



of Eastern Maine
Newsletter

MLK commemoration to spur joint action	2
MLK Breakfast to feature dynamic speaker	2
MLK Flyer	3
Responsibility, justice and climate change	4
Teach-in to address overpopulation	4
India a land of startling contrasts	5
3-month campaign aims to cut war funding	5
Gaza solidarity march in Blue Hill	6
P&J Center losing technology guru	6
Bangor youths enlist in progressive cause	7
Clean water vital to creating peace	7
Scholar debunks 'war in our genes' theory	8
P&J gets with the times, via Facebook	8
Notices	9
Calendar	10
Vigils	11



Ringling out the old – sort of

by Christina Diebold, editor

As 2009 winds down, supposedly rational people can be heard saying they'll be glad when it's gone, as if the problems associated with the year – exquisitely painful sausage-making on Capitol Hill, the tragedy of counterproductive warfare in Afghanistan, the bleak prospects of millions of unemployed and uninsured Americans, and the uncertainty and gravity of climate change – will have the good grace to depart on the stroke of midnight December 31.

We know dates are artificial constructs, but they are useful for stock-taking and reflection. For example, January, our coldest month, is warmed by commemoration of the short but transformative life of Martin Luther King Jr. Inside you will find out about the Peace & Justice Center's talking circle, potluck supper and I Have a Dream Café on January 17, and the MLK Breakfast (always a grand affair) sponsored by the Greater Bangor Area NAACP and the University of Maine on January 18.

Doug Allen, education coordinator for the Peace & Justice Center and an expert on the nonviolence teachings of Gandhi and King, won't be at the breakfast as he usually is, sometimes as keynote speaker. He's spending the winter in India, giving lectures and meeting with scholars and activists. Based in Mumbai, he recently enjoyed a run in the relative coolness of Delhi – where he encountered a troop of about a hundred monkeys on the road. Pretty different from life in Orono. His wife, Ilze Petersons, program coordinator for the Peace & Justice Center, is spending five weeks with him, and will be returning early in January. Her report from India is inside.

Also inside is an updated list of peace vigils in Eastern Maine. Last month we removed the Presque Isle and Belfast vigils because we lacked contact information and couldn't verify their continued existence. That has been remedied, and we're happy to report that both long-standing vigils are still going. The year may change, but the dedication of peace activists has not.



MLK commemoration to spur joint action

by Ilze Petersons, program coordinator, Peace & Justice Center

Martin Luther King Jr., in his 1967 sermon at Riverside Church in New York, acknowledged the importance of helping those harmed by government policies but also urged fundamental change: "A nation that continues year after year to spend more money on military defense than on programs of social uplift is approaching spiritual death. ...We are still called upon to give aid to the beggar who finds himself in misery and agony on life's highway. But one day, we must ask the question whether an edifice which produces beggars must not be restructured and refurbished."

How do we restructure and refurbish this edifice which produces beggars and wages endless war? Sometimes the task seems overwhelming and we prefer to do something more tangible. We contribute to a shelter or a soup kitchen rather than address root causes. And if we look at the task as isolated individuals, it does seem impossible.

But the Martin Luther King Jr. commemoration reminds us of the power of working together for long-term change. We recall the many years of struggle it took for the civil rights movement to create fundamental change and know that the dream Martin Luther King spoke of is not yet realized. Come and be part of the Peace & Justice Center's annual commemoration to explore how we can continue to work together as part of a long-term multifaceted movement to restructure and refurbish the edifice that produces beggars and wages endless war.

Join us on Sunday, January 17, from 4 to 8 p.m. at the Keith Anderson Community Center in Orono. (Snow date January 18.) This year's event is being planned by the Peace & Justice Center of Eastern Maine, University of Maine Peace & Reconciliation Studies, students from the University of Maine's Office of Multicultural Programs and Americorps volunteers, who will do outreach to high school civil rights teams to invite their participation. Come share your thoughts, partake of a potluck supper and/or enjoy songs, poems, readings, or artwork reflecting Martin Luther King's legacy for us today. See the flyer in this Newsletter for details.

MLK Breakfast to feature dynamic speaker

by Diane Khiel

The Greater Bangor Area NAACP and the University of Maine will present the 2010 Martin Luther King Jr. Breakfast Celebration on Monday, January 18, at the Wells Conference Center on the UMaine campus from 8:30 to 10:30 a.m., with doors opening at 8 a.m. The Destiny Worship Praise Team, a diverse group of gospel singers from the nondenominational Destiny Worship Center of Brewer, is scheduled to perform from 8 to 8:30 a.m., and the UMaine female student singing group, Renaissance, is to close the program.

