Issue # 249



June/July 2011

The Newsletter of the Central Kentucky Council for Peace and Justice 112 N. Upper St. Lexington KY 40507 phone—dial: 859.488.1448 *E-mail: peaceandjusticeky@gmail.com Website: www.peaceandjusticeky.org*



Juneteenth Freedom Celebration Sat, June 18 at 10:30 am African Cemetery No. 2 419 East Seventh Street, Lexington

The Voices of Freedom: Stories from the Soldiers of the United States Colored Troops as told by members of the 12th Heavy Artillery Regiment, Camp Nelson

Plus: Marisa Williams, Young Equestrian Scholar A Family's Racing Legacy: The Story of James "Soup" Perkins and His Family

What is Juneteenth? Though Abraham Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation on Sept. 22, 1862, with an effective date of Jan. 1, 1863, it had minimal immediate effect on most slaves' day-to-day lives, particularly in Texas, which was almost entirely under Confederate control. Texas was resistant to the Emancipation Proclamation. Juneteenth commemorates June 18 and 19, 1865, when Union General Gordon Granger and 2,000 federal troops arrived in Galveston, Texas, to take possession of the state and enforce the emancipation of its slaves.

That day has since become known as Juneteenth, a name derived from a portmanteau of the words *June* and *nineteenth*. Throughout the country, celebrations jubilant and solemn, thoughtful and fun-filled, have occurred since the original event.

For questions regarding Lexington's activities, contact Yvonne Giles at YvonneGo29@aol.com.

lexington pride festival

Sat, June 25 11am-11pm Robert F. Stephens Courthouse Plaza Admission Is Free All Are Welcome

Lexington Pride Festival 2011 is presented in part by the Gay and Lesbian Services Organization (GLSO), a non-profit group working to improve the quality of life for Lexington's gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered (GLBT) community since the late '70s. The Pride Festival's purpose is multi-faceted.

In addition to creating visibility and raising awareness for Lexington's GLBT population, the event is a celebration for that community and its supporters as well. The day-long event is free and family-friendly. It is open to all the public, regardless of their lifestyle orientation.

Entertainment throughout the day includes a "Lexington's Got Talent" competition, a poetry reading, a proclamation by Mayor Jim Gray, drag shows, and headlining musical acts from national performers, such as Amber and DJ D-Stu.

This is the festival's fourth year, and the second time it will be held in downtown's courthouse plaza. The 2011 festival theme is "Raising Pride." Visit the organization's website for a complete schedule of events throughout the day: www.lexpridefest.org.

Why is it that, as a culture, we are more comfortable seeing two men holding guns than holding hands?

~author Ernest J. Gaines, awarded a MacArthur Foundation grant for writings of "rare historical resonance"

What is straight? A line can be straight, or a street, but the human heart, oh, no, it's curved like a road through mountains.

~Tennessee Williams, A Streetcar Named Desire, 1947

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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 859.488.1448 or peaceandjusticeky@gmail.com. Deadline: 1st 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.

CKCPJ Board Secretary: An Opportunity to Serve

Your Council's board operates on a fiscal year and board term that ends June 30. In upcoming issues of *Peaceways* we will announce several new appointments of board members and other administrative changes. In this issue, we highlight our need for a new Board Secretary to allow long-time board member serving this role, Kerby Neill, to focus his attention on the several Council initiatives—including volunteer programming—in order to build the Council's capacity to do peace-building.

We are communicating this need widely in the hope that Council members who might be interested in serving would know of the opportunity. No specialized training is necessary. While the position of Secretary may appeal to long-term members, serving in this capacity is also an ideal way to learn more about the Council and its vision for the future.

