

PEACEWAYS

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE CENTRAL KENTUCKY COUNCIL FOR PEACE AND JUSTICE • WWW.PEACEANDJUSTICEKY.ORG

Racial Disparity and Martin-Zimmerman:

How do we respond?

Rebecca DiLoreto, CKCPJ co-chair

On a recent Friday, I turned on the Jack Pattie show on WVLK-AM as he interviewed our popularly re-elected, Fayette County Commonwealth Attorney Ray Larson. For the first time ever, I heard Ray Larson side with the defendant in a case. He described the decision to charge George Zimmerman as one born of a hysterical reaction to the unfortunate death of a teenager. He said that the police got it right when they first made a decision not to bring charges against George Zimmerman. He and Jack chatted about the legal nuances and technical application of “stand your ground” laws. Why would our elected chief law enforcement prosecutor indicate that he supported the defendant in a criminal trial? Does race really have nothing to do with his attitude?

You cannot look at Trayvon Martin’s death and answer the question of whether justice was served without revealing the lens through which you look at the world. If you are

a mother or a father, you might have seen Trayvon Martin and empathized with the enormous pain flooding the lives of his parents, Sybrina Fulton and Tracy Martin. If you are a believer in justice and peace, you might have asked yourself how it is that we have become so violent a nation, that we think carrying a gun is the way to keep our communities safe. If you are an African-American teenager, you might stand wide-eyed looking into the night, frozen in fear, by the realization that anything you do may be perceived as a threat and justify the taking of your life.

Yet, in the minds of some, Trayvon Martin, armed with Skittles candy and hiding under a hoodie, looked like a thug and thus George Zimmerman’s attack was somewhere between laudable and forgivable. What made Trayvon Martin a thug? He was out near midnight. He was wearing a hoodie, he was black. Some point

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Changing Dynamics

Penny Christian

A palpable fear permeates the crowd attending the town hall meeting in the Carnegie Center on Tuesday, July 16. It is two days removed from the announcement of the verdict in the George Zimmerman trial, and African-American parents in Lexington are afraid. The murder of Trayvon Martin had struck a chord in all of us. Phrases like, “War has been declared on our sons!” and “They don’t see black children as human beings!” are being said by mothers with tears in their eyes, their voices cracking. Everyone listens intently and respectfully, but the message is clear: here is our call to action. I chose to attend the town hall meeting because of a certain level of helplessness; it was not just about the verdict for me. Sadly, I now felt something in my gut that I had not felt in decades: I am afraid of being black. What does the verdict—and by extension, the mindset of white America in general—mean for my husband, a black man, in this country? We

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UK Celebrates Collaboration Leading to Peace Studies Program

On Sun., Sept. 18, 7 pm, in the John Jacob Niles Gallery of the Lucille Little Fine Arts Library, there will be a celebration of the community-university effort that led to the UK’s Peace Studies Certificate program.

The celebration will feature a panel of representatives including Lexington Mayor Jim Gray and Kerby Neill who led the contribution of the Central Kentucky Council for Peace and Justice on this effort, and key university personnel, including Clayton Thyne. You are invited to learn about Peace Studies, about UK, and about the community collaboration. Join us for light snacks and a reception. See “It Started at Al’s Bar,” page 2.



The NAACP and CKCPJ co-sponsored the Lexington commemoration of the March on Washington on Aug. 28. More information about the event and CKCJP’s contribution will appear in the October issue of Peaceways.

DiLoreto, continued from page 1 to Trayvon Martin not being in his own neighborhood and ask what legitimate purpose he had in an affluent, segregated community at night. You can say his race did not factor into the equation, but such pretense can only be upheld if you fail to look around you at the state of justice in our country. Racial disparity penetrates every aspect of our juvenile and criminal justice system. Those most directly affected are African-American boys and young men. Then, only a step away, are their mothers, and fathers and children. What is also notable is that this same disparity in how we punish impacts children in

University, Community Collaborate for Peace

It began in Al's Bar at the corner of North Limestone and 6th Street. In 2005, the Central Kentucky Council for Peace and Justice organized a presentation at Al's on the war in Iraq. CKCPJ board member Kerby Neill and Sue Roberts, then-chairperson of the University of Kentucky's Department of Geography, were among the presenters and met for the first time. In a brief conversation, Kerby and Sue learned they shared a common interest in peacemaking and a concern that UK lacked courses related to peace, although there was a dynamic peace program at Bluegrass Community and Technical College.