The Rev. Dr. Phil Ertha, a nationally known and highly regarded preacher, soloist, writer and Vietnam veteran, is slated as this year's keynote speaker. Ertha, who has roots in the Bangor area, will examine the status of Dr. King's dream in 2010. In commenting about Dr. Ertha, civil rights legend Andrew Young remarked, "[Rev. Ertha] is one of the most dynamic preachers I have ever heard. He captures audiences young and old, black and white."

Tickets for the 2010 breakfast are \$20 for adults, \$15 for seniors 65 and over, \$10 for high school and college students with ID, and \$10 for children 12 and under. A sell-out crowd is expected this year. Please purchase your tickets early by calling (207) 581-1428.



Photo by Ilze Petersons

Old Town Civil Rights team at Martin Luther King, Jr. "I Have a Dream Café" 2009



**Martin Luther King, Jr.
Birthday Commemoration**

**His Legacy for
Maine Today**

Sunday, January 17th, 2009

4:00–8:00 P.M.

Keith Anderson Community Center, Orono (next to the Post Office)

Snow date: Monday, January 18th, 4:00–8:00 P.M. at the same location

➤ **4:00–5:00 “Talking About the Legacy of Martin Luther King, Jr. for Today”**

Join an open conversation facilitated by Phyllis Brazee, director of Peace and Reconciliation Studies at the University of Maine and Heather Kitchen, graduate assistant in the Office of Multicultural Programs at the University of Maine.

➤ **5:30 Potluck Supper** – Please bring a vegetarian dish to share!

➤ **6:00–8:00 “I Have a Dream” Café**

Sign up to share a poem, song, story, or a visual relating to the vision of Martin Luther King, Jr. (10-minute limit). Local AmeriCorps members have invited civil rights teams from area high schools to present their dreams for a more peaceful and just society at the Café*.

– This event is free and open to the public. –

* Sponsored by the Peace & Justice Center of Eastern Maine and the Peace and Reconciliation Program at the University of Maine in collaboration with the Office of Multicultural Programs at the University of Maine and local AmeriCorps members.

For more information, please call 942-9343 or visit www.peacectr.org.

Responsibility, justice and climate change

by Karl Norton

Speaking November 19 on "Environmental Justice: Sharing the Burdens of Climate Change," Michael Howard of the Philosophy Department at the University of Maine addressed several challenging questions: Who has responsibility for reducing emissions of greenhouse gases? Who should pay for this? Who has the ability to pay? Who has a right to some sort of exemption from paying while continuing economic development by burning fossil fuels?

These questions led Howard to an elaborate and fascinating presentation of various alternatives. One view is that current polluters should pay regardless of their history of pollution or ability to pay. But some less-developed countries maintain that the developed nations should bear most of the cost of reductions in greenhouse gases because they pollute the most and became wealthy by burning large amounts of fossil fuels. Citizens of developed countries could claim, however, that earlier generations were unaware of any harm they might be doing to the atmosphere, and their descendants cannot be held responsible for what happened decades or centuries ago.

One can also try to differentiate between individual and national responsibilities. It can be argued that every person is entitled to an equal share of emission rights compatible with sustaining a livable atmosphere for all. Howard said that this share is 1 metric ton of carbon per person per year, but present emissions are 5 metric tons/person/year in the U.S., 1.6 to 4.2 in Japan and Western Europe, 0.76 in China, and 0.29 in India. The implication is that the U.S. should reduce its carbon emissions by 80 percent (i.e., from 5 down to 1), with substantial reductions by Japan and Western Europe. China has emerged as a major polluter which should also reduce emissions, but there is need for an ability-to-pay principle because most Chinese are still very poor (also, China contributed little to the present problem before 1990).

A solution may be to find some workable compromise between responsibility and ability to pay that would allow certain exemptions for developing countries. Such a compromise should require greater reductions from the affluent nations coupled with their assistance to poor nations to control pollution caused by development.

This is a very brief summary of an excellent and detailed talk. In the discussion that followed the presentation, I observed that it is important to consider the impact

of the size of present and future populations on global warming. In particular, China's per-capita contribution to pollution is still relatively low, but its huge population and rapid industrialization greatly magnify its effect. A similar observation may eventually apply to India, which lags behind China in carbon pollution but is also huge and attempting rapid development. I believe it is vital for rich countries to assist poor ones with family-planning programs so that the size of the human race is ultimately reduced to a sustainable level. This should help to diminish carbon pollution in several ways: It would probably reduce demand for electricity and home-heating fuels, and it would preserve forests by lessening slash-and-burn agriculture.