The Board Secretary is an officer of the board who attends not only board meetings, but also meetings of the steering committee (one per month, the week after our board meeting). While the administrative duties of the Board Secretary may be delegated to Council staff as appropriate (for example, we employ a minute-taker at our board meetings), the Board Secretary ensures that final, corrected minutes are kept of all meetings, and that all key documents of the Council are kept as a record of the Council's activities. The Secretary is also charged with maintaining a record of key Board decisions—referenced and accessible for future Board meetings assisting in development of Council policies and procedures, and in maintaining Council By-laws. As an officer, the Secretary may sign documents for the board that have been approved by the Board or the Steering Committee.

Interested? Questions? Please contact Kerby by calling 859.293.2265 or by e-mail at tkneill@earthlink.net.

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Local Updates and Action Opportunties

•Wed. Aug. 10 at 10 am: Lexington anti-death penalty group meeting, in the conference room of Seton Catholic School, 1740 Summerhill Drive. To be added to the e-mail list, contact Joan Braune at standinsolidarity@yahoo.com.

•Joan also reports: a forum on immigrant rights issues (the DREAM Act, the Immokalee workers, and human trafficking) organized by members of a new Bluegrass Socialist Party (a Kentucky chapter of the Socialist Party USA). The best way to follow their activities at this time may be to join their facebook group—contact Joan, above, for more details.

• Susmita Barua, a CKPJC member and PEACE (Peace Education Aimed at Community Empowerment) Leader (http://bit.ly/CKCPJ_PEACELeader), is traveling to the 12th Sakyadhita International Buddhist Women's Conference in Bangkok, Thailand in June. There, she'll present a workshop on "Being a Peace Leader and Healing Conflicts" and a paper on "Dharma Economics: A Creative Experiment in Mindful System Change." For details on the Conference program you can visit www.sakyadhita.org.

Sakyadhita, "Daughters of the Buddha," is an alliance of women and men committed to unite, empower and transform the lives of Buddhist women and facilitate their diverse humanitarian and peace work around the world for the benefit of humanity. As the founding board member of the USA national branch, Susmita welcomes your participation. She says you do not need to be a Buddhist to volunteer or join the mailing list at www.sakyadhita .org. Questions? Contact Susmita via e-mail: Susa@Sakyadhita.org.

Support Federal Dream Act Legislation—Concrete Steps

This update comes to *Peaceways* from the Kentucky Dream Coalition

On May 11, Senators Durbin, Menendez and Reid along with 30 other U.S. Senators, re-introduced the DREAM Act in the Senate. Quickly thereafter, Representative Berman reintroduced the bill in the House of Representatives. The reintroduction of the DREAM Act came just days after President Obama gave a forceful speech on immigration at the Texas border town of El Paso calling on politicians to take action to pass comprehensive immigrant reform and the American public to get involved to support such efforts.

While we welcome President Obama's words, undocumented youth and their allies are asking him to show his support for the DREAM Act and comprehensive immigration reform by issuing an executive order extending administrative relief to youth who qualify for the DREAM Act and the parents of US citizen children. The Kentucky Dream Coalition (KDC), the leading Midwest affiliate of the United We Dream Network, asks supporters to join our call to President Obama for relief, by signing petitions found at www.unitedwedream.org/takeaction.

Many undocumented youth, including youth from Kentucky, are still facing deporations, families are being separated, and the US boasts an all-time high in regards to the number of individuals being deported.

Locally, the Kentucky Dream Coalition is urging supporters of the DREAM Act to participate in Dream efforts by:

- Signing the online petitions found at: www.unitedwedream.org/takeaction.
- Call the White House message line at 1.888.269.9615 and urge President Obama to meet with the Dreamers! He has meet with celebrities and documented Latino and immigrant leaders, but he has yet to meet

The Development, Relief and Education for Alien Minors (DREAM) Act:

-rewards success by providing relief to a limited number of immigrants;

-helps high-achieving immigrant youth who came to the U.S. as small children;

 provides for a rigorous application process for deserving youth and does not provide safe harbor or amnesty for criminals;

