, Lexington**

Event is free and the public is warmly welcomed—free parking in parking structure 2 (Hilltop Avenue)

“We must not leave the health of our families and protection of the world ecology to corporations, governments and military organizations preoccupied with profit, power and armed conquest. Rather, we must take that responsibility into our own hands. It’s up to us to come together across cultural and political divides to prevent these military-industrial polluters from degrading the earth and threatening the well-being of our communities for their own selfish interests.”

~Craig E. Williams

Twenty-five years after the nuclear accident at Chernobyl, Japan’s nuclear crisis prompts us to ask: have we learned anything? Join us to explore this question and hear from some of the nation’s hardest working environmental activists. Craig Williams won the Goldman Environmental Prize in 2006 for his founding work with the Chemical Weapons Working Group (CWWG), an international grassroots coalition. In the U.S., the group convinced the Pentagon to stop plans to incinerate old chemical weapons stockpiled around the United States including the Bluegrass Army Depot in Berea. That’s the good news. However, yet again Rep. Robert J. Leeper, a western Kentucky lawmaker whose district is home to a uranium enrichment plant, renewed his perennial push (this year’s Senate Bill 34) to lift the state’s ban on the construction of nuclear power plants. Come to learn, and to be empowered. For info on Footprints for Peace, see www.footprintsforpeace.net. Info on UK’s Japanese Studies: <http://bit.ly/UKJapanese>. ☺

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