Teach-in to address overpopulation

A mini teach-in on population issues will be held Saturday, January 9, from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Maine Equal Justice Project Office, 126 Sewall St., Augusta (across from the Maine State Capitol/Cross Office Building and the Maine State Library). The snow date is January 10, same time and place.

There is increasing concern about human impact on our fragile environment. As the events and climate change debates have demonstrated, we are beginning to look for ways to reduce our ecological footprint.

But that debate has not extended to dealing with our current population growth. Overpopulation is an elephant in the room that few people in Maine and the U.S. want to talk about, but we have to because if the world expands to the projected nine billion people by 2050, the chances of an environmental meltdown are much greater. Although most of the increase in numbers will likely be in other countries, U.S. growth and foreign policies toward population will have a big impact around the world.

We will start with a short teach-in (presentations plus discussions) on problems caused by overpopulation. That will be followed by a discussion of next steps. Our goal is to become more aware about the issue and to develop strategies to continue the conversation.

If you are concerned about overpopulation in our country and beyond, please come with your ideas, questions and concerns. For more information and

directions to the MEJP meeting room, contact Larry Dansinger, 161 Stovepipe Alley, Monroe, ME 04951, (207) 525-7776 or rosc@psouth.net.



India a land of startling contrasts

by Ilze Petersons

Editor's note: Ilze Petersons, program coordinator for the Peace & Justice Center of Eastern Maine, left at the end of November to spend five weeks in Mumbai with her husband, Doug Allen, a University of Maine philosophy professor who has a Fulbright to do research and give lectures in India this winter.

At 6:30 in the morning we took a walk in a park next to the ocean and watched the sun rise. Young and old were there, doing yoga and meditating. This was in contrast to the night before when it was difficult to cross a road because there were so many cars, taxis and trucks honking horns and exuding fumes. I can understand why one in ten Indians has asthma.

India is a land of so many contrasts. We just returned from Baroda, five hours north of Mumbai, traveling in an air-conditioned train with comfortable seats. We were served water, snacks, an Indian dinner of dhal, vegetables, rice and even ice cream. As senior citizens, we got a 45 percent discount on our inexpensive tickets. As we traveled we could see the slums along the railroad tracks -- row after row of shacks covered with tin roofs and plastic sheeting where small, thin children go in and out of dark holes that are the doorways and breathe in the smoke of open cooking fires. Women in hot pink, yellow and green saris walk next to the garbage-strewn lanes. These are the Indians who have not prospered from the 7.9 percent growth in India's GDP in the last year. Those who have prospered stay in fine hotels with such names as Hotel Happiness, Hotel Relax, and Hotel Comfort.

From our room in a high-rise building we delight in green parrots by the dozens swooping around the electric wires. We read that migrating flamingoes have dropped from 25,000 to 10,000 in the past two years.

In the papers we read of Bollywood stars alongside reports that the average Indian has a 20 percent protein deficiency, which is likely to grow to 30-40 percent due to the impact of climate change. Desperate farmers use steroids (the poisonous oxytocin) to increase their yield. Hundreds of farmers commit suicide after crop failures. Seventy percent of the farmers are women since men have gone

to the cities to find employment. The urgent need for dealing with climate change is starkly evident. Scientists predict cutting greenhouse gases would save two million lives. India consumes 1/20th of the energy consumed in the U.S. and its emissions are 1/20th those of the U.S. No wonder editorials urge caution about India's participation at Copenhagen if powerful industrial countries impose standards that maintain their privileged status and cripple India's development.



Three-month campaign aims to cut war funding

A three-month statewide campaign targeting funding for the war in Afghanistan was envisioned at an organizing meeting in Bath on November 28. The time frame is from January 18 (Martin Luther King's birthday) to April 15 (tax day). Key events in that period will be the New Spring Peace Walk through Maine (March 24-April 1), the party caucuses in February, and the roll-out of another supplemental funding bill for the Afghan war.

According to minutes taken by Selma Sternlieb, four goals were drawn up by the Visioning Committee: convincing Representatives Chellie Pingree and Mike Michaud that it's safe to vote No on the war supplemental; expanding our activist base in Maine; offering the national peace movement a model for statewide organizing that targets House members on war funding; and bringing the general public into the war funding debate by making connections to Maine's fiscal crisis.