-would not change current law regarding in-state tuition;

face to face with individuals directly impacted by Congress' lack of action. Below, we provide a sample script to customize as needed to be sure your voice is heard on this important topic:

Hello, my name is ______ and I am from ______. I am calling to ask President Obama to meet with DREAM Act eligible youth who are at risk of deportation to discuss how he intends to solve the struggles of undocumented youth. The Immigrant and Latino community are looking for leadership. We know the President has the authority to grant administrative relief to Dreamers and many Democratic members of Congress have already asked him to take action. We want President Obama to take action for the hardworking students eligible for the DREAM Act. Thank you for your time and please pass this message along to President Obama.

- Join the Kentucky Dream Coalition on facebook! Search us by our name and add yourself to our group for updates and information. We will have new and exciting information to share with you soon and will be needing allies support for an historical event we are planning with Dreamers from Ohio, Indiana and Illinois. Information about KDC can also be found at http://mykdc.wordpress.com.
- •Continue to remind Senator McConnell and Senator Paul that the DREAM Act is fair, just and beneficial to the United States. Call Senator McConnell at 202.224.2541 and Senator Paul at 202.224.4343.

We hope to be formalizing a Louisville Chapter of the Kentucky Dream Coalition soon. If you are interested in joining this effort; if you are an educator, mentor or community leader who works directly with undocumented immigrant youth; or if you are an undocumented youth who desires to be empowered, contact us at kentuckydreamcoalition@gmail.com.

 rewards success and encourages economic prosperity (see http://bit.ly/DREAMfactsheets).

-contains provisions supported by a majority of voters, who believe that immigration is a national issue that should be left up to the federal government rather than left to the states.

DID YOU KNOW? Fifty-six percent of voters believe that immigration is best dealt with at the federal level, compared to only 20% who believe it should be dealt with by states and 19% who believe it is both a federal and state issue. (see http://bit.ly/votersupport for details).

Report from 6th Annual Peace and Global Citizenship Fair

by Fair Organizer Rebecca Glasscock

For all of you who braved the rain to participate in this year's Peace & Global Citizenship Fair, thank you so much! While the day's rain affected attendance,everyone who came out was so kind and understanding. Participants reported having a good time, appreciating the diverse booths and opportunities to connect with local activists, artists, and organizations. The music and dancing were great (thanks to Nick Schwarz for taking care of sound) and the March Madness Marching Band (http://bit.ly/MMMByoutube). **If you would like additional information on any of the points below, contact me via e-mail at rebecca.glasscock@ kctcs.edu or call me at 859.246.6319.**

The winner of the Culture of Peace contest, sponsored by BCTC's Phi Theta Kappa, is Kandi Bennett. Her essay is reprinted at right. If you'd like a copy of the Culture of Peace essays, with a color copy of the drawing by Alexis Meza, contact me (see e-mail and phone, above). Fair participants were also asked to write down (or draw) their ideas of what a world at peace would be like. We had a drawing (with a \$25 prize); the winner of that drawing is BCTC student Ashley Thornton.

Just to put in a plug for the locally sourced food, I thought the ice cream was about as good as any I have ever had – it is Valentine's, made in Winchester (there is more information about the company at the Kentucky Department of Agriculture site: http://bit.ly/KYagvalentines.

The hamburger was from Marksbury Farm Market, outside Lancaster (managers state on their webpage, http://marksburyfarm.com): "We partner with local farmers who share our commitment to sustainable, humane, and natural production methods."

The other food vendor was Fritanga Latin Grill, a Nicaraguan restaurant at 1205 Versailles Road, near the old Furrows and east of Red Mile Road. Yummy plantains are just the tip of the iceberg.

We had a number of Redbud trees left after our giveaway. They are now at UK's Forestry Department where they are being stored in a cooler. If you are planning a tree-planting project and would like to include 100 (or more) Redbud, let me know.