A lunch meeting followed. Kerby emerged from the meeting ready to study peace and Sue was ready to think about how a peace program might take root at UK. Kerby's journey was rich with mentors and advisors. Colman McCarthy, the inveterate bicycling peace teacher who offered classes at Georgetown University and any other university, high school, or community venue he could manage, was generous with time, ideas, and materials. Faculty at Notre Dame's Kroc Institute for International Peace Studies offered guidance and shared curricula. Daniel Christie at Ohio State University and Helen Fox at the University of Michigan shared the histories of their programs. Always encouraging and available was BCTC's dynamic peace leader, Rebecca Glasscock.

Membership in the Peace and Justice Studies Association afforded Kerby the opportunity to network with programs

our schools. Exclusionary discipline practices such as suspension, expulsion and court charging are all riddled with significant racial disparity (note the recent *Third Equity Council Report*, by the Fayette County Public Schools).

The disparity penetrates every aspect of life for African-American

youth in our nation, our state, our county and our neighborhoods. If we care about one another and our mutual obligation to build a world dedicated to justice and peace, we must undo the impact that judging based on race, in whole or in part, has and has had on our enforcement of justice. And we cannot undo what we fail to recognize.



Lexington United, a CKCPJ project, ran a summer camp that culminated in "Game Night." The camp was designed to enable and enhance the peacemaking skills of young people. Story, page 3.

and faculty across the country; Barbara Wien of American University, who served as the midwife for multiple peace studies efforts, offered extensive wisdom. At UK, Sue gathered a group interested in carrying the project forward and a range of faculty became involved, including Shaunna Scott from Sociology, Karen Badger from Social Work, and Ernie Yanarella from Political Science. Ernie, a former faculty member of the UK Board of Trustees, former president of the faculty senate and an early board member of CKCPJ, was invaluable to the group's efforts.

As committee work went forward Kerby taught his first peace course in 2007 in the Honors program and called the synergy between his passion for his new field and the bright and curious students "wonderful." Ambassador Carey Cavanaugh, director of UK's Patterson School with experience in international conflicts, provided a valuable sounding board as Kerby worked in this new field.

In 2009 a second peace class was offered as an upper level course in Social Work. Working in groups, students designed non-violence campaigns using the work of Gene Sharp, known for

his extensive writings on non-violent struggles.

In 2012, Dean Mark Korbluh, College of Arts and Sciences, sent out a call for proposals for new inter-disciplinary programs organized around the format for topical certificates recently approved by the faculty senate. With the help of the committee Sue had formed and Ernie's guidance, a peace certificate proposal was developed. The Department of Political Science became the program's home and Clayton Thyne, newly-tenured associate professor of political science, accepted the position of director. Curricula for an introductory course and a capstone course were submitted for approval. Plans for selecting related electives were developed.

With strong support from Ted Shatzki and Anna Bosch in Dean Kornbluh's office, Clayton guided the proposal through the faculty senate, honing the proposal in response to committee suggestions. With approval on May 6, the odyssey from Al's Bar to the UK course catalog was complete. Thanks to all who made it possible, including CKCPJ, UK faculty and staff, and members of the Peace and Justice Studies Association. PEACE!

Deferred Action of Childhood Arrivals

The US Citizen Immigration Services has released details about its implementation of "Deferred Action of Childhood Arrivals." Consideration will be given if you:

- Were under the age of 31 as of June 15, 2012;
- Came to the United States before reaching your 16th birthday;
- Have continuously resided in the United States since June 15, 2007, up to the present time;
- Were physically present in the United States on June 15, 2012, and at the time of making your request for consideration of deferred action with USCIS;
- Entered without inspection before June 15, 2012, or your lawful immigration status expired as of June 15, 2012;
- Are currently in school, have graduated or obtained a certificate of completion from high school, have obtained a general education development (GED) certificate, or are an honorably discharged veteran of the Coast Guard or Armed Forces of the United States; and
- Have not been convicted of a felony, significant misdemeanor, three or more other misdemeanors, and do not otherwise pose a threat to national security or public safety.

Individuals can call USCIS at 1-800-375-5283 with questions or to request more information on the deferred action for childhood arrivals process or visit www.uscis.gov.