An Implementation Committee, consisting of 12 to 15 people from around the state, is to promote these goals. The first meeting of that committee was set for December 19. The committee will develop literature for the campaign, organize a news conference to launch the campaign, coordinate the final weekend events, and raise funds. At the end of the three months, the committee will be suspended.

Organizations interested in co-sponsoring the campaign, tentatively named the **Maine Campaign to Bring Our War \$\$ Home**, and individuals interested in serving on the Implementation Committee can contact Bruce Gagnon at globalnet@mindspring.com or 443-9502.



Gaza solidarity march in Blue Hill

by Carolyn Coe

To mark the one-year anniversary of the 22-day Israeli attack on Gaza, a contingent from 42 countries will join the people of Gaza in a three-mile nonviolent march to the Erez border with Israel. **In solidarity with this march, a march will begin at noon in Blue Hill on Dec. 30.** The march calls for an end to the continued, illegal blockade of Gaza, which denies Palestinians materials to rebuild their homes and schools, restricts the import of seedlings for farmers and medical equipment for hospitals, and means that most of the 1.5 million people of Gaza lack safe drinking water. Palestinians are denied their right to move freely in and out of a 35-mile-long stretch of land.

The march is a call to uphold international law in the occupied Palestinian territories, which has declared the Wall illegal, the settlements illegal, the checkpoints illegal, the house demolitions illegal, the destruction of farmland illegal, and the detentions of fishers illegal. Harvard University scholar Sarah Roy has written that the siege "is undeniably one of mass suffering, created largely by Israel, but with the active complicity of the international community, especially the U.S. and European Union." The march in Blue Hill is a call for a just and lasting peace. The march, sponsored by Peninsula Peace & Justice, will begin on High Street, near the elementary school. For information, 326-4405, www.gazafreedommarch.org.



Photo by Judy Robbins

On December 13, 30 banners were hung on Main Street in Blue Hill, depicting our beautiful planet and a wish for peace.

P&J Center losing technology guru

by Christina Diebold

Members of the Peace & Justice Center will be missing a familiar face as 2009 ends. Eric Olson, seen peering through a camera or adjusting the sound system at most P&J events, will be moving to Iowa, where he'll teach physics at Iowa Lakes Community College in Estherville, a small town in the northern part of the state. "It's a big gain for northwest Iowa," someone said at the Tuesday peace vigil as we were bemoaning Eric's departure.

Eric said he'll be back in the summer. His wife, Tammy (also a dedicated P&J volunteer), will continue with her job in Veazie for awhile.

Eric has shared his technology skills with the center for years. Items on our website are most often "posted by Eric." He has video-recorded and provided sound for countless events, and he's created the current version of the website (initially started by Mary Dolan). Visitors to the website can find links to coverage of events by local media, thanks to Eric.

After teaching part time at Husson for the last six years, Eric couldn't pass up the opportunity of a full-time job. "It's an adventure," he said. For those who want to keep in touch, his email address is info@erictolson.com.

Good luck, Eric -- we'll miss you!



Photo by Ilze Petersons

Eric Olson



Bangor youths enlist in progressive cause

by Will Whitham

On the 22nd of November, I was fortunate enough to help host the Marriage Equality Rally at Pickering Square in downtown Bangor, along with Antonia Carroll (principal organizer), Emma Howard, Becca Pelletier, and Monica Wilbur. The event was a great success, as willing attendees spoke to the crowd of their experiences in the struggle against intolerance and bigotry. The rally drew prominent figures from local LGBT groups and was opened by Voices for Peace.

Since then, my fellow students and I have been working to create a peace and justice group here at Bangor High School. The group will draw on the progressive resources and contacts offered by local organizations like the Peace & Justice Center of Eastern Maine, PICA, Food AND Medicine, Veterans for Peace, and Equality Maine, among others. We plan to hold regular meetings, host speakers, show films, distribute literature, organize student awareness campaigns, and participate in local events.



Photo by Ilze Petersons

Hannah Pennington and friends participated in the Marriage Equality Rally

So far, it's been difficult to make this dream a reality. At Bangor High, student apathy and naïveté are powerful, paralyzing forces. Some teens care nothing about the state of the world, while others believe that President Obama will solve our generation's problems; others still know only what their categorically racist and jingoist social studies textbooks have taught them. In such an atmosphere of ignorance, educating peers is a difficult task. In lauding the merits of single-payer health care, you are likely to be branded a communist, while speaking the truth about

America's history of imperialism will draw the ire of reactionary teachers.