Ramona Waldman, a fine student at BCTC, is the young woman who was videotaping on Saturday. She has a lot of irons in the fire, but will have the documentary ready within a month or two. We'll be sure to widely announce how you can see it when it's available.

Thanks go out to the volunteers–Daniel and Joe Anthony, Patrick Baker, Kandi Bennett and her husband, Michael Benton, Susan Durant, Felicia Fallon, Suzi Kifer, Lindsey Lee, Jonathan Meeksoul, Maureen and daughter Gillian Meyers, Howard Myers, Erin Mills, Bruce Mundy, Asna Patel, Larry Porter, Lisa Samson, Ryan Smith, Emily Trowbridge, the group from Shiloh Baptist Church, and many others. I also very much appreciate the help from BCTC's Maintenance and Operations crew.

For next year: the 7th annual Peace & Global Citizenship Fair is planned for Sat, May 19th, 2012. 0



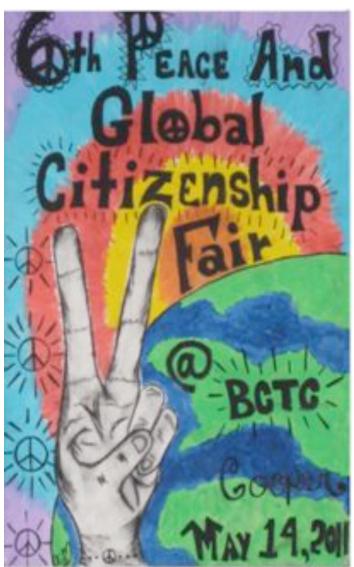
Diversity is Essential to a Culture of Peace

by Kandi Bennett, Bluegrass Community and Technical Student This is the winning entry in the Culture of Peace essay contest. sponsored by BCTC's Phi Theta Kappa

Global peace has been spoken of and sought after throughout history. Disagreements in what is right, moral, and true have led to more controversy and violence than compromise and resolve. The Civil War

is a cautionary example of such misguided discord. Examining our past and troubled ascension as a civilization can help us prepare for our future and clarify what it truly means to be a civilized culture. In order to achieve a genuinely peaceful culture, every person involved must value and practice empathy, tolerance, and knowledge to better themselves and fellow humankind.

A show of empathy can change the world. We can all make that difference through relating to people and understanding the emotions and positions of others. We have to move beyond the old adage of doing unto others as we would have them do unto us and make a living, breathing illustration of genuine empathy. Every human being should lead by positive example for our children and our peers. The ability to care for others is a natural human-



istic quality. We merely have to embrace it. Kindness spreads as does any other notion. If each of us shares that notion, we would all be living pathways for the travel of empathy and a world of change.

Tolerance is essential to any peaceful culture. Diversity is inescapable and greeted with varying degrees of acceptance. Most open-minded people thrive on experiences with different ethnicities, personalities, and viewpoints. Unfortunately, many people are devoutly opposed to anyone unlike themselves. Prejudice, racism, discrimination, and other hateful responses are dangerous reactions to diversity. We have to be tolerant of each other and our variances in order to peacefully coexist.

Knowledge is another imperative component of a harmonious way of life. Ignorance is quite possibly the

most threatening risk to peace. Lack of knowledge leads to fear, violence, and extensive negativity towards the unfamiliar. We, as a society, need to learn from our failures and successes and teach each other how to keep an open mind and open heart. Understanding ourselves and each other is vital to living happily and peacefully among the diverse people in our community.

Only through empathy, tolerance, and knowledge can we all flourish in a peacefully diverse culture. Our families marry and branch into other families that may contrast from our own. Our children grow up with ethnically mixed playmates. As college students we interact with a plethora of sundry cultures. Diversity will never cease to be. The United States is made up of people from all over the world and so are our communities. Diversity persuades the world to function. It is our societal and individual responsibility to ensure the perseverance of every

culture and all cultural potential for living peacefully as human beings.