Lexington United Leads Peace Train for Youth

Lexington United, a CKCPJ project funded in part from a Partners for Youth grant, successfully ran its first summer camp, a week-long training for youth in June at CKCPJ offices in the Plantory. Led by Gail Koehler, Sarabeth Brownrobie, Tanya Torp, and William Anderson, the youth learned conflict resolution, prejudice reduction and leadership skills through hands-on experience rather than lectures. An important part of the camp taught such games as *Blob Tag*, *Rattlesnake*, and *Shrinking Island*. Youth first participated, and then lead.

Collaboration with other local organizations provided important diversity to the lessons learned. One afternoon, for example, the Better Bites staff came to the Plantory to show the youth "knife skills" to help prepare healthful snacks of fresh produce.

Before receiving graduation certificates and a stipend, campers showed what they had learned in a capstone experience open to the whole community: Lexington United's first Community Games Night. Conducted at East 7th Street Center on Friday, June 21, those games included *Do You Love Your Neighbor?*, *Clip-It*, and *Please, Please, Do You Love Me?*

Lexington United plans to host a spring break camp in 2014 and mini-camps at various times during the year. As Merlene Davis wrote in the *Lexington Herald Leader*: "With a little help, this program could be an example of adults learning from our children." <http://bit.ly/LexUnited>.

The Lexington United camps are first steps; CKCPJ hopes youth will spread the

word at school, and teachers will invite Lexington United to work with classes.

The council knows that schools which implement peer mediation techniques experience a reduction in absenteeism, suspensions and expulsions. CKCPJ wants to be a part of making Lexington schools a better place for children to learn.

Peacemaking starts with our future, so let's create PEACE leaders right here, right now in our youth.

Do you know a school that would benefit from Lexington United trainings? Contact the trainers by email at: lexingtoncommunitybuilding@gmail.com or call 859-474-0487. Find Lexington United on the web: <http://www.lexingtoncommunitybuilding.org> on Facebook: www.facebook.com/LexingtonUnited

Stanton Resident Elected to National Board

Glenmary Father John Rausch, director of the Catholic Committee of Appalachia and a resident of Stanton, Ky., has been elected to the Pax Christi USA National Council. A long-time member of Pax Christi, Father John will bring his perspective on care of creation to the council, particularly as it applies to public policy. "I look at care of creation as a window that looks at peace," Father John said, adding that people and nations have waged war over such natural resources as oil and water. "And we steal resources and dump the resulting pollutants in communities that cannot protest. Proper respect for creation is an opportunity to walk down a path that brings peace."

Father John will serve a three-year term on the council.

The Central Kentucky Council for Peace & Justice

Board of Directors: April Browning, David Christiansen (co-chair), Bilal El-Amin, Rebecca Ballard DiLoreto (co-chair), Mary Ann Ghosal (secretary), Marion Gibson, Randolph Hollingsworth, Rahul Karanth, Susan Lamb, Richard Mitchell, Bruce Mundy (past co-chair), Howard Myers, Kerby Neill, Steve Pavey, Nadia Rasheed, Alexandria Schon, Rabbi Uri Smith, Janet Tucker, Craig Wilkie (treasurer).
Staff: Peaceways: Margaret Gabriel (editor), Jim Trammel, Gail Koehler, Penny Christian (Proofreaders). The views expressed in this *Peaceways* newsletter are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Central Kentucky Council for Peace and Justice.

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, 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), Kentucky Resources Council, 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 Street 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, 110 N. Upper St., Lexington KY 40507. Deadline for calendar items for our November/December issue is October 15th. Contact: 859.488.1448 or send an email to peaceandjusticeky@gmail.com.

Calendar for Peace & Justice

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

Sat. Sept. 6-8

Roots and Heritage Festival, Lexington

For over 25 years the Roots and Heritage Festival has been a pinnacle of regional diversity providing entertainment and education for people of all ages.

Festival organizers invite you to gather to celebrate our community's rich heritage at month-long events.

The colorful pageantry of the festival, combined with its high quality offerings of cultural and educational programs, has earned its recognition as one of the Top Twenty Events in the Southeast by the Southeast Tourism Society.

Wed. Sept. 11

Health Care Reform discussion.

Leader TBA. 7pm-8:30pm, Unitarian Universalist Church of Lexington, 3564 Clays Mill Road.