With our youth group, though, we hope to turn many of these disturbing trends around. Through militant activism, community involvement, and progressive education, we hope to usher in a new era of student involvement in contemporary society, reminiscent of the 1960s, a time when students learned and labored to build a better world, and actually *cared*.



Clean water vital to creating peace

by Ina and Esu Anahata of Maine and Burkina Faso

The BARKA Foundation is a United Nations-affiliated NGO (non-governmental organization) working to develop a model for eradicating extreme poverty and building a culture of peace.

We realize that if a village or a country doesn't have enough food or clean water, peace is impossible. No water, no peace. Sashi Tharoor, a former U.N. official said, "Peace begins with breakfast." The U.N. has been instrumental in our development. We've borrowed its Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) as a framework. These eight goals were agreed on by every member state of the U.N., with a call to halve poverty, empower women, reduce disease, improve maternal care and child nutrition, provide more education and implement sustainable agricultural measures throughout the world by 2015.

BARKA's peace-building work is focused on the achievement of MDGs in the small, landlocked country of Burkina Faso, the third poorest in the world. Our strategy for accomplishing this ambitious task is to focus on clean water. When a village has water, many of the goals are able to take care of themselves: Women are empowered by not having to walk for miles every day to fetch and carry water for their families, girls can go to school instead of helping their mothers and aunts carry water, livestock can thrive, agriculture can become irrigated, and declines in water-borne pathogens effectively reduce disease.

BARKA is not only building peace and building wells, it is also building bridges between the U.S. and Africa, between communities such as Bangor and villages, towns and cities in Burkina Faso.

Last May BARKA produced a 500-mile Peace, Water & Wisdom Walk from the U.N. to Bangor. The walk raised awareness of water scarcity and funds for BARKA's

water initiatives for the rural population of Burkina Faso. It culminated in Bangor, where we were greeted by supporters from the Unitarian Universalist Society of Bangor, Women with Wings and the mayor of the city.

Please visit our website (www.barkafoundation.org) for more information, to sign up for our monthly newsletter or to volunteer. Please also feel free to contact us directly at inaandesu@barkafoundation.org. Barka is an African word of gratitude, blessing and reciprocity. Barka!



Scholar debunks 'war in our genes' theory

Review of "Beyond War: The Human Potential for Peace" by Douglas Fry, Oxford University Press, 2007 (available at amazon.com and bookstores)

by Marilyn Keyes Roper

Ever wonder what basic assumption undergirds the Pentagon budget? Or helps a president decide to send 30,000 more troops into Afghanistan? It is the belief that human beings have been territorial killers from the get-go; the belief that war always has been and always will be with us. In the opening remarks of his Nobel speech, Obama stated: "War, in one form or another, appeared with the first man."

The great importance of Douglas Fry's book is that he carefully sets down the academic evidence that refutes this notion and reveals that war is not in our genes. We can choose peace. Popping the balloons of war-fogged theorists such as Steven LeBlanc and Richard Wrangham (author of *Demonic Males: Apes and the Origins of Human Violence*), Fry counters the overreaching of their statements with a wealth of evidence from the archaeological record and ethnological studies of 19th and 20th century peaceful hunter/gatherer bands. Chapters include: Killer Apes, Cannibals and Coprolites: Projecting Mayhem into the Past; the Earliest Evidence of War; and Setting the Record Straight. For over 90 percent of human history, there is no documented evidence of warfare.

In October of this year, scholars Tim White (University of California at Berkeley), Owen Lovejoy (Kent State University) and others released extensive data about *Ardipithecus ramidus* ("Ardi"), our 4.4 million-year-old ancestor who preceded "Lucy" by a million or so years. Lo and behold, Ardi's canines were much smaller than those of chimps, signaling that fighting over females had been abandoned in favor, perhaps, of monogamy with upright walking freeing arms to bring home the bacon to the family.

Killer apes? Not on our ancestral line, it seems, providing new data that confirm the conclusions of Douglas Fry and many other scholars, including the American Anthropological Association (google Seville Statement on Violence).

In an email to Marilyn Roper, Douglas Fry wrote: "Another interesting thing about Ardi is that White et al. in the Science article mention that there is considerable overlap in body size between the female and male specimens. So, not much sexual dimorphism in body size either, as is often seen among species with high levels of inter-male aggressive competition (elephant seals being an extreme example)."

Marilyn Keyes Roper is active in Houlton's weekly peace vigil and the author of "A survey of the evidence for intrahuman killing in the Pleistocene," Current Anthropology 10:427-459.