Neighborhoods and communities are the building blocks of the world and every country on Earth. We have to encourage our culture to be peaceful. We have to take action towards positive change and cannot give up until peaceful coexistence is a reality.

You Can Support Latino Leadership and College Experience Camp

a note from Erin Howard, Bluegrass Community and Technical College

Dear colleagues and friends: "**Si, se puede**!—*Yes we can*.!" has been the message of the Latino Leadership and Col-



lege Experience Camp (LLCEC)—hosted and coordinated by the Bluegrass Community and Technical College (BCTC) Office of Hispanic/Latino Student Outreach and Support Services—since its creation in 2006. This program, made possible by grant funds and community donations, is the only intensive college preparation summer camp and empowerment program designed for Latino, immigrant, or ESL students all across the state of Kentucky. The success of our program can best be exemplified by the fact that 79% of the current high school graduates from the program enrolled in college. Since 2006, over 200 Latino, first-generation college, or ESL students, have participated in this program at little or no cost to them.

The camp directors, volunteer staff, college student mentors, and 2011 LLCEC Interns have begun the planning process for this year's event and are eager for the new participants to arrive in July. Yet to make this opportunity available to a new cohort of students, we are seeking financial contributions and gifts in-kind (t-shirts, art supplies, meals, printing, etc.). Tax-deductible donations can be made via BCTC Foundation (checks must be written to BCTC Foundation with "LLCEC/Latino Outreach" written in the memo and should be mailed to: BCTC Foundation, 164 Opportunity Way, Lexington, KY 40511. For more information or to request an invoice, please contact Erin Howard at 859.246.4636 or via e-mail at erin.howard@kctcs.edu. On behalf of the students, mentors and volunteers, thank you very much... mil gracias for your support!

Editor's note: at the May 2011 Peace and Global Citizeship Fair held on the BCTC Cooper Campus, board member Kerby Neill presented Erin Howard with CKCPJ's "Peacemaker of the Year Award," celebrating her as a "champion" for youth who lack hope or confidence, for the disenfranchised, or those whose Dreams confront the headwinds of prejudice.

Creating & Sustaining your School Garden Monday, June 20: 9 am-4 pm at Crestwood Christian Church in Lexington

This "Gardening with Class" workshop is designed with K-12 teachers in mind to demonstrate how instructional gardens support a multitude of educational goals. Cost is only \$40. Crestwood Christain Church is located at 182 Bellefonte Dr, Lexington.

Organizer Jim Embry says: "During this workshop we will highlight the unique contributions of a variety of school garden programs to provide a landscape of ideas you can adapt to your school setting. ... By planting 'A Garden At Every School in Kentucky,' we will ensure that every child has



the opportunity to benefit from eating more fresh healthy foods. A well-planned, edible, schoolyard can supply a significant portion of a school's daily food needs. By cultivating a garden together, children learn vital skills in team work, problem solving, creative planning, and sustainable living. Garden-based classes are a great way to complement classroom education in many subjects including biology, botany, ecology, mathematics, nutrition, art, and writing. Most important, gardening is fun for kids! School gardens can dramatically enliven the learning process by giving students the ability to connect in a very experiential and hands-on way with the incredible living world unfolding all around them. For all of these reasons and many more, let's support the vision for a garden growing at every school in Kentucky!"

More info and to register: http://www.sustainlex.org . Can't make this June 20th date? This School Garden Workshop can also be conducted on-site in your community! Call or write organizer Jim Embry call: 859.270.3699 or email: embryjim@gmail.com for details.

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.

Date/Time

Event Description

Contact

Thurs. through Sun, June 16-19, The Whippoorwill Festival—Skills for Earth-

Friendly Living. Admission is only \$15 per person, per day, and kids are free. Location: HomeGrown HideAways, in the beautiful Red Lick Valley just outside Berea. Go to http://bit.ly/whippoorwill for the complete schedule, to register on line, to access directions to the event, and more information (including links to all the speakers and bands). Organized by Dave Cooper of the Mountain Top Removal Roadshow: davecooper928@yahoo.com.