Mon. Sept. 16

CKCPJ Board Meeting 7pm, The Charles Young Center, 540 East Third St. 859-488-1448. Meeting has been moved this month.

Sat. Sept. 21

International Day of Peace, Peace Walk. Rotary International, near Griffin Gate, Newtown Pike.

Sun. Sept. 22

Prayer Walks Against Community Violence

Imani Baptist Church, 1555 Georgetown Road. People meet at 5 p.m. Sunday in the parking lot of the Imani Church. They walk a 3.4-mile stretch that consists of both Georgetown Street and Georgetown Road. Imani's pastor, Rev. Willis Polk, is inviting citizens to join in the prayer walk through August and September. The goal is to have 25,000 people in Lexington on Sept. 22 participating in the prayer walk. (Read more about the walks at <http://bit.ly/22SeptWalk>)

People with questions about the prayer walks can call Rev. Willis Polk at (859) 231-1555

Tues. Sept. 24

Celebrate Peace 2013 5:30pm-7:30pm, Carnegie Center, 251 W. 2nd St. Activities and crafts for the whole family! Registration is required for all Family Fun and Learning Nights. Free dinner is provided to families who pre-register (to register go to <http://bit.ly/FFun2013> or call the center at 859-254-4175). A free book is given away to every child. Only for families with children ages 3-12. NOTE: CKCPJ's Lexington United will be part of the activities. Help be part of our efforts by emailing lexingtoncommunitybuilding@gmail.com or calling 859-474-0487.

Sat. Sept. 28

The Prophet's Words to the Christians of the World, Christian-Muslim dialogue Dr. John Andrew Morrow, internationally recognized research scholar. 1545 Russell Cave Rd. Potluck luncheon follows.

Wed. Oct. 9

Fifteen Years of the Humanist Forum at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Lexington, 3564 Clay's Mill Road, Lexington. Where have we been? Where are we going? Why are we here? Discussion leaders: Staci and Clay Maney and Dick Renfro.

Thurs. Oct. 17

Homeless Resource Fair/Stand

Down, Central Christian Church, 205 East Short Street, Lexington 9am- 2pm. Stand Down Homeless Connect offers resources and information for veterans and people who are homeless. This yearly event, pioneered in Lexington by CKCPJ board members in 2008, brings together service providers and information from the region to one spot and serves hundreds of Lexington's homeless people, many of whom are veterans. CKCPJ serves coffee beginning at 8am. To help, contact Billie Mallory at mallory.billie@yahoo.com or 859-285-5211.

Sat. Oct. 26

Centre Faith-Living Among Many Faith Traditions Panel: Students from Centre College, Danville, Ky., Dr. Rick Axtel, Paul L. Cantrell, Associate Professor of Religion and Chaplain, Centre College. Hunter Presbyterian Church, 109 Rosemont Garden, Lexington.

Sat. Nov. 23

Annual Shared Thanksgiving Feast

Christian Muslim dialogue. Turkey (halel) dinner with all the trimmings. Program: Counting Our Blessings Through the Arts. Hunter Presbyterian Church, 109 Rosemont Garden, Lexington.



Game Night, which was held at the East 7th Street Center, taught boys and girls the value of non-competitive games that helped them to work together.

Issues of Our Military Veterans and Families

Sat., Sept. 14

10 am – 2 pm
Faith Lutheran Church
Fellowship Hall
1000 Bates Creek Road
Lexington, Kentucky 40502

A presentation of two documentaries, *Wartorn 1861- 2010* and *SERVICE – When Women Come Marching Home*, addresses some of the issues of military veterans and families: PTS, TBI, MST, suicide and homelessness. The target audience includes counselors, psychologists, military families, friends and all interested in those who have served or are currently serving in our military. Representatives of organizations serving veterans will be present and include:

Douglas DuBois AW2 Advocate, U.S. Army Wounded Warrior Program, Army veteran.

June Forbes Disabled American Veterans Voluntary Service Officer VA/Cooper.

Carol Livingston Veterans Benefit Field Representative, Air Force veteran.

Travis Martin Founder and President of Military Experience and the Arts, producing four publications (The Journal of Military Experience, Blue Falcon: A Journal of Military Fiction, Blue Streak: A Journal of Military Poetry, and The Veterans PTSD Project) and the MEA Symposium, with its second event in summer 2014. Ph.D. Student at UK, Army veteran with service in Iraq (2003 and 2005).