P&J gets with the times, via Facebook

by Todd Russell

The Peace & Justice Center of Eastern Maine now has a Facebook page! Facebook is a popular social networking website. The Peace & Justice Center can update its Facebook profile and post upcoming events, ongoing discussions, status updates and photos on the page. Many consider Facebook an essential networking tool in today's dot com world. No doubt it will increase the visibility and awareness of the Center.

Facebook is free to use but features some advertising. It is a privately owned company and has been estimated to have a total implied value of around \$15 billion. Historically, Facebook was a network set up exclusively for college students, but was eventually expanded to include anyone with Internet access worldwide.

Facebook is no stranger to controversy. It has been shut down at times in countries such as China, Syria and Iran. Facebook is often prohibited in the workplace because of its tendency to distract. Conversely, many employers require their workers to have a Facebook page.

Anyone interested in becoming a fan of the Peace & Justice Center via Facebook will need to have a Facebook account which can be created at www.facebook.com. When on Facebook, search for the Peace & Justice Center of Eastern Maine's page. Once there, you can become a fan, view postings and post your own comments.



notices

Volunteers needed to help shelter the homeless

Due to economic hardship, unemployment and cutbacks in mental health and substance recovery programs, the number of people who are homeless in our community is growing each day. This winter there will be people out in the cold when the local area homeless shelters are over capacity. Your help is needed. The Bangor Homeless Coalition, comprised of formerly homeless people, college students, clergy, city officials, mental health and substance recovery providers, police and others, is looking for 60 people who will volunteer to help staff overnights this winter at the Bangor Area Homeless Shelter on Main Street. The presence of two volunteers along with one shelter staff person will allow the shelter to house up to ten more people. The volunteers will support, listen and assist the shelter staff as needed. Please consider giving one or two nights a month for this just cause. For more information and scheduling, contact the Rev. Stephanie Salinas at First Baptist Church, 945-9694, or email your name/address and dates willing to help to pastor@fcbangor.org.

Choice & Chocolate to celebrate Roe v. Wade

"Choice & Chocolate" will be a way to celebrate the 37th anniversary of the historic Roe v. Wade Supreme Court decision. Sponsored by the Mabel Wadsworth Women's Health Center, the event will be held at 6:30 p.m. January 20, at the center, 700 Mount Hope Avenue, Suite 420, Bangor. Registration required by January 18. To register, go to educate@mabelwadsworth.org or call 947-5337, ext. 114.

Campaign opposes drones in Brunswick

"No Drones for Brunswick" is a campaign to prevent the soon-to-be-closed Brunswick Naval Air Station from having unoccupied drone aircraft at the facility. These weapons have been flown by "pilots" in the U.S. over Afghanistan and Pakistan and have bombed communities in those countries. The drones can be used for surveillance of people in the Brunswick area as well. To find out more about the campaign, contact Brunswick Peaceworks, 725-7675 or info@peaceworksbrunswickme.org.

Genesis receives grant for housing

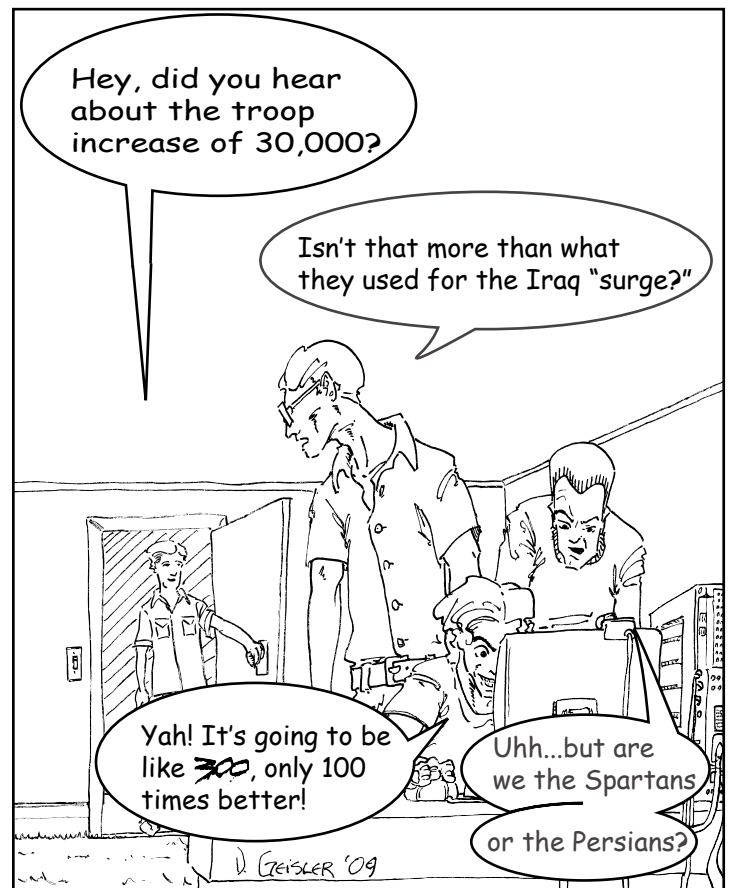
The Genesis Fund in Damariscotta has been awarded a grant of \$1 million to help facilitate loans for construction of affordable housing and other forms of economic development in Maine. Genesis has helped create senior housing in Bangor, housing for people with disabilities in Damariscotta, and affordable housing on Maine islands. Genesis is also looking for people and institutions in Maine who want to invest in affordable housing. FMI: Genesis, 563-6073 or info@genesisfund.org.