Sat, July 16 at 6 pm: "Faith and Sexual Orientation," an evening with Bishop Gene Robinson at the Episcopal Church of St. Michael the Archangel, 2025 Bellefonte Dr., Lexington. Episcopal Bishop Gene Robinson, a Kentucky native, is the first openly gay man ordained as a bishop in a major Christian denomination. Come hear him speak on faith, sexual orientation, and his journey. Presented by the Kentucky Fairness Alliance (http://kentuckyfairness.org).

Save the date — Happy Birthday, Kentuckians for the Commonwealth (KFTC)!

Founded in 1981, this grassroots organization is celebrating 30 years of action for justice. They have lots planned in celebration during the coming months, including an **August 27th** "Family Reunion" at Cathedral Domain in Irvine, Kentucky. More info: www.kftc.org.

1st 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; 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, Lexington	Isabel Gereda Taylor itayor@lexingtonky.gov 859.258.3824
2nd Tuesday in July: 12th 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 <u>info@lexfair.org</u>	Craig Cammack, Chair 859.951.8565
1 st Wednesday 4:00-6:30	Franciscan Peace Center , 3389 Squire Oak, Lexington 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, Lexington. In July Herm Heise will present "Jesus: the Man, the Teacher, the Rebel." August picnic details: contact Dick Renfro (see right).	Dick Renfro 859.255.7029 frickdan@windstream.net)
3 rd Thursday 7:00 pm	Kentuckians for the Commonwealth (KFTC), Episcopal Diocese Mission House at 4th St. & MLK Blvd, Lexington	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 "A dream you dream alone is only a dream. A dream you dream together is a reality."

—John Lennon (You can see musicians from around the world perform "Imagine" (at http://playingforchange.com Non Profit Org. US Postage PAID Lexington KY Permit No. 850

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

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Issue #249 June/July 2011

Fri. June 17 5-8pm: Don't miss Gallery Hop!

"Art serves as an avenue to generate deep and lasting social change. Through art, we can challenge many of society's deepest assumptions by sparking new ideas, catalyzing critical thinking, educating the public and inspiring individuals. Art can be a conscious effort to facilitate and participate in social change," said organizers at Chrysalis House when they applied to the Kentucky Foundation for Women. The resulting grant support has culminated in a photography project called *A Journey of Healing in Pictures*.

You are warmly invited to join us at our June Gallery Hop exhibit to view images captured by residents that reflect their journey of healing and recovery. The results of the project can best be described by one of the participants: Kellye, Chrysalis House resident, says, "This experience has been very

rewarding. To see what I feel is inspirational through a lens; and to capture it, has given me a new area of interest in expressing myself artistically. I loved taking pictures in rural Kentucky-it has a rawness that motivates me and puts me at peace. The prints that I have chosen to share have no known theme; just lucky shots that I thought would describe the place I'm in life at this moment."

"Our own life is the instrument with which we experiment with truth," said Thich Nhat Hanh The Council invites you to come share these experiments with truth.

YOU TOO CAN "SAY YOUR PEACE!"—Last month we featured the organization "September 11 Families for Peaceful Tomorrows," founded by family members of those killed on Sept. 11 who have united to turn grief into action for peace. Seeking to break the cycle of violence engendered by war and terrorism, they're sponsoring a "Say Your Peace Video Contest." Consider **what you'd do differently**, create a 30-second video, and upload it to YouTube to enter. **All entries must be received by Aug. 15**. Winners in three age categories will receive \$1,000 prizes and will be announced before Sept. 11. For details, application forms and more: www.PeacefulTomorrows-SayYourPeace.org.

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Above, photographer Frank Becker works with Chrysalis House residents to choose photographs. Photo courtesy of Tonya Jernigan, Domestic Violence Coordinator.

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