Melinda Moore, Ph.D. Clinical Psychology Post-doctoral Fellow, Military Suicide Bereavement Study, College of Social Work, The University of Kentucky.

Chris Stanfield Tillman Military Scholar at Eastern Kentucky University, founder Stem the Tide Kentucky non-profit w/goal of reducing veteran suicide - Army veteran Information about volunteer opportunities will be available.

A light lunch will be provided; seating is limited. Reserve your place by calling Kathryn Abernathy at 813-833-3608 or e-mail kykara@insightbb.com.

Margaret Gabriel is serving as the new editor of Peaceways. Reach her to submit copy, questions or suggestions at peacewayseditor@gmail.com. Thanks to Gail Koehler for her past service and on-going support.

MONTHLY MEETINGS

CKCPJ Board Meetings THIRD MONDAYS 7pm. More info: 859-488-1448 or peaceandjusticeky@gmail.com. All are welcome!

Interfaith Prayer Vigil for Peace Every Thursday 5:30-6pm at Triangle Park (corner of Broadway and Main St) in downtown Lexington. Contact Richard Mitchell 859-327-6277.

Kentucky Migrant Network 1st Monday Noon-1:30pm, Cardinal Valley Center, 1306 Versailles Road, Lexington. Contact Isabel Gereda Taylor itaylor@lexingtonky.gov, 859-258-3824.

PFLAG: Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays, Bisexuals and Transgendered 2nd Tuesday 6:30-8:30 pm. Support Group Meeting. St. Michael's Episcopal Church, 2025 Bellefonte Dr. Lexington (Go to the end of the parking lot, and then in the side door). Info: www.pflaglex.org or email president@pflaglex.org or call 859-338-4393. Programs are followed by a question and answer session, support group discussion, refreshments. Family members, allies, and GLBT individuals of all ages are welcome.

Bluegrass Fairness of Central Kentucky 2nd Tuesday 7:30pm, Lexington Public Central Library, 140 E.Main St, Lexington. Contact Craig Cammack, Chair, 859-951-8565 or info@lexfair.org.

Wed Night GLSO discussion group 7pm at the Pride Center, 389 Waller Ave, Lexington. GLSO operates Kentucky's only Pride Center, where they've been quietly providing services to the GLBTQQA community for decades. More info, hours Pride Center is open and other links at: <http://www.glso.org>.

Humanist Forum of Central Kentucky 2nd Wednesday, 7-8:30pm, in the Great Hall of the Unitarian Universalist Church. The Forum is a Chapter of the American Humanist Association). Meetings are open to people of all beliefs willing to express their opinions in a civil manner. Childcare is provided. Contact President Staci Maney, staci@olliegee.com or 859-797-2662.

Kentuckians for the Commonwealth 3rd Thursday, 7pm Episcopal Diocese Mission House at 4th St. & MLK Blvd, Lexington. Contact Ondine Quinn, 859-276-0563.

NAMI Lexington Support Groups Every Sunday 2:30-4pm. Participation Station, 869 Sparta Court, Lexington. Call 859-272-7891 or go to www.namilex.org.

Christian-Muslim Dialogue Fall Program 4th Saturday 10am-noon. All are welcome. Locations vary, call 859-277-5126. The Christian-Muslim Dialogue promotes understanding and mutual respect between Christians and Muslims. By exploring moral, cultural and political factors shaping the current context it promotes personal and collective responsibility to build a more just and peaceful world.

**Want your group's meeting listed here?
Contact peacewayseditor@gmail.com or 859-488-1448.**

Meet the New Executive Director of Latitude

by Mollie Rabiner

Latitude Artist Community serves all people—with an emphasis on those thought by some to have a disability—by creating meaningful, inclusive community interactions which allow participating artists to contribute culturally and politically to the life of their community.

Bruce Burris started Latitude in 2001 with Crystal Bader-Webster; they have known great success in serving people in this community considered to have a disability in giving them the space to create to their fullest potential.

Latitude is an art studio but Latitude is also a powerful catalyst for advocacy. Over the past twelve years Latitude has developed an impressive list of achievements under Bruce and Crystal's direction. This list is long and lush and would take some time to relay; however, to name a few accomplishments here is only fitting.