Conservation group scores legislators

The Maine League of Conservation Voters has published its 2009 environmental scorecard. You can see how Maine senators and representatives in the Legislature voted on seven crucial environmental bills, as well as their scores (+ or - judged by MLCV) from past sessions. For a copy of the scorecard or more information on the MLCV: 620-8811 or www.mlc.org.

Bill of Economic Human Rights available

Hot off the press: The final version of the Bill of Economic Human Rights for Maine. The bill of rights, released just before the 61st anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, presents a list of economic rights that every Mainer should have, such as food/clothing, permanent housing, health care, child care, basic needs, a living-wage job or entitlement income, education, and the right to form or join a union. For a copy: Maine Poor People's Economic Human Rights Coalition, 899-4623 (David) or janshouse@yahoo.com (Jan).



c a l e n d a r

December 30: Gaza Solidarity March, noon, starting on High Street near elementary school, going through downtown Blue Hill. Call 326-4405 or ccdogmail@yahoo.com.

December 31: Gaza Solidarity March, 1-3 p.m., Castonguay Square, downtown Waterville. Lisa Savage, lsavage3@gmail.com or 643-2356.

January 4: . Everybody Eats, free community suppers at St. Dunstan's Church, Mondays 3-6 p.m., 134 State Street, Ellsworth. Sponsored by Washington-Hancock Community Agency.

January 9: Mini teach-in on environmental and justice aspects of overpopulation, 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Maine Equal Justice Partners office, 126 Sewall St., Augusta. Call 525-7776 or rosc@psouth.net.

January 12: Agricultural Trade Show and annual meeting, workshops, and displays on organic agriculture by Maine Organic Farmers and Gardeners Association, all day, Civic Center, Augusta. MOFGA, 568-4142 or www.mofga.org.

January 15-17: Studying nonviolence in honor of Martin Luther King Jr. holiday, Living Water Spiritual Center. Peggy Smith, Maine Nonviolent Communications Network, 789-5299 or peggy@mainenvcnetwork.org.

January 17: Martin Luther King Jr. commemoration w/ talking circle, potluck, "I Have a Dream Cafe," 4-8 p.m., Keith Anderson Community Center, downtown Orono. Peace & Justice Center of Eastern Maine, 942-9343 or info@peacectr.org or www.peacectr.org.

January 17: Candlelight vigil in honor of Martin Luther King holiday, 4:30 p.m., Town Hall, followed by discussion and eats, Library, Blue Hill. Call 326-4405 or judy@robbinsandrobbins.com.

January 18: Martin Luther King Jr. Breakfast Celebration, 8:30-10:30 a.m., Wells Conference Center, University of Maine, Orono. Sponsored by Greater Bangor Area NAACP and the University of Maine. The Rev. Dr. Phil Ertha to speak. For tickets, call 581-1428.

January 18: Martin Luther King Jr. holiday event, candlelight vigil and walk, 4:30 p.m., Post Office to First Church, Belfast, with program to follow.

January 26: "Packaging Boyhood: Saving Our Sons from Superheroes, Slackers, and Other Media Stereotypes," Mark Tappan and Lyn Mikel Brown, 12:15 to 1:30 p.m., Women in the Curriculum, Bangor Room, Memorial Union, University of Maine, Orono; 581-1228

January 30: Regional Conference to Resist Militarism, War, Imperialism and Terror, MIT Campus, Cambridge, MA. Sponsored by New England United. Lisa Savage, 643-2356 or lsavage3@gmail.com.

February 6 (snow date: February 13): Workshop for war tax resisters and annual meeting to plan Tax Day activities, 10 a.m.-3 p.m., Unitarian-Universalist Church, 69 Silver St., Waterville. Maine War Tax Resistance Resource Center, 525-7776 or rosc@psouth.net.

In memory, in honor

The Peace and Justice Center of Eastern Maine is grateful for donations received recently in memory and in honor of loved ones. Your generosity is acknowledged and appreciated.

In Memory of Silas Brogunier:

Mary Linz, Bangor
Sharon McMullen & Carolyn Brogunier, Hagerstown, MD

In memory of Sharon Jackiw:

Christina Diebold, Bangor



Peace vigils

For additions and cancellations:
cpdiebold@yahoo.com.

Bangor: Tuesdays, 5-5:30 p.m., Federal Building, Harlow Street. Call Peace & Justice Center, 942-9343.

Belfast: Sundays, noon to 1 p.m., corner of High and Main streets. Cathy Mink, 338-4920.

Blue Hill: Sundays, noon, Blue Hill bridge. Judy and Peter Robbins, 326-4405.

Deer Isle: Mondays, 4-4:30 pm., across from Deer Isle-Stonington High School, in front of ball field. Dud Hendrick, 348-2511.

Eastport: Saturdays, 11 a.m. to noon, Eastport Post Office, David Gholson, 853-2633.

Ellsworth: Sundays, noon, Union River bridge downtown. Russell Wray, 422-8273.

Houlton: Fridays, noon-12:30, silent vigil at the Peace Pole in Monument Park. Marilyn Roper, 532-3797.

Lubec: Saturdays, 11 a.m. to noon, Triangle at Flat Iron Corner, opposite IGA. Dick Hoyt, 733-2068.

Presque Isle: Sundays, noon to 1 p.m., bridge over Aroostook River on Route 1. Steve Demaio, 455-8158.

Skowhegan: Sundays, noon to 1 p.m., Margaret Chase Smith Bridge. Mark Roman, 643-2356.

Southwest Harbor: Saturdays, 11 a.m. to noon, Pemetic School Green, Main Street. Westside Peace Group. Kate Henry, 244-3702.

Waterville: Sundays, noon-1 p.m., Messalonskee Bridge on Kennedy Memorial Drive (by CVS). Bobby Hayes, 873-0878.



PEACE & JUSTICE CENTER *Newsletter*

is published 10 times a year by the **Peace & Justice Center of Eastern Maine**. Deadlines for articles and calendar items are due the 15th of the preceding month. Contributions, comments, and feedback are encouraged.

Before submitting material, please check with the editor for space availability, length of the article, and final deadlines.

Opinions expressed are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect those of the staff, board, committees or membership of the Peace & Justice Center.

Editor: Christina Diebold
cpdiebold@yahoo.com

Layout: Judy Rusk
judy@ruskhouse.com

Printing: Northeast Reprographics
www.nerepro.com

Distribution: Kevin Holmes

This newsletter is available and can be downloaded as a pdf file from our website, www.peacectr.org. If you would like to be notified by email when the newsletter is online, send a message to - officemanager@peacectr.org. State whether you wish to receive the newsletter through the mail in addition to viewing on the web.

Peace & Justice Center of Eastern Maine
170 Park Street, Bangor, ME 04401
207-942-9343 or info@peacectr.org
www.peacectr.org

Mission Statement

...to support as well as link individuals and groups concerned with peace, social justice, and environmental issues. Center services promote cooperation, expand awareness, explore connections, and encourage community involvement in working toward a peaceful and just society. The Center also develops programs in response to those community concerns not being adequately addressed by existing social change organizations.

Peace & Justice Center
of Eastern Maine / ROSC
170 Park Street
Bangor, Maine 04401

Return Service Requested

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. Postage Paid
Bangor, Maine 04401
Permit No. 12



of Eastern Maine
Newsletter
January 2010



**Yes! I support the work of the Peace & Justice Center.
Here's my donation.**

___ I have enclosed my check for ___ \$35 ___ \$60 ___ \$100 ___ other \$ ___

___ This \$ ___ donation is ___ in memory of ___
___ in honor of (name)

Please send an acknowledgement of this memorial donation to

(name) (address)

My contact info is

Name (please print)

Address City/State/zip

E-mail address

Telephone



Photo by Ilze Petersons

Organizers of the Marriage Equality Rally in Bangor from left are Antonia Carroll, Emma Howard and Monica Wilbur.