Latitude initiated Project Easy Access Lexington which focuses on educating the community on the importance of easily accessible city streets for people with disabilities.

Birthing from Project Easy Access Lexington (PEAL), is the Lexington Fayette Urban County Government Mayor's Commission for Citizen's with Disabilities. Latitude also won the 2012 Governor's Awards in the Arts for Community Arts Organization.

Even as an art studio, Latitude not only gives space to create, it also promotes its artists in the larger world where they are recognized as

creative contributors to this society by exhibiting their work not only all over Lexington and surrounding cities, but also in New York, London, Berlin, Paris and Russia.

At this time, Latitude finds itself standing upon an epic transition. In November 2012 Bruce and Crystal sold the business. Crystal left soon after the sale and Bruce exited the building in mid-May. This community owes them gratitude of the deepest measure for proving that you can change the world around you for the better. Through passion, steely focus, potent determination and universal size hearts, this transformation happens; this is the gift Bruce and Crystal have given to this community, as they recognized untapped potential in the artists who

came to work with them, demonstrating how we can improve the quality of a person's life through art making.

Change is inevitable in life; there is absolute constant motion on many levels,

and Latitude is in this flow. My path met with the flow of Latitude and I could not be more thrilled! In mid-January of 2013 I walked into Latitude as a visiting artist, temporary and

part-time. I imagined I would do a little art project in collaboration with the artists there and be on my way. Not so.

I am now the new Community Division Director of Latitude, taking

over for Bruce; Rebecca Pendleton is the new Executive Director, Medicaid Division, taking over for Crystal.

So now that there is a new Latitude and an old Latitude: what is the difference? Perhaps some faces have changed; however, the mission

remains the same, the heart remains the same, the artists remain the same, the herculean voice remains the same! The current staff at Latitude remains dedicated to honoring what has come before and using this to move Latitude forward by amplifying advocacy, remaining a strong creative force in Lexington and facilitating the artistic process as a powerful vehicle for change.

I was born in Lexington but moved away almost 20 years ago to get a taste of what life was like elsewhere. Within Latitude, I found a vibrant, innovative, heartfelt center filled with beautiful individuals with a deep intent to make art, have their voices heard and be creatively brilliant members of this community.

Latitude is located at 948 Manchester St., Lexington. Contact me by email at: mollie@latitudelex.com or call 859-806-0195.



Beverly Baker working on the Latitude Walker, which was part of the Lexington Art League's Off-Site exhibition seen throughout Lexington in June.



Latitude artist Heady Spaulding's work was on display at Third Street Stuff and Coffee for the month of June.

WayFinder Center holds the possibility of filling gaps in services to homeless people

A number of Lexington programs at such agencies as the Hope Center and the Salvation Army serve people who are homeless and families struggling to overcome such challenges as substance abuse, mental illness, domestic violence and the lack of affordable housing. Most of these local services, including the Catholic Actions Center's Community Inn, operate at capacity. The Community Inn provides sleeping accommodations nightly for up to 115 homeless men and women, but in response to resistance to the presence of homeless people in the neighborhood, the shelter is under order to close from the Lexington Fayette Urban County Government. The Community Inn remains open at this time under a temporary court order.

The lack of appropriate and affordable housing for those discharged from psychiatric facilities remains a huge community problem and many discharged patients find their way into jails, shelters and emergency rooms for lack of alternatives. Hospitals are often unable to discharge persons recovering from physical illnesses because they have no place to go. Persons classified as sex offenders face serious restrictions finding housing at all. Current facilities also leave many people without homes and with limited access to the services they need to move from the streets to stable and productive lives.

A new solution, the WayFinder Center, has been proposed. The center would occupy the abandoned Lorillard tobacco warehouse complex off Price Road between the Lexington Cemetery and the railroad tracks.

Away from residential and highly trafficked businesses, the center is accessible to downtown Lexington. The space has the capacity to provide the emergency overnight sleeping now provided by the Community Inn as well as longer term housing for special populations. A system to coordinate assessment and access to multiple services would be a critical part of the Wayfinder Center.

Shaun Donovan, Secretary of the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, estimates the

cost of homelessness in patchwork and crisis services runs about \$40,000 per year for each homeless person. The Mayor's Commission on Homelessness put Lexington's cost even higher, at \$42,000 per person. A significant coalition of homeless advocates supports the development of the WayFinder Center. The city can also do more to advance this effort. Want to pitch in and help? Contact the Catholic Action Center at 859 514-7210 or caclexky@insightbb.com.



In her column about the CKCPJ program in the Lexington Herald-Leader Merlene Davis wrote "With a little help, this program could be an example of adults learning from our children."

Christian, continued from page 1

came together in that room, hoping to find a solution to something. On some level, we did not even know what that something was, but we knew things were different.

I was probably in junior high school the first time I was called a nigger. It was a shock, yes, but growing up in Louisiana, it was somewhat expected. Our three older daughters, however, grew up here in Lexington, and their childhood experiences were, I pray, more secure. Yet here we are, in 2013 and our baby is eight years old. Her very best friend is white, and I would trust that child's family with my life. Unfortunately, I am not optimistic about that dynamic by

the time my youngest daughter reaches middle school. Why, you ask? Personalities develop; dynamics change.

Society will begin to have a huge influence on how our children see each other and, more so, themselves. As a result, differences will become more glaring, which means they will matter more. So, those days of innocence and naiveté are numbered. Just a few more years before her view changes...forever.

Penny Christian, a native of New Orleans, has lived in Lexington for 19 years. She and her husband, Claude, have four daughters.



The Central Kentucky Council
for Peace and Justice
560 E. Third Street
Lexington, KY 40508

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*“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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Book Review: *The Art of Waging Peace* by Paul Chappell

The Art of Waging Peace: A Strategic Approach to Improving Our Lives and the World. A. (2013). Westport, CT: Prospecta Press. Review by Kerby Neill.

In both 2010 and 2011, the Central Kentucky Council for Peace and Justice sponsored multiple speaking engagements by Paul Chappell in Central Kentucky. A West Point graduate and Iraq War veteran, Paul is an indefatigable campaigner for peace and has just produced his fourth book, *The Art of Waging Peace*. Like his earlier works, *The Art of Waging Peace* was forged in the trenches where Paul confronts critics and skeptics as he does presentations from coast to coast.

The current volume offers Paul’s candid description of his own traumatic childhood. His veteran father suffered the ravages of postwar traumatic stress, and Paul grew up in terror of his rage. As a youth of white, black and Asian heritage in the deep south, Paul found little social comfort in his community as well. When he talks about channeling racism, rage, and distrust into social, spiritual and ideological shifts towards peace, he speaks with a compelling authenticity.

Paul also finds much in his military training that facilitates the waging of peace. He emphasizes the elements of respectful communication that

mirror the literature of peaceful communication including listening “deeply,” speaking to a person’s positive potential, and practicing what you preach. The failure to communicate respectfully can be disastrous in the street or the military. He quotes General Douglas MacArthur, “There were officers overseas shot in the back by their own men simply because they had been brought up with the mistaken idea that bullying was leadership.”

Paul goes to some length to illustrate General MacArthur’s commitment to peace, an element of MacArthur’s history often obscured by his dismissal by President Truman for arguing the use of atomic weapons in Korea. Paul cites a rich array of military theorists from ancient China forward whose thinking can be used to support peace. He also challenges peace cynics with the examples of hostility, doubt and cynicism that accompanied the abolition of slavery, the campaign for women to win the vote, and the civil rights movement. He calls on powerful examples of the persuasive waging of justice by Frederick Douglas, the former slave whose crusade for rights went well beyond the end of slavery and included the women’s rights movement. Martin Luther King, Jr., is a more familiar wager of the cause of rights and peace. Malcolm X made a

dramatic transformation from reverse racism to brotherhood in response to his deeper experience of Islam.

Peace is not an easy sell. War and the threat of war produce political advantages and huge profits for select members of our society. Distrust abounds in our political dialogue and foreign policy makes it harder to imagine greater trust on a domestic or international level. Paul gets hammered with cynicism every time he takes the stump. This may be why he becomes too repetitive in summoning the same, although powerful, arguments in this book to rebut such pessimism. Better editing would have certainly helped. Yet the gems in this volume well offset its shortcomings. Paul stresses how much conservatives and liberals have in common when it comes to the advantages of a more peaceful world. He argues passionately for the U.S. to develop a respect-based foreign policy; reduce our global military presence; and strengthen international law against dictatorships and corrupt governments—to wage peace rather than war.

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